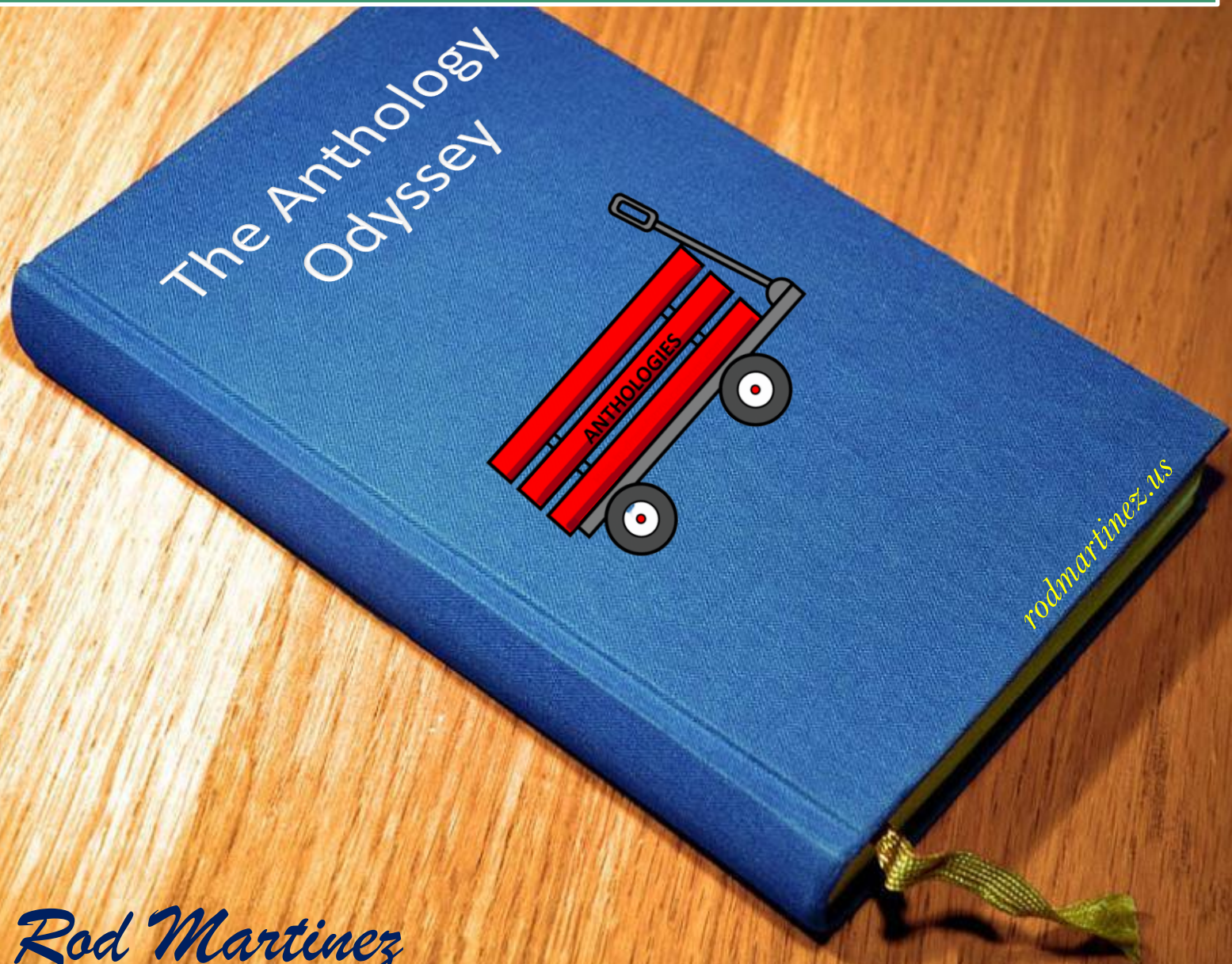
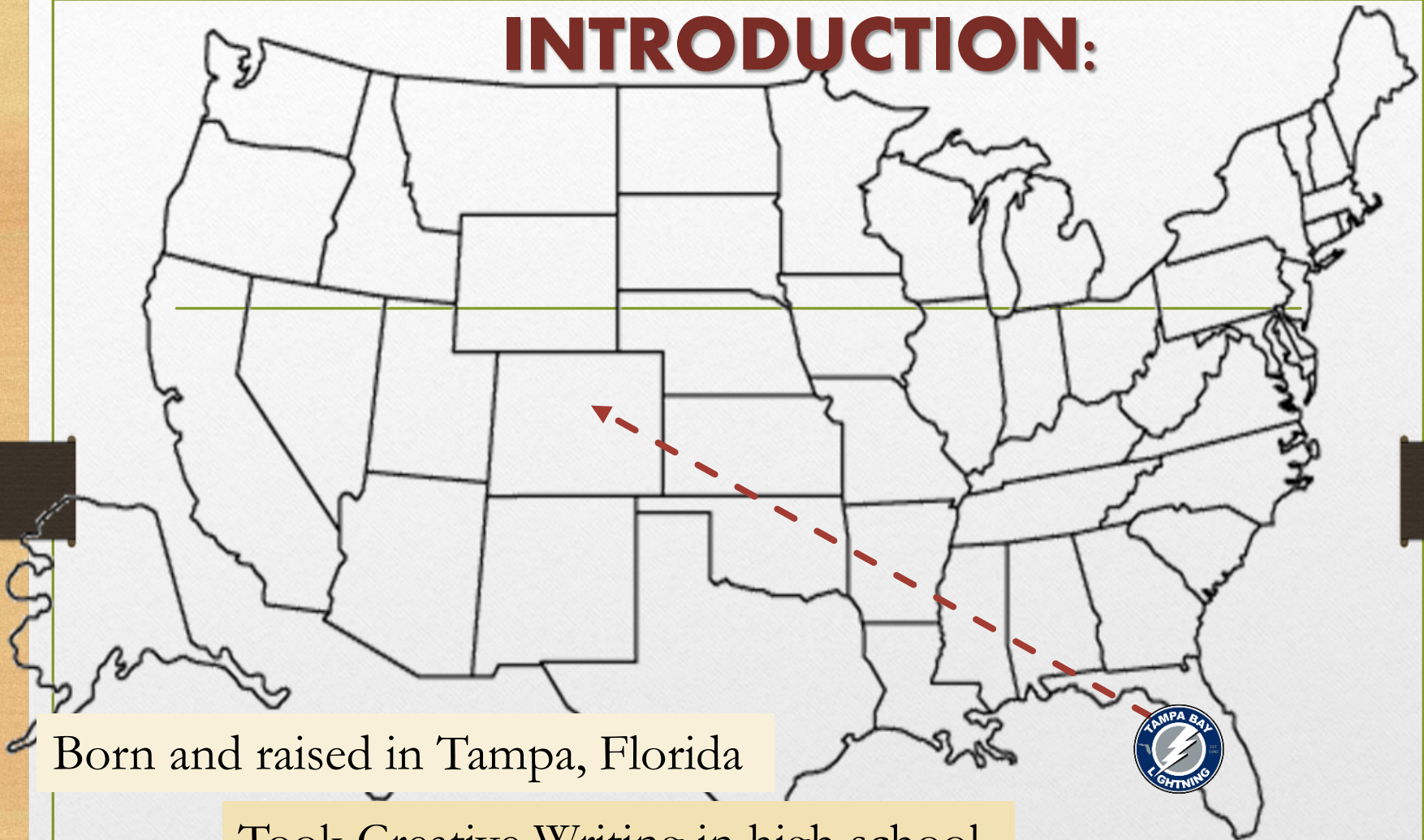


