

GUIDELINES:

The Theme: We're looking for scary, mind-bending stories featuring dreams, nightmares, hallucinations, messed-up psychedelic experiences, and various elements of phantasmagoria. Think sleep experiments gone awry and Freddy Krueger and "This is bat country!" from *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*, but maybe the bats are real and maybe they are vampires? Feel free to bring the weird, the trippy, and the surreal in large doses. Some movies we like for reference are:

Dreamscape, *NOES* series, *The Cell*, *Come True*, *From Beyond*, *Altered States*, *Inception*, *What Dreams May Come*, *Climax*, and *Annihilation*.



We would like to see stories with unique perspectives and from diverse voices, and encourage all writers to submit. If possible, we would like to give a new writer their first professional sale. Please let us know if this would be your first pro sale in your cover letter (and please be honest).

From this open call, we will be selecting approximately 8-10 stories to appear alongside tales from Laird Barron, Cynthia Pelayo, Eric LaRocca, Gwendolyn Kiste, Lee Murray, and Philip Fracassi. Sadie Hartmann will write a special introduction for the anthology.

We are looking for works of fiction only. Poetry, non-fiction, or creative non-fiction will not be accepted.

Payment: 8 cents a word

Length: 2500-4500 words

Submission window: October 17th-December 4th 2022. Please do not send submissions before October 17th or after December 4th. Submissions sent outside the window will not be accepted.

Tentative publishing date: September 2023

Rights: Exclusive First Worldwide Publication, Print and Electronic Rights for 1 Year (from publication date), and non-exclusive rights thereafter.

Contributor Copies: 1 paperback and eBook copy.

Simultaneous Submissions: Yes. But please let us know if the story is accepted elsewhere. No multiples.

Turnaround: We're hoping to send out acceptances and rejections within 90 days. Due to the amount of submissions we are anticipating, we will be unable to provide detailed feedback.

Formatting: Standard manuscript formatting. 12pt font, double spaced.

Contact: Please send your submissions (.doc or .docx files only please) to neverwakeanthology1@gmail.com, and in the subject, put SUBMISSION - "Story Title" - Your Name.