

# TIGHTBEAM

The Springboard of Ideas

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### **Editor's Notes**



#### Doodles...

Mulling over this issue, I was thinking about how fandom exists on many levels, from casual to life-defining.

Regardless of where your fandom lies on the spectrum, the was we express ourselves is of value.

Like the butterfly effect, a random comment, critique or full-on essay or work of fiction one of us creates can't help but spark a reaction in another—whether it is firing up an imagination or firing up a lively debate about novel vs. the TV series based upon the novels.

That got me to thinking. I was suckered (willingly) into watching YouTube videos about Zentangles—or free-from doodle art. I thought to myself that it looked too easy to pass up. So I tied my own.

Eight hours later—and I doodled myself a cover for Tightbeam—which graces this issue.

Our feature story of original fiction this month is from **Jeannie Warner**, is back with a new short yarn with a middle eastern fantasy bent.

Closing out this issue is a list I created for a friend a while back. After hearing many rave reviews, he was interested in watching Doctor Who and its spin-off series Torchwood. And he knew the story lines for each show were intertwined occasionally and wanted to watch them I the correct order so as to not miss anything.

So, I complied a viewing order list. I think it does the job in allowing those new to the Doctor to get the full experience while watching the show on Netflix or iTunes.

I hope you agree.

Keep getting your geek on, David Speakman

#### **ART CREDITS**

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Shadow Pink Back Cover



Cover Art: "Tighttangle" by David Speakman

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# Forum: Letters of Comment

The following letters of comment are correspondences received for both N3F publications, Tightbeam and TNFF, before October 16, 2013. All editing of correspondence is kept to a minimum - limited chiefly to the insertion of name callouts to alert readers to whom a section of the letter is addressed. Please email comments to:

cabal@n3fmail.com

# 2014.03.15 John Purcell j\_purcell54@yahoo.com

Here is a brief loc mostly to let you know that whenever an issue of Tightbeam is posted to efanzines.com, I take the time to read it. Also, this time around there are a couple items I'd like to say about the zine. So let's dive on in and see what can be found.

Hey, I like Hanie Mohd's cover art. Very nicely done, in its Manga-way: colorful and fun. In fact, all of the interior illustrations are quite good to go along with the clean layout. I have long felt that the visual appeal of a fanzine is just as important as its content. Back in the day the Masters of the Mimeograph produced some incredible looking fanzines; then when some fans went letterpress and moved into semi -professional mode - Locus, Algol, Nickelodeon, and others of that ilk - the zines became slick magazines. Nowadays the east of desktop publishing and the Internet make it possible for fans to create very nice fanzines. Some of my current favorites are Beam, Chunga, and Exhibition Hall, but there are still some excellent print zines with top-flight production values. So all this is my way of saying that Tightbeam is looking really good, and you folks should keep up the good work.

I wouldn't worry too much about meeting fanzine deadlines, although an organization like the N3F has a set publication schedule ingrained into the club's constitution, so I can

understand how you feel. For somebody like me who does a zine as a means to keep in touch with other fans, it does help to have a somewhat steady schedule; a month or so off doesn't hurt the continuity too much, but I get where you're coming from. Good luck with your efforts to get the zine back on track.

Janet Phalen's poem "Ten" on page 7 was nice, as was its accompanying illustration. Science Fiction poetry is deucedly hard to write: I have tried it, think I've come close to writing good ones, but as with fiction, the problems are consistency, message and tone. Word choice is a biggie, and for me, that's part of the enjoyment I get out of writing poetry. Well done, Janet.

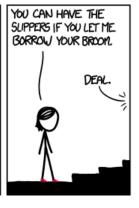
The Flash Fiction was alright. What was the original spark for the story, David? Seeing a "road construction" sign on the road or in the newspaper? Sometimes just a random thought gives me an idea for a story, so I'm curious. My problem is that I have so many ideas but not enough time to turn them into completed stories. Some year...

My wife and I have enjoyed watching Dracula this year, and are pleased that it was renewed for a second season. We like this particular version, especially the small Steampunk elements that creep in every now and then Other shows we like are Grimm and Almost Human, and once Defiance and Warehouse 13 return - sadly, the latter for its last season - we'll be sitting pretty good. Right now there is a lot of good SF & F on television with a broad variety from straight fantasy (Lost Girl, Supernatural) to historical fantasy (Reign) to comic book heroes (Marvel Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D, Arrow, and the forthcoming The Flash) to straight science fiction like Defiance. If a person is a media fan, this is a good time to be one.