The Anthology Odyssey: Should You Join The Bandwagon?



Rod Martinez

INTRODUCTION:



Born and raised in Tampa, Florida

Took Creative Writing in high school

Got serious about writing after a *challenge* by my son

THE CHALLENGE...

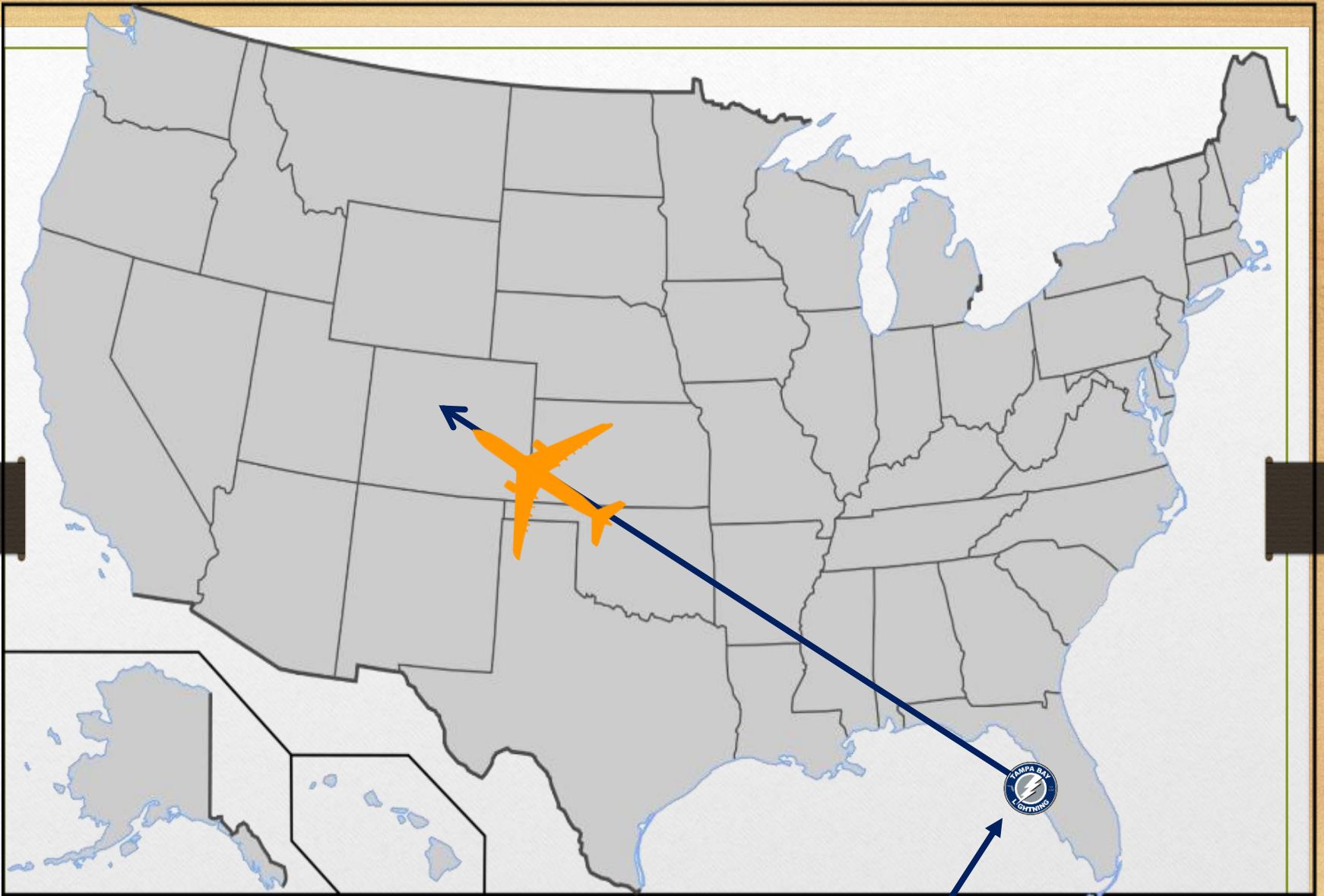


Middle Grade “Tween”
Detectives based off real
kids.

The JUNIORS



Cover art: Robert Gustilo



That's what brought me from



BUT WHAT *REALLY* GOT ME HERE?

When did I realize I could give a talk about
submitting to anthologies?
– who do I think I am?

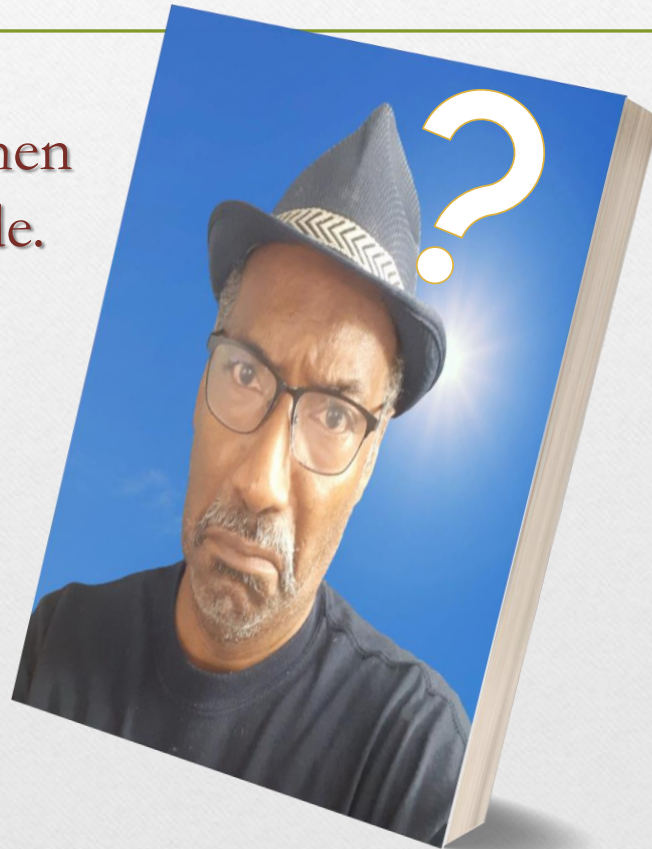
Well, before this got published...





