

# TWI ANTHOLOGY

## Submission Guidelines

*\* TWI financial members only \**

### **Submissions**

- Short story: fiction, biography, autobiography, memoir, essay, article, flash fiction
- Poetry

*Note: No children's stories. TWI anthologies are aimed at adult readers.*

**Genre/Category:** Open

### **Word limit**

- Short story: up to 3,000 words
- Poetry: up to 500 words

### **Formatting**

- Front page: Include the title, genre, name, your contact details, word count
- Font: Times New Roman, 12 point (or similar easy to read fonts)
- Left aligned, 1.5 or double spaced, indent each first line, page number bottom, one space after full stop, 'single quotations' for dialogue, no underlining, no extra line between paragraphs
- Entry to be submitted in MS Word
- Ensure your entry is of a publishable standard. Apart from a brief overall feedback to improve your submission piece, no editing advice/services will be provided.

### **How to submit**

Send your submission including your name and contact details to [competition@tropicalwriters.com.au](mailto:competition@tropicalwriters.com.au) ensuring you put 'Anthology' in the email subject line.

Up to three submissions can be made.

Winning entries from the 2020 and 2021 writing competition will be automatically considered.

Acceptance into the anthology is not guaranteed.

### **Submission dates**

First cut-off date: 31 October 2021

Last submission date: 31 December 2021

A \$5.00 entry fee will apply to submissions received after 31 October. Entries received after 31 December will not be accepted.

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## What are we looking for?

### GENERAL

This section to give the writer/author of the piece some idea of what we (the anthology committee/judges) are going to be looking for. These are guidelines only, and they are certainly not exhaustive. Nor is this a scientific process. Some guidelines may be useful when writing poetry, some will not apply. Note there is a certain element of subjectivity when evaluating anyone's writing.

### Plot

This is about the actual story. Note that this usually applies to non-fiction as well as fiction:

- Is the story interesting/worth telling?
- Is it told well: clearly, concisely, with good pace and variation of pace?
- Does it take the reader on a journey: a clear story arc, with highs and lows?
- Are there elements of surprise?
- Does the story involve the reader emotionally?
- Are the characters well developed within the constraints of the format. [Note that this may or may not apply to non-fiction.]

### Structure

This is about how the story is told, and concerns what you might call the 'movements' of the story (as in a symphony):

- Is there a clear beginning, middle and end?
- Is there a sense of movement?
- Does the writer hold things back to create tension and suspense, and then reveal?
- Are there interesting temporal elements, e.g. does it start in the middle or at the end?

More technically:

- Is there a good and appropriate use of paragraphs?
- Dialogue?
- Tense?

### Style

Does the writer

- Use language well?
- Demonstrate good and varied word choice?
- Construct sentences well?
- Vary the pace?
- Break the 'rules' creatively?
- Use poetic devices such as imagery, alliteration and assonance (well)?

## **Grammar**

This concerns the bricks and mortar of the writing.

- Is the spelling good?
- Are sentences grammatically correct? If not, does the 'rule' breaking seem intentional and is it effective?
- Are the correct words used?
- Are there many typos?