Well, I think that will be good for now. Many thanks for posting, and I look forward to

### xkcd









seeing more zines coming from the N3F.

#### 2014.03.15 John Purcell i purcell54@yahoo.com

I haven't had much time to write locs because of the never-ending job hunt, but here comes some commentary anyway, on Tightbeam 269. Let's see what I can say.

A great cover! Well done, and I'd be interested in hearing the story behind it, in more ways than one. Hanie Mohd? Tell me more...

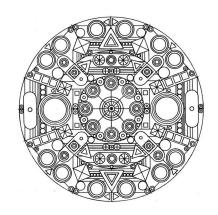
David, looks like you've had to deal with what I've had to. Every so often, life rears up and kicks you someplace tender, and all your wishing and hard work won't fix things. I've had a great interview recently, and I am praying for a positive telephone call some time in the next few weeks.

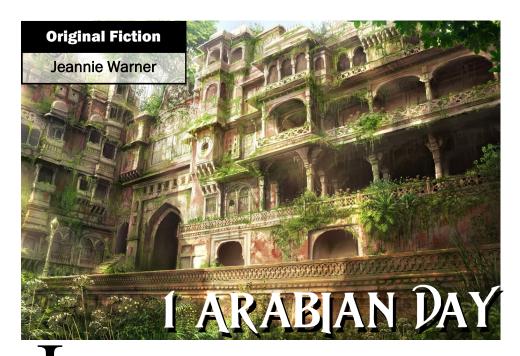
My own loc...we quite enjoyed Ad Astra 2014, the one convention we've attended since its first year, 1980. As I write, we've come back from a small steampunk gathering today in Oshawa, east of Toronto, and it was a fine time indeed. Next weekend is CostumeCon 32, and it should be good as well.

The last time I followed a television show with any regularity was Babylon 5. We just finished

a viewing marathon that took us through the five seasons of the show, plus all the assorted movies and the spin-off series Crusade, which lasted only a year. So, just about any series you might list is something that just hasn't caught my interest. It's me, it's not the quality of the television work, I'm sure of it, but in this era where the most popular tropes include zombies and vampires, there isn't enough there for me. I have been reading online about two programmes that are upcoming and being planned, Lantern City and Space Command, by Bruce Boxleitner and Marc Scott Zicree respectively. I hope to see great things there.

Done for the moment, I am so far behind with my fanzinish correspondence! I will be trying to get caught up, and this is the first step. Take care, and see you with the next issue.





climbed into the tower through a small window, and stepped carefully from the ladder onto the sill, then down to the tiled floor. I felt awkward, out of my skin. I am devout, and a man of importance. I am not a thief in the night, by Allah! Although, technically, I must be called a thief by day on this mission to serve my master. I could trust it to no other.

My passing disturbed a few crumbs left for birds on the edge of the window, and the falling of them sounded like thunder to my paranoid ears. But it was nothing, and no one stirred in the chamber. Robbers are not expected during the day, in the heat of the afternoon. Outside the sun beat down, so hot that the invisible djinni of the desert were shimmering in their dance, blurring the horizon. I looked back in and around the room, letting my eyes adjust.

The bedchamber was of royal proportions, and for a moment I bowed my head in shame that I was trespassing in this noble palace. But then I steeled my will, for my fate was my own and I could not allow my Caliph and our lands to be captive to magic any longer. Inward I crept, step by step, the soles of my shoes whispering against fine tiles.

I passed what I took to be a maid lying on a small rug near the window. She was curled tightly with her head on a cushion, with a light covering of cotton over her form for modesty's sake. Less delicate was the soft snore coming from her, but one cannot help these things nor hold them against others.

In the center of the room stood a bed, with stairs on each side leading up to beautifully carved posts holding a canopy of soft pink silk. The canopy was closed, which was a trifle odd for daylight, but I mused that if the maid was sleeping instead of working during the day, no doubt she had neglected other duties as well. She was not mine to chastise, and so I dismissed the matter as I searched for the writing desk. Careful and quiet.