BUT WHAT *REALLY* GOT ME HERE?

I was in the “Oh woe is me, when will I ever get published?” mode.



Anthologies

Writers young and old are hungry to get their name out there but trying to get that 1st masterpiece in the hands of a publisher can prove taxing...

can you say rejection letter?

Not Your Publisher, Inc.

Rejection Letter

Mr. Hopeful Author

Sorry, you're not what we're looking for.. blah blah

Have a nice day

Anthologies

Writers young and old are hungry to get their name out there but trying to get that 1st masterpiece in the hands of a publisher can prove taxing...

Want to know what I call rejection letters?



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Anthologies



“On Writing” by Stephen King



Anthologies

What IS an anthology?

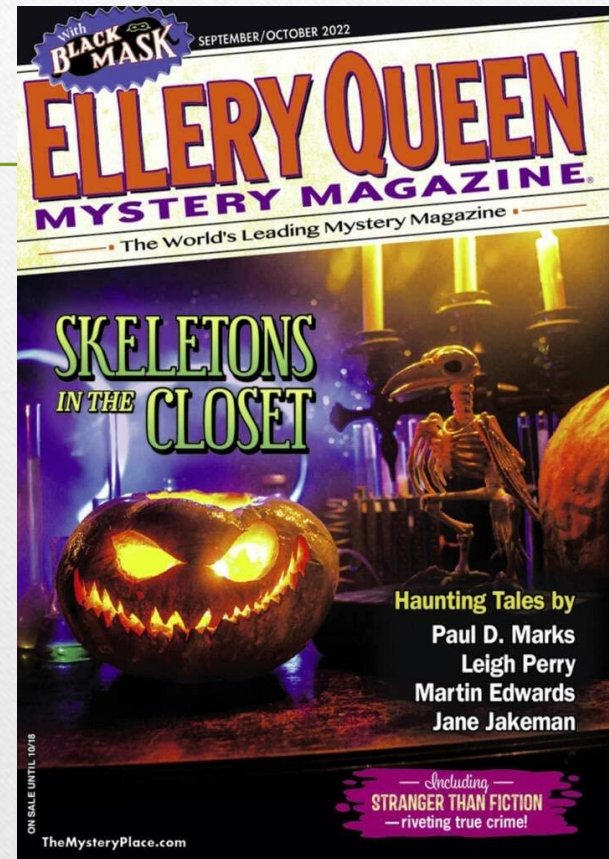
The word **anthology** combines the Greek words “anthos” —*meaning “flower”*—and the synonym “logia” —*meaning “gather” or “collect.”* In other words, an anthology literally means “a gathering/collection of flowers.”



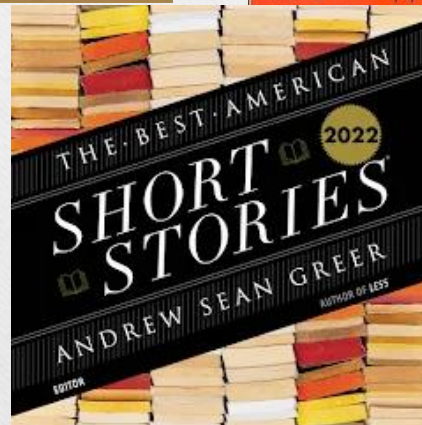
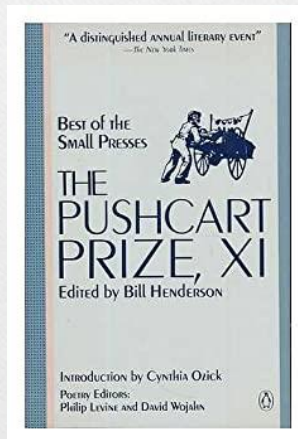
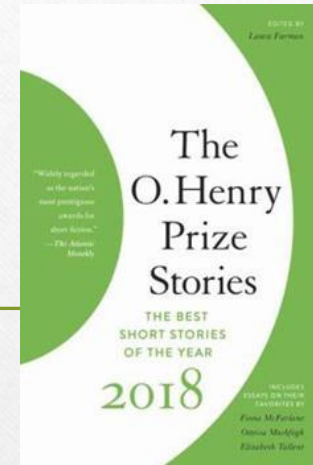
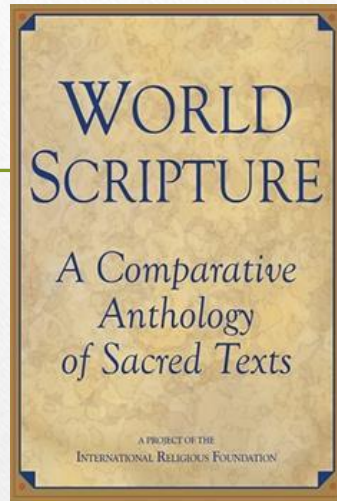
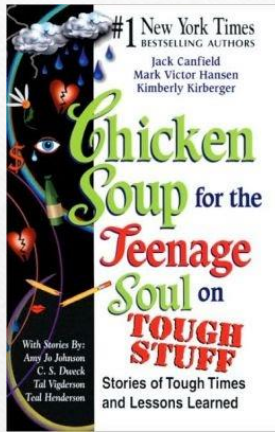
Anthologies

What IS an anthology?

