

CALL FOR SHORT STORY SUBMISSIONS

ANTHOLOGY TITLE: MIDNIGHT SCHEMERS & DAYDREAM BELIEVERS: 20 STORIES OF MYSTERY & SUSPENSE

GENRE: Short story/mystery/suspense

PUBLISHER: Superior Shores Press

EDITOR: Judy Penz Sheluk

SUBMISSIONS OPEN TO PREVIOUS SSP ANTHOLOGY AUTHORS: NOVEMBER 1, 2024

SUBMISSIONS OPEN TO ALL AUTHORS: NOVEMBER 15, 2024

SUBMISSIONS CLOSE: JANUARY 31, 2025, or until 75 submissions have been received. The website page will be updated periodically with the number of submissions received. Late submissions and/or submissions after 75 entries have been documented will not be considered.

WEBSITE PAGE: www.judypenzsheluk.com/midnight

All submissions will be acknowledged within 10 business days. If, after 10 business days, you do not receive an acknowledgment, please use **the Contact form on my website**.

Acceptance/rejections will be emailed to all submitting authors within 60 days of submission close, however authors will be notified of rejection prior to that date if it is determined that a story isn't a good fit. This will allow authors to resubmit elsewhere. Authors will also be notified if they make the "longlist," although a final decision cannot be made until the submission period closes and all stories have been read and evaluated.

Note: The evaluation process takes time. It may take up to 45 days from submission to learn if you've made the longlist OR been rejected. I will attempt to offer a brief explanation for any rejection. It doesn't make it any easier to swallow, but at least you'll know why.

PUBLICATION DATE: SUMMER/FALL 2025 (TARGET DATE: JUNE 18, 2025)

*The Publisher reserves the right to postpone and/or cancel due to unforeseen circumstances or if an insufficient number of qualified stories are submitted/accepted.

DESCRIPTION: A multi-author anthology of 18-22 short stories of mystery and suspense. An introduction, author bios and weblinks will be included. The collection will be available in trade paperback and e-book formats.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES: Both previously published and unpublished authors are welcome to submit. There is no entry fee.

Authors may submit 1 (one) previously **unpublished** short story, ranging between 1,800 to 5,500 words. No reprints. Authors will be expected to work with the Editor promptly on any requested revisions. Failure to do so will result in exclusion from the anthology. Please, no simultaneous submissions.

SUB GENRES: Traditional, locked room, noir, historical, humorous, and suspense will be considered; however, please do not submit stories with overt sex, violence, or gratuitous bad language. Speculative fiction, sci-fi, fantasy, and paranormal are not of interest for this collection.

For a better understanding of the type of stories that are likely to be accepted, please read one or more of the previous Superior Shores Press anthologies: *The Best Laid Plans: 21 Stories of Mystery & Suspense* / *Heartbreaks & Half-truths: 22 Stories of Mystery & Suspense* / *Moonlight & Misadventure: 20 Stories of Mystery & Suspense* / *Larceny & Last Chances: 22 Stories of Mystery & Suspense*.

IMPORTANT: The premise (target theme of MIDNIGHT SCHEMERS & DAYDREAM BELIEVERS) must be an integral part of the plot, not necessarily the central theme but not merely incidental. You don't need to include a schemer AND a dreamer, though stories with both are welcome. Try not to overdo references to the moon, lottery winner hopefuls and the usual stereotypes. Oh, and no werewolves. I really don't get werewolves.

FORMATTING: Times New Roman 12, double-spaced, 1" margins, .5" indent (no tabs). Word .doc or .docx only. PDFs will be returned unread.

TERMS: Authors will be paid \$25 USD via PayPal or Amazon gift card (as agreed between Author and Publisher) within 15 business days of publication. No further payment or royalty will be paid. Canadian authors will be paid by e-transfer, the CAD dollar amount to be determined based on US/CAD currency exchange rates at time of payment.

Contract term will be 1 (one) year from the initial date of publication. After the contract period, rights to reprint the story will revert to the Author, however, the Publisher reserves the right to include the story in the anthology in perpetuity, or until the Publisher chooses to remove the anthology from print and vendor sites.

AUTHOR COPIES: Authors will be provided with one digital (EPUB or PDF) copy and one trade paperback copy of the collection.

SUBMISSIONS: Should be emailed to Judy Penz Sheluk at judypenzsheluk@gmail.com. Please put **Midnight Submission** in the subject line.

Please include this page (page 3/Submission Form) as a separate Word document with your short story. Stories submitted without this form will be returned unread. It's okay if you

want to retype this info into a new Word doc and send that way, but please, no pix from your phone etc. I log this info and I'm a big fan of copy and paste.

SUBMISSION FORM

MIDNIGHT SCHEMERS & DAYDREAM BELIEVERS

Author Name:

Pseudonym (if applicable):

Primary Email:

Alternate Email or Mobile #:

TO BE USED ONLY IF PRIMARY EMAIL BOUNCES

City; Province/State; Country (if not U.S. or Canada):

Story Title:

Word Count:

[1,800 TO 5,500]

Previous SSP Anthology(ies)/:

Reminder: No simultaneous submissions or reprints will be accepted for this anthology.