Ah, there on the other side of the bed: A chair and writing desk, the simplicity of the fine wood embellished with beautiful painting under lacquer and chased with silver designs. I am something of a calligrapher when the divine spirit moves - and when my Lord can spare me from his side - and the beauty of this exquisite little piece of furniture caused a rare sort of envy. Following immediately upon the envy was guilt for the sin of feeling it, and I bowed

my apology to the name of this Shahryar before starting my search for the pen.

I had just worked the little drawer open when I heard someone stirring in the bed behind me. "Who is there?" a woman's voice, her tone nervous. I froze in place, hoping for a moment to be mistaken for the wind, or a mouse.

But it was not to be. I turned as the silks were pushed aside by a slender hand and saw her. Ah, for a moment I was just a man struck dumb by the appearance of a woman. Not pretty nothing so commonplace as mere prettiness. She had too much strength in her chin and nose to be called beautiful by the court poets, and far too much intelligence in her eyes. Her shoulders were square, and I glimpsed a body young and lithe, but generous of hip and breast filling the thin kaftan before averting my eyes back to her face. There was no one feature that called to me. But I have evaluated at first sight a thousand horses, camels, goats, men, and women over the years in service to my Lord. Her eyes were steady, filled with the steadiness that comes with life's wisdom. I knew at once that this woman was a pearl beyond the price, and again I sinned against this distant ruler for coveting a second possession.

"Are you here to kill me?" my desire asked in a low voice, with a fearful glance over her shoulder toward her maid.

I was struck dumb with surprise, and then hastened to shake my head. "No. I am not. I am a thief, not a murderer." I then offered her a salaam, hands pressed together. "I mean you no harm. I am Jafar al-Barmaki, and I beg your pardon for intruding. Especially in your private chambers."

She looked at me for a long moment, measuring. I concealed the quiver of desire for her loveliness before the lady arose and stepped down the steps toward me. My body was tense, torn between desire and the regret for the possibility that I might need to silence a loud cry or scream.

"You're well-mannered for a thief. And too well dressed to need to steal. I think you must be a bit of a liar, but that harms no one here today: Save that by you being here, it means we

could both be put to death." She circled me once, looking me up and down. "A man of good fortune, one established in life, stealing into the King's private chambers? There is a story in it. You must tell me why you are here, for I am in need of a new story."

I relaxed a fraction, as there seemed no immediate danger of her throwing a fit. The girl sat in the chair, and carefully opened the lid to her desk. I realized the desk was hers, for she fit it perfectly. She pulled out a scroll, an ink stone, and a pen that made my heart beat quicker.

"Your pen. Is that ostrich? It is so unusual."

"I think it must be ostrich," the girl hesitated, looking for a moment at the brilliant blue plume in her hand. "It was a wedding present of sorts, given to me on the day I married the King." Dark eyes looked up at me, luminous and a trifle sad. "An older woman rushed forward through the crowds, and pressed it into my hand as I passed on my way to the palace in a chair. She said it would help me, and that it came from someone who didn't deserve it. I didn't see what became of her the soldiers pushed her back. It's beautiful, isn't it?" She ran the plume against her palm, letting the feather tickle her fingers.

I cleared my throat, lest I think too much on those hands and feathers. "It is. So beautiful that I fear I must steal it. I'm sorry, Lady."

She looked startled, then abruptly frowned. "No, you must not. I think of things when I hold the pen. Wild, wonderful stories swim all around my head. If I couldn't write... I must... N -no. You kill me to say that you will take it."

Her stuttering shocked me, for being so disparate from the character I had already established for her in my mind, and for a moment I could not believe my ears. "You believe that you will die over a pen? I do not believe a wise and successful ruler such as the King would be so capricious. Were the pen made from the feather of the legendary Simurgh itself; to kill one of his wives for what she could not help? Impossible." Although if our land's one legend could be believed, it was indeed such a feather. I reached out and tugged the pen loose from her

reluctant fingers.

She sagged in her seat as tears sprang up and choked her. "No. He... is sworn to kill me tomorrow morning. He swears so every morning. I tell stories so that he will not. I have told every story I know over the past year, and still he speaks of death. I fear I will run dry, and that will be the end of me and my sister both. Without my pen, how will I write down my ideas? How will I even think of them? I beg of you, in Allah's name, give it back."