An anthology is a collection of prose by various authors. Usually, the stories are in the same genre, or the same period, or on the same theme. Examples:

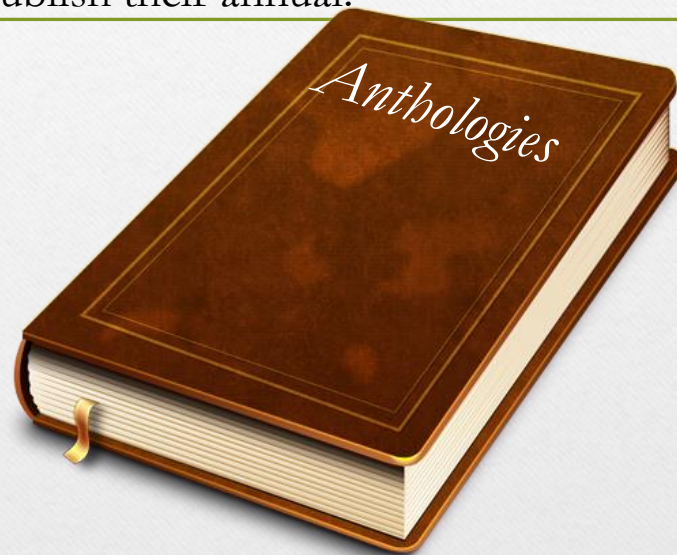


Anthologies



Anthologies

Usually, an anthology book or magazine is edited and/or published by a writer or recognized expert, publishing house, university or a genre entity looking to publish their annual.

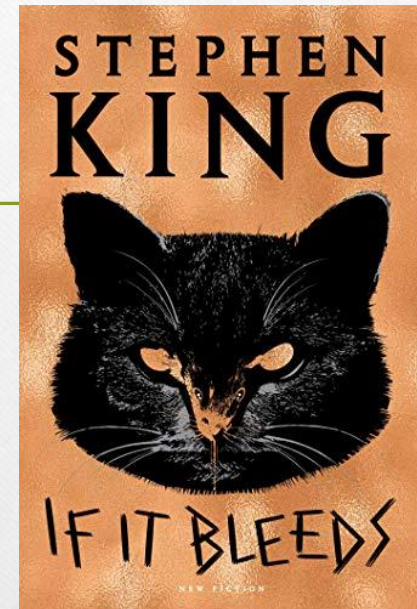


Participation in an anthology can be by invitation or submission:

- for free,
- for pay (share of royalties or flat fee) or
- pay to participate, meaning that authors pay to be included in the book.

Anthologies

Cover the gamut... Horror



Religious anthologies
comic book anthologies

essay collections

fiction anthologies

poetry anthologies

anthologies of films and TV programs

Why consider becoming part of an anthology?

- Less Effort. Getting published is quite a project! In the time it takes you to finish that novel masterpiece you can have written a short story and submitted to an anthology.
- You're in good company. Many known authors submit, so imagine being included with a recognized writer in a volume.
- Resume/CV builder. To say, "I'm one of the authors of _____" looks impressive for writers searching for additional writing opportunities.
- "I'm on Amazon." (or "I'm published") bragging rights.
- Foot in the door in the industry.



How do I get started?

What should a hopeful author looking to submit to you know?

They should be able to hook a reader in the first 2 paragraphs. Reading as an editor, within the first 2 paragraphs, the author should be able to put something down to where I and the reader continues to read to find out what happened, or what will happen next. Keep me glued.



Carly McCracken

Owner – **Crimson Cloak Publishing**

<https://www.crimsoncloakpublishing.com/>

How do I get started?

1. Formatting

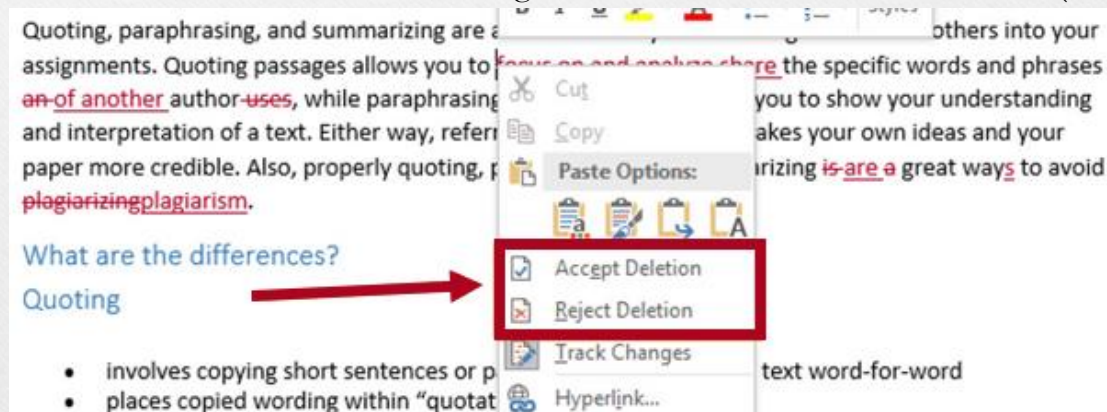
In the submission guidelines, read them. Follow them.

2. Grammar

Spelling, grammar, and usage should be impeccable.

3. Track Changes

Become familiar with the basics of Track Changes in the "review" tab on MS Word. (sample)



Elizabeth Zelvin

<https://www.elizabethzelvin.net/>

<https://careerauthors.com/how-an-anthology-editor-weeds-submissions/>

How do I get started?

1. **Formatting**

In the submission guidelines, read them. Follow them.

2. **Grammar**

Spelling, grammar, and usage should be impeccable.

3. **Track Changes**

Become familiar with the basics of Track Changes in the "review" tab on MS Word.

4. **Guidelines**

Most anthologies have a theme and other criteria spelled out in the guidelines. Most editors will have ***strict*** requirements.

6. **Great Storytelling**

I want a story that pulls me in and makes me want to know what happens next.

7. **Writing**

Fresh images rather than clichés. Dialogue that sizzles. Characters who leap off the page.

Elizabeth Zelvin

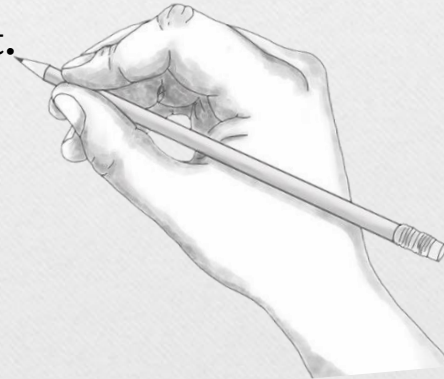
author of the *Bruce Kohler Mysteries*, the Jewish historical Mendoza Family Saga,
and the urban fantasy/ crime *Emerald Love Stories* and editor of *Me Too Short Stories* and *Where Crime Never Sleeps*

How do I get started?



Ok, so both pieces of advice sounded like a “Duhh!” Right? But whether you’re submitting a short story, essay, or poem, memoir blurb, we know as writers the key thing is to grab the attention of the reader and not let go.

Part 1 is getting the story right.



