



# SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

## 1 THE CONCEPT

OCCULT DETECTIVE QUARTERLY MAGAZINE is devoted to those intrepid investigators who explore the weird, exotic and bizarre. These are the people who explore the darkness, both within and beyond, often to their own peril and the expense of their very lives and sanity. The concept of an 'Occult Detective' actually goes back many years to writers of the 19<sup>th</sup> century like Poe, William Hope Hodgson, Algernon Blackwood, E. & H. Heron and many more. It now encompasses Constantine, Harry Dresden and other modern heroes' (or 'doomed meddlers' as we like to call them). We've long been fans of the genre and are now celebrating it in all its forms.

## 2 FICTION

Our basic concept is wide open to interpretation. We are looking for well-written stories featuring those who **investigate** or **explore** the strange and unusual, so general scary encounters don't usually do it for us. Read the magazine to get an idea. We are eager to read stories featuring a diverse range of characters, cultures and periods. You may cheerfully pursue established Lovecraftian, Pulp or Dystopian themes, for example, but a fresh twist on the classics is always more likely to grab us. We do like stories with unusual protagonists, or with less common backgrounds, and we have an appetite for the pulp and modern weird tale **as long as it fits the overall concept**.

We welcome new and established voices of all orientations, and are very receptive to POC writers and non-Western settings. A story set outside the UK and the USA will catch our eyes. Whoever you are, and wherever you come from, the primary goal is to tell a good story with great characters.

*Technical Specs:* We're looking for stories between 3,000-6,000 words. Please query if you have something longer before sending. Payment for original fiction is currently 1 cent per word, with a \$50 cap. We sometimes have a **small** number of reprint slots, paid at a flat rate of \$25 per accepted reprint.

### 3 NON-FICTION

ODQ also wants your articles and essays about Occult Detectives! We're looking for articles that discuss the history of this unusual genre and essays about the many writers who contributed to it. We welcome literary criticism as well as reviews and retrospectives. Did you know that the hero of the CURSE OF THE DEMON film could be considered an Occult Detective? Kolchak, the Night Stalker, certainly was, as are many comics and characters in other media as well. Basically, if you have an article about ANY aspect of Occult Detectives, we want to read it!

*Technical Specs:* We're looking for articles and essays between 2,000-5,000 words. Please query if you have something longer before sending. Payment is 1 cent per word, \$25 cap. Reviews are unpaid, but we are looking to build a stable of regular, reliable reviewers, so contact us if interested.

### 4 ARTWORK

We are looking for talented artists to contribute to all aspects of ODQ. We need illustrators for stories as well as cover artists. If interested, please forward a small sample of your work (.jpg please) and we will add you to our list. Art will be on an assignment basis with artist owning all copyright and rights to work after initial publication. Interior art rates are \$15 - \$40 per piece. Covers are dependent upon previous agreement between publisher and artist.

### 5 PRACTICAL NOTES

All submissions (fiction or non-fic) should be sent in .doc or .rtf format, with contact info, word-count and title on first page. Standard manuscript formatting – double spaced, no fancy effects. *Italics* for italics; formatted for a simple indent at the start of each new paragraph; common font like Times New Roman 12pt. Use \*\*\* centred to indicate major breaks. We don't need headers or page numbers.

Send to [occultdetectivequarterly@yahoo.com](mailto:occultdetectivequarterly@yahoo.com) during our Open Call periods. Next Open Call - 15th September - 15th October 2017. **Please do not send anything other than proposals outside of these times (unless invited), as they will not be read.**

All submissions should be by email, with story or article attached, not in the block of the email. The subject line **must** have "Art/Story/Article Submission" in it, plus your surname and story title, eg. *Story Submission: Henderson 'The Drowned Man'*. Failure to keep to these guidelines may do our heads in, and prejudice your chances of being read.

We look forward to working with you in the future!

**John Linwood Grant, Sam Gafford, Dave Brzeski & Travis Neisler**

*jlg/sg - 7/17*