The very notion of the King being so irrational was abhorrent. "Kill you? For want of a story? Lady, you make no sense." I tucked the pen into my robe, and dared to reach out and lay a hand upon her shoulder. I was stealing from the Shahryar, which is death. To touch his

wife merely would make the manner of death more unpleasant. "Tell me."

And so she did. Her tale of the King betrayed was a sad one, and disturbing that an otherwise wise and capable ruler would be so violently jealous in matters of love. She kept her voice low and soft, describing the previous months of telling stories by night to her sister to retain her virginity and her life. She explained how it was when she held the pen, she thought of these new wild things. She spent her days writing down little snippets of ideas that she could spin into stories to tell her husband to spare her life. Magical words, magical storylines from the past and the lands of the unrighteous djinni and sorcerers.

I hung on her words. The shape of her lips, the husky dark warmth of her voice. I fell in love in those moments, a ridiculous fancy for a man of my age and position, and sighed that she belonged to another man. Her father was the advisor to a King, who had married her off by her own request to try and end the king's killing spree. The queen's sister woke in silence during the recitation. She looked more nervous than the young queen, but chose not to betray her kin. Instead, she sat quietly and watched us

both, and only rose to light lamps about the room when the sun started to fade away into the western sky.

I cleared my throat as the beauty finished her sad tale, with the rusty feelings of regret of what I must take and what I must leave behind. "Perhaps I have one more story for you, to spin out for your revenge-maddened husband. I give it to you because you have held magic in your hand, and it has played you true, even as it plays my land and my Caliph false.

"I have the great honor to be the Vizir of a wise and noble Caliph, in lands far up the river near the mountains. My son, by turns a trial and blessing to me, is engaged to the daughter of my Lord. This daughter, of whom the poets sing, is known far and wide for her fair face and

pleasant nature." I thought of the vapid princess, and my tone dried to match my expression. "Yes. She is very pretty. These two were to wed, as they have been betrothed since childhood. The Caliph changed the very law to ennoble her future husband-to-be, and tutored my son for hours in statecraft. It was widely seen and applauded as a good match for them both."

A cooler breeze blew in through the window as night fell. I continued, "Some few weeks ago, all manner of strange things began to happen. Impossible things for a civilized time. My son has departed to the Caspian Sea with a crew, calling himself a Prince. 'Sinbad', he says we must call him." My frustration mounted at the thought, and I rose to pace. The women followed me with their gazes. "I've not heard from him in weeks.

"Meanwhile the princess has fallen in with a Chinese beggar she met in the market place. The strange boy has an acrobat's skill, and a silver liar's tongue with his promises. He has gold from we know not whence, that he had none of before according to the women of the wells. Now the princess wants to marry him instead of my son. Her father said that I should marry her to my son by proxy if he is away, but

I pray it doesn't come to that."

She bit her lip, and I turned to look into her suddenly thoughtful face. "Does any of this sound familiar, my Lady? Like one or more of your stories, perhaps? I went to a fakir who is able to see what is unseen. He told me that a wife my Lord had divorced for being barren and embittered had stolen away a magical pen from his treasure. It is the only magical treasure in our land, as it happens, and I had not even believed in magic. He prophesized that the one who holds the pen would destroy my kingdom and its future, if they started to write of our lands. But when I found and questioned her, the old harridan said she'd visited her cousin far away, and given it to the king's new bride. This is the pen. I must have it back."

The young queen drew her breath in sharply. She was too honest to hide the emotions that rose in her eyes, so near the surface from so many days and nights living in fear. "I never meant - oh my good sir. What have I done? You... must take it back. It is only right." But her eyes filled with tears, and her sister hastened to wrap an arm around her shoulder to hide her face with a veil.

I pulled the pen out, and turned it in my fingers, thinking. "Lady," I said at last. "I do not think you need a magic pen to tell your stories. I think you have a magic all your own. You've started so many tales, and spun webs that have lured your husband into staying his hand to listen." I waved her sister away, and knelt to take her chin in my hand so that she would look into my eyes.

