



# ETHOS LITERACY

## 2022 Short Short Story Contest Rules

- The story must relate in some way to **one** of these topics: tubas, skyscrapers, horror movies, chewing gum.
- The story must be your original work.
- The story cannot be longer than 100 words.
- The title is not included in the word limit.
- The contest is open to prose, any genre.
- The contest is open to all ages.
- There is no limit on the number of stories an author can submit.
- Stories must be unpublished at the time of submission.
- Ethos Literacy staff, board members and their families are prohibited from participating in the contest.
- Judges and their families are prohibited from participating in the contest.

**Prizes:** We will award 7 cash prizes

- Best of Contest (\$250)
- Best of Category (\$100)
- Best Youth Story (14 years or younger) (\$100)
- People's Choice (\$100)

**Entry Fees:** \$10 per submission paid at [ethosliteracy.org](https://ethosliteracy.org)

### Submission Information

- Stories should be written in English.
- Stories format: arial or times roman font, 12 point, double spaced.
- Authors will submit their stories in PDF by email to [shortstory@ethosliteracy.org](mailto:shortstory@ethosliteracy.org) or submit it online on the Short Story page.
- Authors will not include their name and email address on the story itself.
- Authors will include their name in the cover email.
- If you are entering the Youth Category (authors age 14 or younger), please indicate that on your submission.

**Contest Opens:** November 1, 2021

**Submission Deadline:** January 31, 2022 at 5:00 pm MST

## Judging

- Judging criteria:
  - Does the story address the topic in an imaginative, creative, or unexpected way?
  - Does the author create a clear and coherent story?
  - Does the story contain a distinct theme or idea?
  - Does the quality of the author's prose or writing enhance the story?
  - Is the story compelling? Did it leave a memorable impact on the reader?
- Judging will be blind.
- Stories will be judged in two rounds. In the first round, Community Volunteers will score the stories. The top scoring story in each topic category and youth author category will be submitted to Ethos Literacy's Board of Directors who will choose the Best in Contest winner.
- Scoring sheets will not be made available for review by authors.
- The judges' decisions are final.

## People's Choice Prize

The runner-up story in each topic category and youth author category will be submitted to the public on Ethos Literacy website to choose the People's Choice Prize. The story that receives the most votes will win the People's Choice Prize.

## Publication & Webcast

- Ethos Literacy will publish the winning and honorable mention stories in a digital publication which will be disseminated on its website and social media platforms. The author agrees Ethos Literacy may publish the stories.
- Ethos Literacy will produce an webcast of the stories. Authors may choose to read their own stories on the webcast.

## Copyright

The author retains copyright to the work.

## Notification to Authors

Contest participants will be notified of the results in February or March 2022.

## Acceptance of Rules

Submission indicates acceptance of all Contest Rules.