

Submission Guidelines

NewFictionWriters is always looking for new fiction for our listeners. If you're a writer with a short story that you would like to hear narrated we would like to see it.

What we are looking for

Here at NFW we believe that a good story need not fit into any specific genre; we would like to see stories from all genres, anything that is thought provoking and well written.

We would like stories between 2500 and 6500 words. Stories that are shorter than that will be overwhelmed by our intro and outro. Stories that are longer than say 7000 words start to become too long. We have found that somewhere between 3000 and 5000 is "the best length."

Stories that are over 7000 words would need to be a two part podcast which will only be done in extremely rare circumstances. In other words it would have to be a brilliant story that couldn't be passed up.

We do not discriminate between previously published and unpublished works. We are an audio market with nonexclusive rights, so it doesn't bother us if a story has previously appeared in another market in print. We would however like to be the first to place it in the audio market.

We are looking for fiction with strong pacing, well defined characters, engaging dialogue, and clear action. Beautiful language at the expense of plot does not translate well.

Humor as well as drama are encouraged upbeat and optimistic are always better than sad and depressing. We don't really want to bum people out, we all have our own problems so try and keep it out of the depressing areas of life.

We will not accept stories focused primarily on rape, incest, child molestation, body mutilation or hate crimes. Unsuitable religious or anti-religious propaganda will also not be accepted. We don't need the hate; we believe the world has enough of that already. We will not balk at strong sexual content or language, but if your story is primarily erotic in nature, it may not be for us. Maybe we should have an erotic podcast... it certainly is something to think about.

Suspense, love, fantasy, mystery and horror, we like it all!

How we would like to see it

Upload or copy and paste your story on the Submit Story page. If uploading your story, we prefer word documents and PDFs.

What You're Telling Us

By sending us your story you understand and agree that:

- You are the original creator of the work submitted to us;
- You are the copyright holder of the work;
- You are not prohibited by any prior agreement from the transfer of non-exclusive electronic and audio rights to the work;
- All information in the contact and cover sections of your e-mail is accurate and truthful;
- You accept sole responsibility for any false statements or encumbrances upon rights not disclosed to us.

What the World Does With It

The audio files **NewFictionWriter** produces are released under a [Creative Commons](#) license. Specifically, we use the [Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives](#) license. Briefly, this means that the entire world has permission to distribute the podcast for free, provided they give credit for it, don't try to make money off of it, and *don't change it in any way*. Transcribing it, extracting portions from it beyond fair use, and mashing it up are all prohibited. This license applies *only* to our audio performance of your work. It does not apply to your story itself; you retain your copyright and all rights to any other use of the story.

We've had some questions about this from the writing community, so we'd like to make our reasoning clear. We know that Creative Commons licensing is scary to many writers, and it's certainly a radical break from traditional rights that expire after a period of time. Our take is this: when we create a podcast, we are putting an MP3 file on the Web. That MP3 file is going to get downloaded and copied onto thousands of hard drives, CDs, iPods, and other portable devices across the world. *That's the point*. We want people to listen to it. But once you've done that, you can't take that file back. There is no way to delete the file everywhere it exists. There are some highly fallible ways to lock things down and even if we believed in it, it's too complicated for us to implement.

So from a purely practical perspective, we can't make our content expire. And we can't stop people from copying our files, nor *should* we. Given that reality, why not give our listeners to the full legal right to do what's totally natural for an audio file (copy it, share it with people, and listen to it whenever they want), but make equally clear to them what they *can't* do (share the story outside the podcast, or alter it in any way at all)? That's our reason for the Creative Commons license. We hope you'll agree with our reasons and choose to share your story with

us. If you don't, then we're deeply sorry, but we feel it's better that you know this *now*, before you make the decision to submit.

Any questions?

Thank you so much for taking the time to read our submission guidelines. We know it's a lot to process, but we feel like everyone involved will have a better experience if you follow our guidelines exactly.

If you have questions, comments, suggestions, send them to info@newfictionwriters.com, we'll do our best to get back to you within a few days.

Thanks very much for your time, and we look forward to reading your submission.