The Agorist Writers’ Workshop is now accepting submissions for our 2017 speculative fiction anthology,

The Clarion Call, Vol. 3:

THE MOVE TO SOMALIA

The 2017 Clarion Call Call...For Submissions

The Agorist Writers' Workshop is seeking submissions for Volume 3 of The Clarion Call.

Dust off your quill pen, stock up on white-out, turn off your phone, or whatever else you need to do to prepare to write. But first, just really quick, go watch 8 seasons of M*A*S*H and Blazing Saddles. Then, go watch 20 seasons of South Park. It’s research!

Back?
Good.

The theme for **The Clarion Call, Vol. 3: The Move to Somalia*** is humor. It will be a volume of comedy, satire, and post-modern dissections of the futility of modern, post-political philosophy. With your proper preparation, the AWW is confident that you have what it takes to make us, and all of your fellow voluntaryists, laugh. Even if it’s at our own expense.

*Subject, and for the love of all that is holy, hopefully likely to change before publication.*
The Kind of Stories We Are Looking For

Politics and culture are just too important not to mock from time to time. It may be redundant, putting this volume together, when the absurdity of the state can be laughed at in every major newspaper, and the pretzel-knot verbal contortions of every policy wonk talking-head are available 24 hours a day on a myriad of “news” channels. But humor us...—Yah, pun intended— for the state of the world and the state of the State are just too ridiculous not to laugh at.

We aim to fill Volume 3 with parodies, satires, shaggy dog stories, surrealist (you know who we mean) *reductio ad absurdum*, loving roasts, and, hopefully, some flat out ridiculous farce. We want anything that pokes politics, skewers statists, lampoons libertarians, roasts republicans, deflates democrats, and generally mocks mandated, mainstream media mores.

Okay, obviously this description is degenerating. Check out the rest of the guidelines below, and we look forward to reading your submissions.

Direct all queries to inquiries@agoristwritersworkshop.com

Who We Are

We are a group of liberty-minded individuals with an interest in creative writing, professional autonomy, and sharing the message of freedom and personal accountability. Our backgrounds include various forms of writing and publishing experience ranging from technical writing and peer-review editing to advanced fan fiction and self-published novels. A common thread among us is a desire for entrepreneurship met with personal growth and creativity, while encouraging others with similar interests to pursue the same. We formed quite synergistically in the late summer of 2014 while sitting around a table at AgoraFest, a liberty-themed festival of agorism and knowledge sharing (https://agorafest.com). We were hosting a workshop on the mechanics of self-publishing. The conversation lit a spark of enterprising spirit and we recognized an opportunity to contribute to the greater liberty movement through publishing books of our own. That was when The Clarion Call was born. With “Volume 3: The Move to Somalia”, The Clarion Call now enters its third year.

What the Anthology Project Is About

We chose the multi-author anthology as our literary medium in order to encourage community participation and boost interest in and exposure to the project and to the
message of liberty. Fall 2017 will mark our third anthology publication, and we intend to continue to publish one new anthology per year. Our core goals are 1) to provide an accessible means for people to explore and voice their perspective in the liberty movement, 2) to expose new people to liberty concepts and address common difficulties people have with libertarianism, anarchy, and free market principles, and 3) to grow the reach and impact of the anthology itself by featuring more and diverse authors, and seek ways to ever-improve the project overall.

Eligibility

- We welcome stories by authors from all libertarian-leaning stripes.
- We especially encourage submissions from novice writers.

Submission deadline and publication schedule

- Submissions are due Sunday, February 26, 2017.
- Acceptance/rejections notices will be sent by April 1, 2017.
- The Vol. 3 anthology is slated for a September 2017 print and ebook release.

Compensation

- Winners will receive two free copies of the book and promotional exposure.