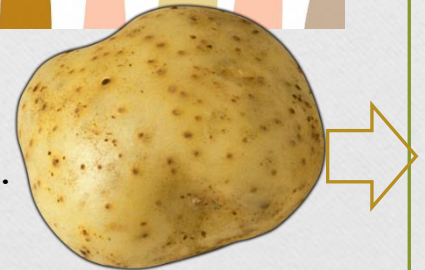
How do I get started?

THE STORY:

How many here write fiction?
How many here write non-fiction
How many here write kids books
How many here write cookbooks
How many here write memoir
How many here write poetry



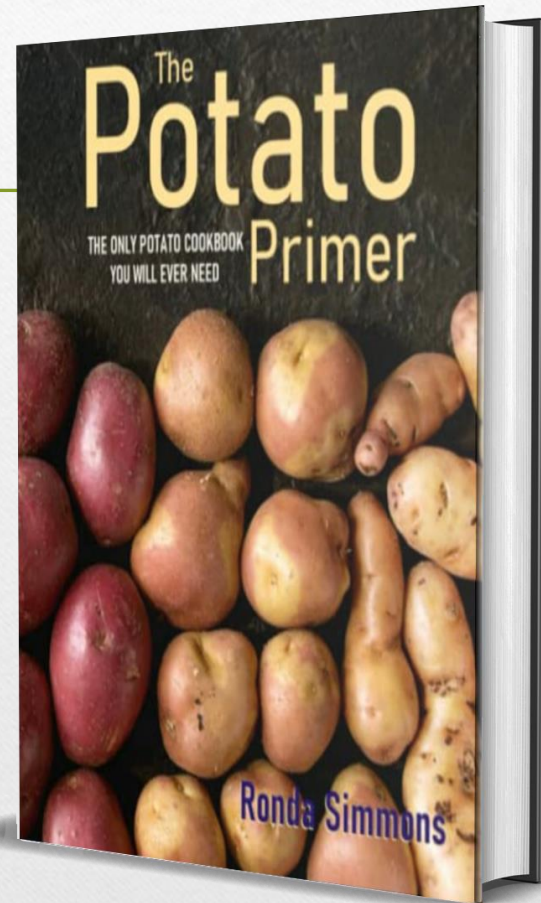
So – you have a built-in audience. People will read your genre...



How do I get started?



April 2022 – Ft. Collins, CO



<https://www.amazon.com/Potato-Primer-Only-Cookbook-Will/dp/B09KN7ZRWP>

How do I get started?

Submittable

Start with [Submittable.com](https://www.submittable.com).

On your account, click “Discover,”
and then type “anthology” in the search bar.


\$ PAY DEBATE \$

Will you get paid? Yes ___ No___
(not all publishers of anthologies pay the writer, but...)

If you don't get paid, what other benefit do you come away with?

- good press/marketable ability for your brand
- ability to sell books
- good networking opportunity
- chance to publicize other work

How do editors or publishers organize an anthology?

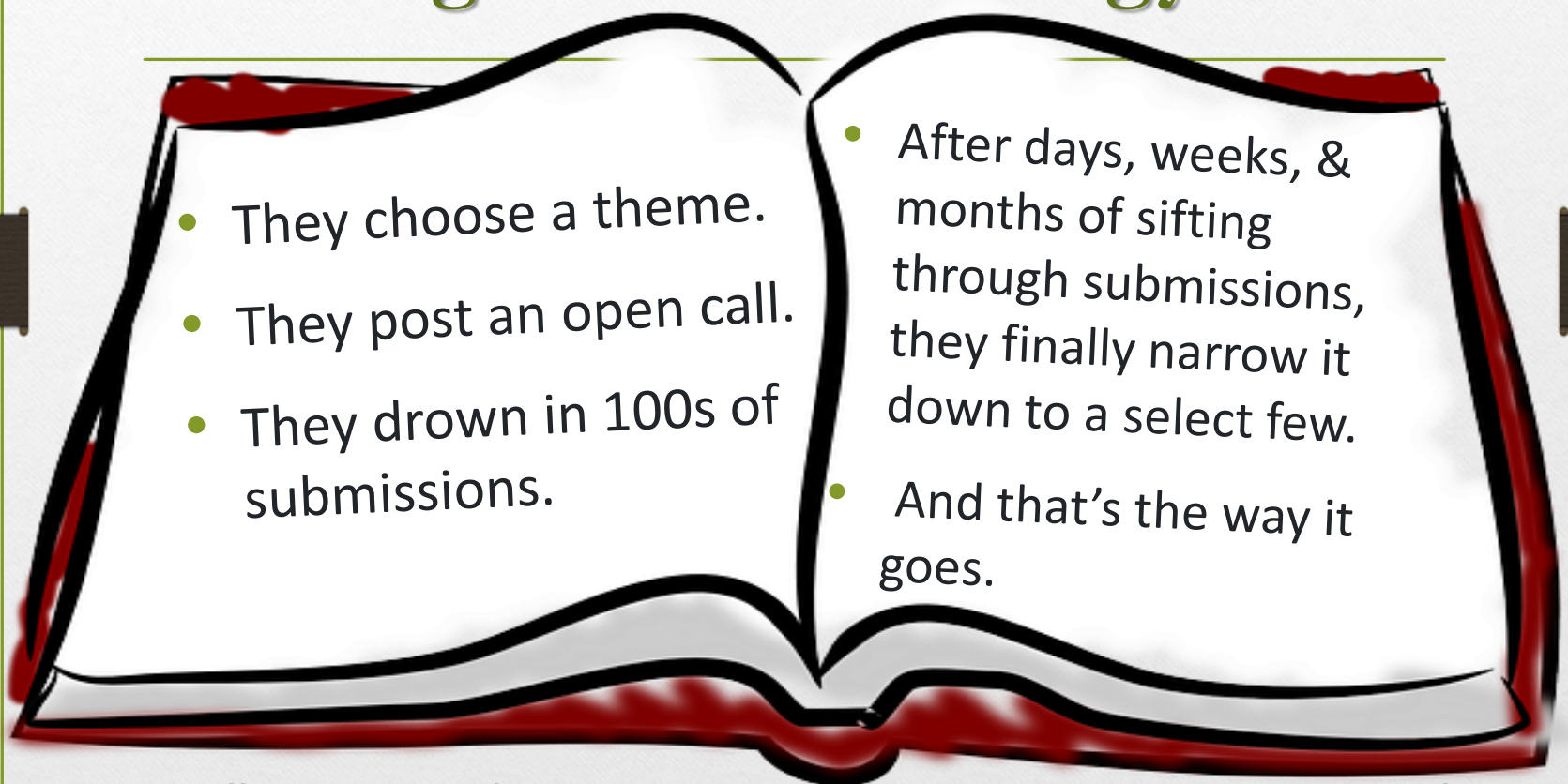


Are you ready to
send a submission?