"You have bewitched me, and I have heard your voice for but a short time. In my youth, I might have cast aside my family and responsibilities and tried to convince you to run away that we might find our own fortune." I sighed, letting go. "But I am old, and have the future of my people and my Caliph to think on. I am taking the pen, because it was stolen and must be returned so that it can cause no further harm. But I will wait and watch your window for three days."

I turned to look at her sister. "If you judge that the King's interest wanes, and that your

sister is in danger in the morning, put a lamp in the window. By day or night, I will do what I can."

I heard the sound of footsteps approaching outside the chamber door, and judged it a prudent moment to retire in haste. My eyes returned to the Lady, and I smiled as gently as I could as I backed toward the window. "I do not think I will see a lamp. I think you will live a long and prosperous life. And if your husband grows in sense, he will come to share his thoughts and life with you more fully, for I think it will only benefit your kingdom."

Over the sill I hopped, and down the ladder to flee the grounds. I did not think the ladies would call for help or raise an alarm, and true to my evaluation they did not. Nor did I see a lamp in the following three days and nights.

I returned home with the pen, and a great deal of regret. My lord the Caliph was a righteous man, who locked the pen away so that it would never be used against us again. Nor for us, for he did not believe in usurping the will of Allah.

My son never returned, and I married the Princess. Alas.

#### THE AUTHOR

Jeannie Warner is a computer security professional by day, and a writer by night. She spent her formative years in Colorado, but has lived in Washington, Oregon, Canada, Arkansas, and now California as well. Her stories span many genres from fantasy and science fiction to thrillers and crime. She her short story, "Nursery Rhymes," appeared in Tightbeam #266 (the August 2013 issue). You can read her here or at KnightBridge's latest Rom Zom Com release. Her mythic origins involve a herd of trilling otters serenading her arrival from the sea, but the texts are largely open to interpretation and have even been called apocryphal.

## Viewing Order Guide for the New Doctor Who & Torchwood

So, you have never watched the new Doctor Who and would like the start, but do not know where. This is a compiled list of what to watch—when— for those new to the new Doctor Who (2005 and after) and its spin-off, Torchwood, and want to catch up on DVDs, rentals or online streaming video:

- 1. Doctor Who S01E1 Rose
- 2. Doctor Who S01E2 The End of the World
- 3. Doctor Who S01E3 The Unquiet Dead
- 4. Doctor Who S01E4 Aliens of London
- 5. Doctor Who S01E5 World War Three
- 6. Doctor Who S01E6 Dalek
- 7. Doctor Who S01E7 The Long Game
- 8. Doctor Who S01E8 Father's Day
- 9. Doctor Who S01E9 The Empty Child
- Doctor Who S01E10 The Doctor Dances
- 11. Doctor Who S01E11 Boom Town
- 12. Doctor Who S01E12 Bad Wolf
- 13. Doctor Who S01E13 Parting the Ways
- Doctor Who S01E14 The Christmas Invasion
- 15. Doctor Who S02E1 New Earth
- 16. Doctor Who S02E2 Tooth & Claw
- 17. Doctor Who SO2E3 School Reunion
- 18. Doctor Who S02E4 The Girl in the Fireplace
- 19. Doctor Who S02E5 Rise of the

Cybermer

- Doctor Who S02E6 The Age of Steel
- 21. Doctor Who S02E7 The Idiot's Lantern
- 22. Doctor Who S02E8 The Impossible Planet
- 23. Doctor Who S02E9 The Satin Pit
- 24. Doctor Who S02E10 Love & Monsters
- 25. Doctor Who S02E11 Fear Her
- 26. Doctor Who S02E12 Army of

Ghosts

- 27. Doctor Who S02E13 Doomsday
- 28. Doctor Who S02E14 Christmas Special :The Runaway Bride
- 29. Torchwood S01E1 Everything Changes
- 30. Torchwood S01E2 Day One
  - 31. Torchwood S01E3 Ghost Machine

32. Torchwood S01E4 -

Cyberwoman

- 33. Torchwood S01E5 Small Worlds
- 34. Torchwood S01E6 Countrycide
- Torchwood S01E7 Greeks Bearing Gifts
- 36. Torchwood S01E8 They Keep Killing Susie
- 37. Doctor Who S03E1 Smith & Jones
- Doctor Who S03E2 The Shakespeare Code
- 39. Torchwood S01E9 Random Shoes
- 40. Doctor Who S03E3 Gridlock
- 41. Doctor Who S03E4 Daleks in Manhattan
- 42. Doctor Who S03E5 Evolution of the