Story criteria

- Length: Preferred 1000-8000 words; will accept <1000 (flash length) up to 18000 words (for a truly hilarious, anchor-worthy story).
- Story should be humorous fiction, from any genre, that is a plot-driven, stand-alone story with a beginning and end. Other, more experimental, formats will be considered for shorter works.
- Do not submit story proposals, incomplete stories, or stories that are not publication ready. We are happy to answer concept queries prior to the submission deadline (see below).
- Your story may, and perhaps should, include a conflict between two, or more, of the sects that lay claim to the “one final political truth” or an exploration of a famous cultural theme taken to the extreme- seriously, who would build the roads if the libertarians got their way, or how diverse can a community actually get? Stories that lovingly tease anarchist, libertarian, and voluntaryist ideals will be especially welcome
- Your story could certainly use statists and/or government as a comic foil - we all know the absurdity of big government and politics as usual. However, on some level, your story should positively promote liberty and voluntary interaction.
- Within the above guideline, the story may be in any appropriate genre: mystery, adventure, sci-fi, romance, etc.
Underlying all of this should be an exploration of the concepts of liberty, spontaneous emergence, voluntary action, or anarchy with a humorous delivery leaving us loving our philosophy more for its faults.

Surrealist, slapstick, satire, farce…whatever. Dark humor is fine but should follow the content guidelines below.

We are happy to review story concepts prior to submission or start of production in reference to these guidelines. Please send inquiries to: inquiries@agoristwritersworkshop.com. Include a brief summary of the setting, plot concept, and characters. We will reply only as to the acceptability of the concept under these guidelines, but will provide no other feedback. Please note that concept queries are not required.

Content guidelines

- Sexual content is not forbidden; however, please consider whether you need to include it in your story. It should further the story and not be used for gratuitous titillation. We ask that sexual content be suggestive (i.e. PG-13) rather than explicit.
- Violent content is not forbidden; however, we cannot publish stories that advocate acts of pre-emptive violence or abuse as a solution to problems (especially anything that may be viewed as terrorism). Violence as a plot device in your story should further the goal of the anthology and should not be overly gory or horrific for the sake of shock value.
- As we seek to spread the underlying message to a broad audience, we strongly caution you to consider the use of profanity as well. Though again, not strictly forbidden, profanity and offensive language should be used to accentuate rather than as a crutch.
- Do not use characters from other sources that are not in the public domain. Although at least one of the 8 anthology planners doesn’t believe in intellectual property rights, that’s no reason to go a-courtin’ trouble.

Submission

- Send story submission via email to: submissions@agoristwritersworkshop.com
- The subject of the email should read “2017 Anthology submission.”
- Include your full name and story title in the body of the email.
- Remove all identifying information (e.g., your name, address, email) from the manuscript.
- Format must be in Word (.doc, .docx, etc.) or similar open-code program that allows for redlining and mark-ups.
- Include the story title, a brief two sentence synopsis/teaser that we can use for marketing later, and the word count on the first page.
- One story submission per person.

- Set the margins for your document at 1.25” on all four sides.
- Align to the left hand side only; the right hand side should remain jagged.
- Use twelve point Times New Roman, Courier, or Arial in black type only.
- Lines should be double spaced with no extra spaces between paragraphs.
- Single space between sentences after periods.
• Indent new paragraphs and each new section of dialogue, with the exception of the opening paragraph of a chapter or scene break. Don’t do this by hitting the tab key. Instead, set indentation to 1.25” in Word through Format->Paragraph->Section.
• Indicate scene breaks by inserting a blank line and centering the hash sign (#) in the center of the line.

Judging

• Upon receipt, your story will be anonymously filed separately from your email until time for review.
• Judging is blind. During their review, judges will not know who wrote the stories.
• Judging will be based on points earned. A total of 15 points can be awarded. 5 points each in these three categories: technical skill, originality, and handling of the anthology theme.
• Judges will not reword any portion of your work, but you may receive edit suggestions and a request for resubmittal, with deadline. It is your prerogative to decline revision requests.

Rights and permissions

• Submissions must be your original content to which you have rights of publication.
• Submission to the contest implies consent for publication in this anthology and reprints of this volume.
• Stories cannot have been published elsewhere previously.
• You may submit your story to other competitions simultaneously, but if you are accepted for publication in another competition, please immediately withdraw from this one.
• Winning stories may not be published elsewhere for 12 months after the first release of the 2017 Agorist Writers’ Workshop The Clarion Call, Vol. 3 anthology, at which time publication rights revert to the author.
• Submission entails agreement and compliance with these terms and conditions.

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