Let's see how the
editors do this...

<https://tonightfire.com/the-howl-society-and-the-new-way-to-publish-an-anthology/>

How do editors or publishers organize an anthology?

- 
- They choose a theme.
 - They post an open call.
 - They drown in 100s of submissions.
 - After days, weeks, & months of sifting through submissions, they finally narrow it down to a select few.
 - And that's the way it goes.

<https://tonightfire.com/the-howl-society-and-the-new-way-to-publish-an-anthology/>

\$ PAY DEBATE \$

Will you get paid? Yes ___ No___

To prepare you:

Remember - some anthologies don't pay

Some anthologies are put together for a charity and the publisher may ask you to forfeit your proceeds to the charity

Some anthologies are college student-run school literary mags

Some anthologies are put together by an author hoping to get his work recognized.

...and worse...

\$ PAY DEBATE \$

Will you get paid? Yes ___ No___

Some anthology publishers not only *do not* send you a contributor copy but have you pay full price to receive a copy of the gem.



Submit an Article

1. Start

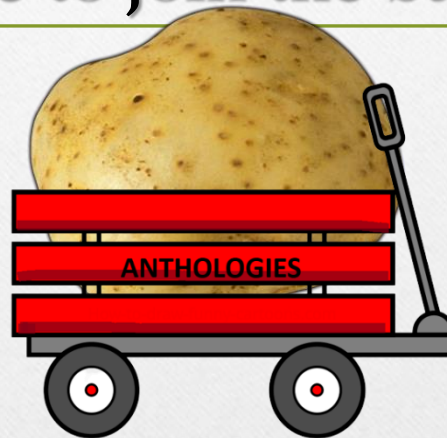
2. Upload Submission

3. Enter Metadata

4. Confirmation

5. Next Steps

So, if you decide to join the bandwagon anyway...



- Find the anthology publisher for your story
- Following their stringent submission policy

Submit an Article

1. Start

2. Upload Submission

3. Enter Metadata

4. Confirmation

5. Next Steps

Submission process – need we go there?



FOLLOW THE TRIED-AND-TRUE RULES...

- Keep your cover letter professional and concise, let your work speak for itself.
- Follow the editor's submission guidelines exactly. *Don't disqualify your entry.* ✘
- Proofread your work.
- Keep an eye on the reading dates and submit well before the deadline.
- After you send your work, relax and be patient.

https://www.huffpost.com/entry/anthology-writing_n_1821744

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS:

2023 Poetry Day Planner



sample

We are looking for 12 unique poems exhibiting different types of form poetry to fill out our 2023 poetry day planner. Each month will highlight a different form. Send us your glosas, your sonnets, your elegies, even your villanelles! We're looking to highlight the use of different forms and welcome your explorations. For inspiration, visit [this extensive list](#).

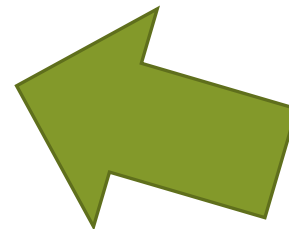
As this is a limited run, writers are paid a flat amount of \$15 Canadian if their poem is selected. If you would like more details on payment before submitting, please contact Angela at [angela \[at\] bellpressbooks.com](mailto:angela@bellpressbooks.com).

To submit, please email [info \[at\] bellpressbooks.com](mailto:info@bellpressbooks.com) and include:

- up to 3 poems, each using a different type of form poetry, in a single word document
- the form of each poem clearly labeled
- a cover letter on the first page of the document introducing your work
- a brief bio included in the cover letter
- the subject line "POETRY PLANNER submission"

Preferred formatting:

- Times New Roman
- 12pt
- double spaced



QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Aside from the common ones like “what is the theme”, or “who is publishing this anthology”, how about...

Compensation



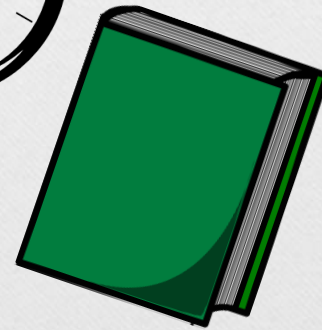
Copyright expectation



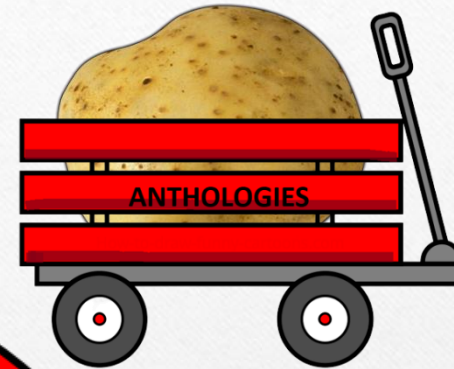
Publisher's perspective timeframe



Published content: Paperback? eBook?
Magazine? Online only? Newsletter?



WHAT ABOUT SCAMS?



- Anthology Contests** - Vanity presses do them a lot
- Exclusive Selling Links** - you can only purchase from their website
- Lavish Prizes** - publisher promising prizes, plaques, and celebrations
- Pay to Participate** - same as vanity

Ok,
preliminaries
aside...
Anything else I
need to know?



1st serial rights

WRITER'S DIGEST

Q: When working out a contract with a magazine, what are first serial rights?

A: When you sell first serial rights to a newspaper, magazine or periodical for a piece of work you've written, that media outlet has the right to be the first place to publish the article/story/poem. After the piece runs, you're free to resell it to another medium or to package a collection of your work into a book.

CONTRACTS

Legalize languaged contracts confuse everyone - - except lawyers

BOOK PUBLISHING CONTRACT

THIS BOOK PUBLISHING AGREEMENT dated as of the _____ day of _____, 20____, between _____ (enter publishing company) at _____ (address), represented by _____ (herein called the "Publisher") and _____, at _____ (address), represented by _____, (herein called the "Proprietor").

In consideration of the premises and of the mutual covenants and agreements herein contained, the parties hereto agree as follows regarding the novel entitled _____ (the "Book") by _____ (the "Author").

1.00 GRANT OF THE RIGHTS

1.01 The Proprietor hereby grants to the Publisher the sole and exclusive licence to translate, print, publish and sell the Book at the sole expense of the Publisher in trade volume from imprint format only in the _____ language(s) but limited to the jurisdiction(s) of _____.