- Daleks
- 43. Torchwood S01E10 Out of Time
- 44. Doctor Who S03E6 The Lazarus Experiment
- 45. Torchwood S01E11 Combat
- 46. Doctor Who S03E7 42
- 47. Doctor Who S03E8 Human Nature
- 48. Doctor Who S03E9 The Family of Blood
- 49. Doctor Who prequel- The Infinite Quest
- 50. Doctor Who S03E10 Blink
- 51. Torchwood S01E12 Captain Jack Harkness
- 52. Torchwood S01E13 End of Days
- 53. Doctor Who S03E11 Utopia
- 54. Doctor Who S03E12 The Sound of the Drums
- 55. Doctor Who S03E13 Last of the Time Lords
- 56. Doctor Who S03E14 Christmas Special :Voyage of the Damned
- 57. Torchwood SO2E1 Kiss Kiss, Bang Bang
- 58. Torchwood S02E2 Sleeper
- 59. Torchwood S02E3 To the Last Man
- 60. Torchwood S02E4 Meat
- 61. Torchwood S02E5 Adam
- 62. Torchwood S02E6 Reset
- 63. Torchwood S02E7 Dead Man Walking
- 64. Torchwood S02E8 A Day in the Death
- 65. Torchwood S02E9 Something Borrowed
- 66. Torchwood S02E10 From Out of the Rain
- 67. Torchwood S02E11 Adrift
- 68. Torchwood S02E12 Fragments
- 69. Torchwood S02E13 Exit Wounds
- 70. Doctor Who S04E1 Partners in Crime
- 71. Doctor Who S04E2 The Fires of Pompeii

- Doctor Who S04E3 Planet of the Ood
- 73. Doctor Who S04E4 The Sontaran Strategem
- 74. Doctor Who S04E5 The Poison Sky
- 75. Doctor Who S04E6 The Doctors

  Daughter
- 76. Doctor Who S04E7 The Unicorn & the Wasp
- 77. Doctor Who S04E8 Silence in the Library
- Doctor Who S04E9 Forest of the Dead
- 79. Doctor Who S04E10 Midnight
- 80. Doctor Who S04E11 Turn Left
- 81. Doctor Who S04E12 The Stolen Earth
- 82. Doctor Who S04E13 Journeys End
- 83. Doctor Who S04E14 Christmas Special: The Next Doctor
- 84. Doctor Who S04E15 Dreamland
- 85. Torchwood S03E1 Children of Earth: Day 1
- 86. Torchwood S03E2 Children of Earth: Day 2
- 87. Torchwood S03E3 Children of Earth: Day 3
- 88. Torchwood S03E4 Children of Earth: Day 4
- 89. Torchwood S03E5 Children of Earth: Day 5
- Doctor Who S04E16 Planet of the Dead
- 91. Doctor Who S04E17 The Waters of Mars
- 92. Doctor Who S04E19 The End of Time: Part 1
- 93. Doctor Who S04E20 The End of Time: Part 2
- 94. Doctor Who S05E01—The Eleventh Hour
- 95. Doctor Who S05E02—The Beast Below
- 96. Doctor Who S05E03-Victory of the

- Daleks
- 97. Doctor Who S05E04— The Time of Angels
- 98. Doctor Who S05E05—Flesh and Stone
- 99. Doctor Who S05E06—The Vampires of Venice
- 100. Doctor Who S05E07—Amy's Choice
- 101. Doctor Who S05E08—The Hungry Earth
- 102. Doctor Who S05E09- Cold Blood
- 103. Doctor Who S05E10—Vincent and the Doctor
- 104. Doctor Who S05E11—The Lodger
- 105. Doctor Who S05E12—The Pandorica Opens
- 106. Doctor Who S05E13—The Big Bang
- 107. Doctor Who S05E14—A Christmas Carol
- 108. Doctor Who S06E01—The Impossible Astronaut
- 109. Doctor Who S06E02—Day of the Moon
- 110. Doctor Who S06E03—The Curse of the Black Spot
- 111. Doctor Who S06E04—The Doctor's Wife
- 112. Doctor Who S06E05—The Rebel Earth
- 113. Doctor Who S06E06—The Almost People
- 114. Doctor Who S06E07—A Good Man Goes to War
- 115. Doctor Who S06E08—Let's Kill Hitler
- 116. Doctor Who S06E09—Night Terrors
- 117. Doctor Who S06E10—The Girl Who Waited
- 118. Doctor Who S06E11—The God Complex
- 119. Doctor Who S06E12—Closing Time 120. Doctor Who S06E13—The Wedding
- of River Song
- 121. Torchwood S04E01-The New

