

Flash Me Magazine

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Editor: Jennifer Dawson

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Web address: www.wingedhalo.com

What they publish: Flash Fiction of all genres. Will not publish stories with excessive gore, sex, or profanity.

Submission guidelines: A maximum of 1,000 words. Send submission in body of e-mail or as an attachment. Include your legal name, your name as you want it published, your e-mail address and a short biography to be published with your story. Have the word SUBMISSION in your subject, as well as your story's title. Send only one submission per e-mail.

Description of Publication: Decent looking site that is fairly easy to navigate. Publishes quarterly, and submissions are read by at least four different editors.

Percentage of Prose per Issue: 60%

Prose Reviews:

Fish Tank Dragon by Kurt Kirchmeier is a clever story written in third person about a boy named Charlie who decides to see if his seahorse is really a dragon. He does this by placing a plastic knight to try and sway the seahorse (dragon) into breathing fire.

As the story progresses, you begin to wonder what Charlie really thinks he is going to accomplish by trying to provoke a sleeping seahorse, but overtime, you begin to grow a bit charmed by his persistent attempts to awaken the seahorse. And in the end, the seahorse blows a bubble which takes the plastic knight for a ride, and eventually melts it, causing Charlie to grow increasingly excited by the end of the enchanting story, and causing the reader to believe, that yes, perhaps it really is a dragon. The story is told slowly in third person, giving plenty of space between the reader and its main character, giving a step by step view of the encounter, and it is simply delightful to see Charlie's hypothesis proved.

Night Thieves by Jeff Monday is a simple story told in third person about an old woman who seems to be getting robbed on a nightly basis, although there is no proof of any forced entry into her home. As the story progresses, things such as pearls, scissors, and string are stolen.

The voice of the story is very deadpan, but the situation that the characters are going through seems to tell what they are feeling without any internal point-of-view. It is very detached from the characters, even when they find out that she is merely forgetting where she is putting things, a sign of old age. The only person that we get any personal point-of-view from is the Grandmother, and the nursery rhyme type of style is suitable for the simple, quick, flash fiction attempt.

Rating: 4. The stories in Flash Me Magazine are well written, although some are not quite my taste. It is fairly censored, which is a negative for emerging writers, as they have to more carefully dictate what they will submit, although it is not a major issue. The stories are colorful and fun. Some of the authors are fairly accomplished, although not all, which opens the door for emerging writers. The fact that several editors will have a hand in the selection process is another door that is opened to the submitting writer.