<https://www.rinchupeco.com/the-foreign-writers-guide-to-publishing-house-contract-requirements/>



COMMON CLAUSES TO LOOK FOR

- **Payment**

Writers will be paid X Currency ...

- **Payment Schedule**

The Publisher will send half the payment after...

- **Complimentary Copies**

Publisher will provide each Creator with X complimentary copies...

- **Work Schedule**

To be included in the physical printed book, all work must be completed by Month Day, Year...

- **Rights**

Creators grant Publisher ongoing permission to publish the Work in print and...

PRINTS... REPRINTS



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Another thing to consider is that an anthology can also provide a market for your previously published work. Although many anthologies accept only unpublished work, many are also open to reprints.

EDITING

- What is the editing process for the anthology after you've submitted it?
- You may not be an editor yourself, but there is no shame in asking about the editing process of the anthology you're interested in. Find out how many rounds of editing they go through. You don't want your piece to end up in a book that is full of mistakes because someone skimmed over it once...quickly...maybe.



How about Branding & Promotion?

- *How many in here have had something published outside of self-publishing?*
- *Beta readers*
- *Posting in your newsletter*
- *Blog*
- *Your social media*
- *Podcasts that you host or guest on*
- *At conferences or other events that you attend*
- *Swag and giveaways to readers (bookmarks, etc)*



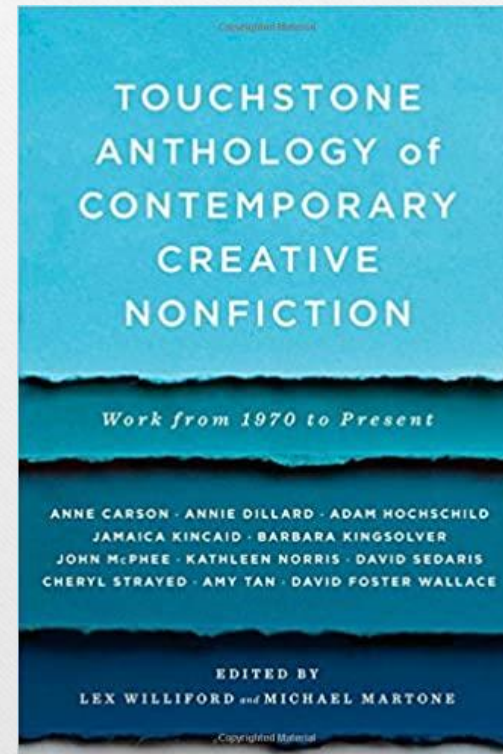
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Which Anthologies Are Right For Me?

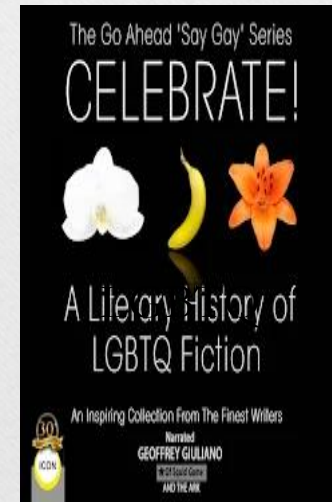
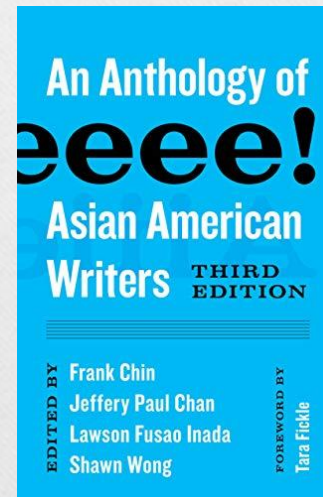
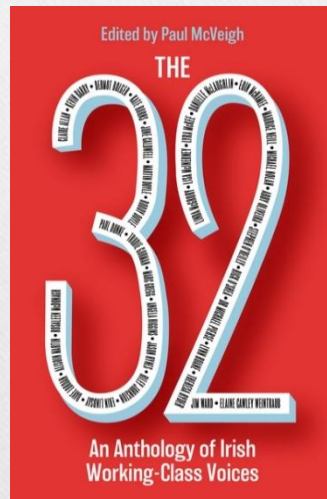
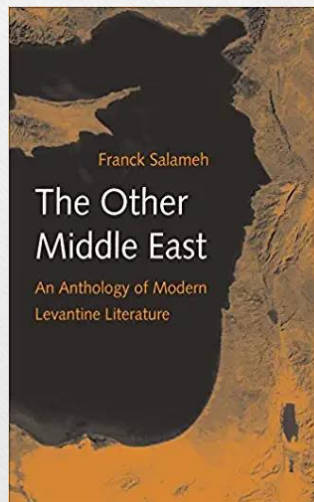
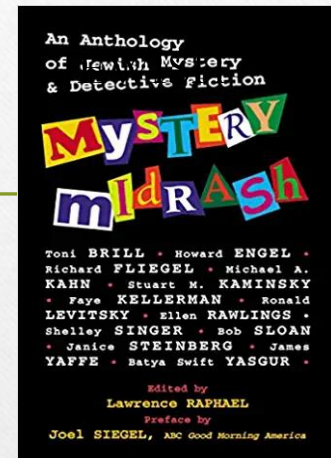
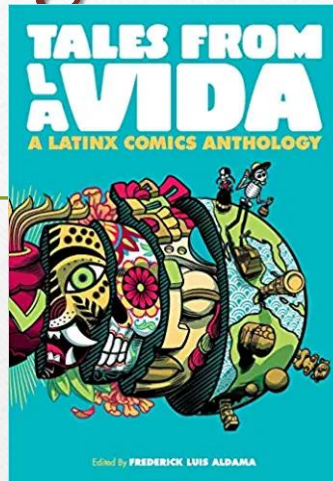
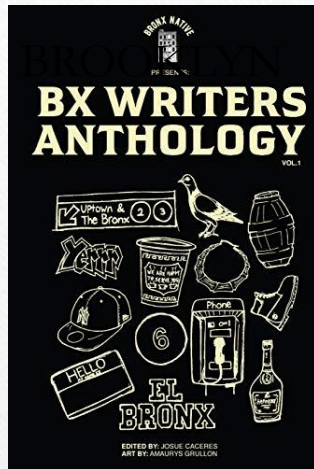
How many here are considering or have already completed a story they want to submit to an anthology?