- World
- 122. Torchwood S04E02—Rendition
- 123. Torchwood S04E03-Dead of Night
- 124. Torchwood S04E04—Escape to L.A.
- 125. Torchwood S04E05—The Categories of Life
- 126. Torchwood S04E06—The Middle Men
- 137. Torchwood S04E07—Immortal Sins
- 138. Torchwood S04E08—End of the Road
- 139. Torchwood S04E09—The Gathering
- 140. Torchwood S04E10—The Blood Line
- 141. Doctor Who S07E00—The Doctor, the Widow and the Wardrobe
- 142. Doctor Who S07E01—Asylum of the Daleks
- 143. Doctor Who S07E02—Dinosaurs on a Spaceship
- 144. Doctor Who S07E03—A Town Called Mercy
- 145. Doctor Who S07E04—The Power of Three
- 146. Doctor Who S07E05—The Angels
  Take Manhattan
- 147. Doctor Who S07E06—The Snowmen
- 148—Doctor Who S07E07—The Bells of Saint John
- 149. Doctor Who S07E08—The Rings of Akaten
- 150. Doctor Who S07E09-Cold War
- 151. Doctor Who S07E10-Hide
- 152. Doctor Who S07E11—The Journey to the Center of the TARDIS
- 153. Doctor Who S07E12—The Crimson Horror
- 154. Doctor Who S07E13—The Name of the Doctor
- 155. Doctor Who S07E14—The Day of the Doctor
- 156. Doctor Who S07E15—The Time of the Doctor

### **Submission Guidelines**

#### Want to See Your Name in Print?

If you've never submitted an article before, it's easier than you think. If you want to contribute, but are unsure what to write about – simply send a letter of comment on any topic (a past issue, some book or show you liked [or hated]). It's that easy. Anyone may submit, although paid members get top priority due to space concerns.

#### **Letters of Comment**

Letters of Comment (LoCs) are the fan version of Letters to the Editor – except you can feel free to directly address anyone.

#### **Original Writing**

We accept fiction (less than 2,000 words, please) – both original and fan fiction, essays, poetry, con reports and interviews. All writing is subject to being edited, but we usually take a very light hand. Any writer chosen for a feature will get 1 full-color printed version of the issue their work appears.

#### Art, Drawings and Comics

We are always looking for cover art, filler art and spot art and amusing doodles and thoughtful ones, too. We have plenty of space to fill and your art may be just what we are looking for. Any artist selected for a cover will get 1 full-color printed version of the issue their work graces our cover.

#### Reviews

You may either submit a review to our official review column: RE: The Review Section, or you may submit your own feature or even include a review in a LoC, if you prefer.

#### Formats We Will Accept

Paper copies mailed to us are accepted, but we prefer electronic formats. The ad-

dresses are at the bottom of this article.

#### Electronic formats:

**Writing:** We accept documents in plain text (.txt), rich text (.rtf) and simple Word format (.doc). Better yet, just cut & paste your text into the body of your email.

**Art**: We accept art in JPEG, JPG, PNG, GIF, BMP, TIF, and TIFF formats.

#### **Paper Formats**

Please send only copies of your work, whether it is art or text. We do not return submissions made on paper unless the sender includes a SASE with return postage fully paid.