Horror
Speculative
Romance
Western
Poetry
Juvenile
Sci-Fi
Humor
Ghost
Memoir
History
Military
Music
Fantasy
Religious

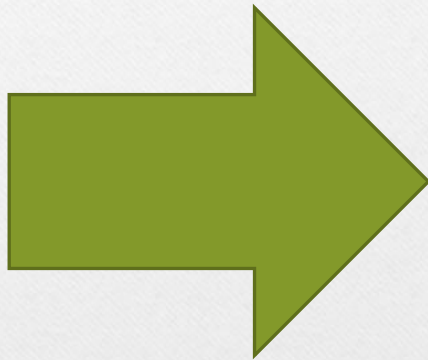


Which Anthologies Are Right For Me?



Which Anthologies Are Right For Me?

- DID YOU KNOW??



The screenshot shows the website for Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers. At the top, there is a dark blue header with social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest, and a search bar. Below the header is the organization's logo, which consists of a stylized mountain range above the text "ROCKY MOUNTAIN" in a bold, sans-serif font, and "Fiction Writers" in a cursive script font. A navigation menu below the logo includes links for "Members", "Events", "Conference 2022", "Contests & Awards", "Anthology", "Resources & Education", and "About".

The main content area is titled "Anthology Submission Form". Below the title, a note states "Fields marked with an * are required". The form includes several input fields: "First Name (Legal) *", "Last Name (Legal) *", "Pen Name *", "Email *", and "Address *". There are also checkboxes for "Membership *", with options for "RMFW Member" and "PAA". A note below the membership options reads: "You must be a member in good standing in order to be eligible to submit to the anthology. Please check all that apply." To the right of the form, there is a "Join or Renew Today" button with a collage of member photos above it. Below that is the "RMFW Newsletter" sign-up section, which includes fields for "First Name", "Last Name", and "Email Address", and a "Subscribe Today!" button. At the bottom right, there is another collage of member photos.

WHERE CAN I SUBSCRIBE TO FIND OPEN PROPOSALS FOR SUBMISSIONS??



Here's 3

- fundsforwriters.org
- authorspublish.com
- submittable.com

SAMPLES OF WHERE SOME OF MY ANTHOLOGY SUBMISSIONS WERE ACCEPTED:

- Epitaph – audio anthology
- My Dad – military “Proud to Be: Writing by American Warriors” - Southeast Missouri State University Press
- The house I grew up in– a memoir
- “Defector” – women overcoming challenge
- Kolchak – TV Shows
- 42-word Anthology <https://bamwrites.blogspot.com>



Write this one down

3-MINUTE PROMPT EXERCISE

And in Lou of Flowers for the Late Larissa

She was running late and didn't want to be noticed sneaking in the back door. Larissa was always late, but this was a bad day. Her boss was dead, the police were there, and they wanted to talk about her bloody boots.

Three-sentence short story using one of these words as prompt inspiration:

Window - storm - basement - blue - grandma - spider

End



PROMPT IDEAS : THE MUSICAL

On a dark desert highway

I never meant to cause you any sorrow

She's just a small-town girl

I get up - and nothing gets me down

Momma, I killed a man

At first, I was afraid, I was petrified

It's close to midnight and something evil's lurkin' in the dark

I thought love was only true in fairy tales...



REVIEWS

As authors, we know how important reviews are



But
REMEMBER



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#)

It's just as good to give *and* receive



REVIEWS



The three main steps of writing a book review are simple:

- **Provide a summary:**
What is the story about?
- **Who are the main characters and what is the main conflict?**
- **Present your evaluation:**
What did you think of the book?

ICE BREAKER ALERT !!



- ANYONE HAVE ANYTHING PUBLISHED IN AN ANTHOLOGY?
- DOES ANYONE RUN ONE?
- DOES ANYONE HAVE ANY STIGMAS FOR BEING PUBLISHED IN ONE?
- HORROR STORIES? TIPS AND TRICKS?

ICE BREAKER ALERT !!



NO TOILET PAPER ZONE



Is anyone willing to share what they wrote
in the 3-minute exercise?



I'd Rather be

W I T I N G
R odmartinez.us



ANTHOLOGY ODYSSEY

: SHOULD YOU JOIN THE BANDWAGON?

<https://www.chickensoup.com/> * <http://www.semopress.com/submissions>

<https://jerryjazzmusician.com/> * <http://www.johnjosephadams.com/best-american/submissions/>

<https://writersrelief.com/2008/06/19/submitting-to-anthologies-how-to-submit-your-stories-essays-and-poems/>

<https://improbablepress.com/blogs/improbable-press/submitting-to-anthologies>

<https://owlcation.com/humanities/How-to-Send-Your-Short-Stories-to-Magazines-or-Anthologies>

<https://literarium.net/collection/anthology> * <https://duotrope.com/duosuma/submit/calendar/fiction>

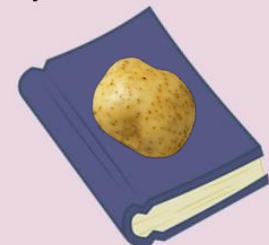
<https://momswhowrite.org/questions-to-ask-before-you-join-an-anthology/>

<https://annerallen.com/2017/01/anthologies-great-opportunity-or-scam/> * <https://Submittable.com>

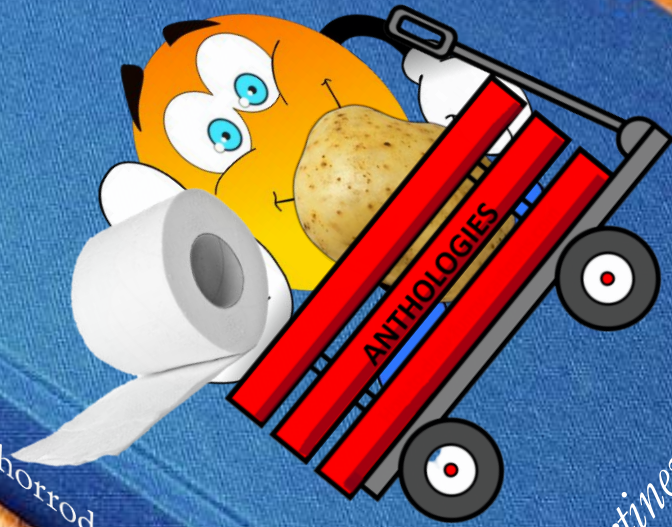
<https://www.johnhuntpublishing.com/publishing-guide/appendices/anthologies/>

eBOOK: <https://www.amazon.com/Getting-Story-Straight-Submitting-Anthologies-ebook/dp/B08942BP2K>

I'd Rather be



I'd Rather be
W R I T I N G
rodmartinez.us



Facebook.com/authorrodmartinez

rodmartinez.us