#### **General Submissions**

U.S. Mail

N3F Editorial Cabal

PO Box 1925

Mountain View CA 94042

Email:

cabal@n3fmail.com

#### Reviews for RE: The Reviews Section

**Email** 

kalel@well.com

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### 2014 N3F Amateur Short Story

# **Story Contest Rules and Entry Blank**

- 1. This contest is open to all amateur writers in the field, regardless of whether they're members of the National Fantasy Fan Federation. For the purposes of this contest, we define an amateur as someone who has sold no more than two (2) stories to professional science fiction or fantasy publications.
- Stories entered in the contest must be original, unpublished, not longer than 8,500 words in length—and must be related to the science fiction, fantasy, or similar genres in the opinion of the judges.
- 3. Manuscripts should be typed, single sided on 8 1/2"-by-11" white paper, double spaced, with pages numbered. The name of the author should not appear anywhere on the manuscript to ensure impartial judging. Photocopies are acceptable, if they are of good quality. Computer printouts must be legible. Email attachments of Word documents are also acceptable.
- 4. Contestants can enter yup to three stories, provided that each is accompanied by a separate entry blank. Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) if you would like your story returned at the end of the contest. Do not send your only copy in case of accidental loss; we are not responsible for lost manuscripts. Stories will not be returned without an SASE.
- Email entries will be accepted. Send to Jefferson P. Swycaffer at abontides@cox.net. No guarantee can be

made of email receipt. Privacy and property rights will be absolutely respected. No one other than the Short Story Judge will ever see the submission.

- 6. There is no entry fee charged. While N3F members are encouraged to enter the contest, members will not receive any preference in judging. .
- 7. Cash prizes totaling \$100 will be awarded as follows: First prize is \$50, second \$30, and third \$20. Honorable mentions and semi-finalists will receive a certificate of award.
- 8. Send all manuscripts, accompanied by SASEs, and entry forms to the contest manager: Jefferson Swycaffer, P. O. Box 15373, San Diego, CA 92175-5373; abontides@cox.net. All entries must be received or postmarked no later than Dec. 31, 2014.
- 9. The Short Story Judge is a published science fiction professional, and also a loving fan of the sf and fantasy genres. All comments and critiques are solely the Short Story Judge's opinion, but he promises to be constructive and polite.
- 10. The N3F assumes no publishing rights or obligations. We want to encourage professional sales, not fan publication. All entries will be returned after the contest is over, if accompanied by an SASE. Winners will be notified as soon as the judging is completed. Announcements and notifications of winning entries will be made in March 2014. Please take your time and submit your best work. You can resubmit stories previously entered. All entries will be kept confidential and will be judged fairly and anonymously.

The deadline for all entries is Dec. 31, 2014. Good luck!

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(Detach or photoco							
Mail to: Jefferson Swycaffer, P. O. Box 15373, San Diego, CA 92175-5373 or email abontides@cox.net							
Title of story (for ide	entification):						
Author's name and	address:						
Author's email add	ress:				Author's age:		
I have read the above rules for the 2013 N3F Amateur Short Story Contest, and I agree to them.							
Signature:				Date:			



# National Fantasy Fan Federation Application

New Member	Former Member	Joint Members	ship Gi	ft Membership	Email List Only			
Name (Please Print):								
Address:								
City, State, Postal Code, Country:								
Phone: Email:								
Occupation:				 e:				
Signature of Applicant: _								
Interests. Please select a	any and all of the follow	ing that you're int	erested in or v	vould like to get i	nvolved in			
APAs (amateur pre	ss associations)		Fanzines Filk singing					
Audio			Games and vi	deo games				
Blogging			Movies					
Books		Online activities						
Cartooning, cartoo		Publishing						
Collecting		Reading and book clubs						
Comic books			Reviewing	_				
Computers and ted			Role-playing g	•				
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Correspondence			Taping Teaching scie	nce fiction				
DVDs and videos			Television	nce nedon				
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Name of Sponsoring N	Member (if anv):				TB 270			

Regular dues are \$18 per year (\$22 for Joint Memberships) which includes subscriptions to the club's fanzine as well as other activities and benefits. Voting memberships for those who prefer not to get paper subscriptions are \$6. Being added to our Email List is free of charge. Make checks or money orders payable to N3F. All payments must be made in U.S. funds. Mail dues and application to N3F, PO Box 1925, Mountain View, CA 94042. Please allow at least eight weeks for your first clubzine to arrive. You can also sign up and pay online at http://n3f.org

