

OCCULT DETECTIVE MAGAZINE SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

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 do it for us.

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 is always exciting. We do look for stories with unusual protagonists, or with less common backgrounds, but we also like classic Victorian/Edwardian investigators, seventies PIs and so on. We have an appetite for both the pulp and the modern weird literary tale **as long as it fits the overall concept**. *Do not send us detective stories with no paranormal, occult, psychic or weird elements – or weird stories with no investigation/detective work.*

Please read a copy of the magazine to get an idea. It's not expensive on Kindle, for example, yet a number of people who submit to us obviously haven't!

We seek out new and established voices of all identities and orientations, and are very receptive to POC writers and non-Western settings. Whoever you are, and wherever you come from, the primary goal is to have a good story with great characters.

Technical Specs: We are primarily 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, on publication, plus contributor's copy in e-format (and print copy if we have the cash). We sometimes have a **small** number of reprint slots, paid at a flat rate of \$25 per accepted reprint, but these are not common.

NON-FICTION

ODM 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 contribute or have contributed to it. We welcome literary criticism as well as retrospectives, and pieces about films, comics and graphic novels. 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 2,000-4,000 words. Please query if you have something longer before sending. Payment is 1 cent per word, \$30 cap. **Reviews** are unpaid, but we are looking to build a stable of regular, reliable reviewers, so contact us if interested.

ARTWORK

We are looking for talented artists to contribute to all aspects of ODM. 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 B/W art rates are typically \$30 - \$40 per piece. Covers are dependent upon previous agreement between publisher and artist.

PRACTICAL NOTES

Submissions (fiction or non-fic) should be sent, preferably in .doc format, with **contact info, word-count, title and author's name** at the top of the first page. Standard manuscript formatting:

- double line spacing, no fancy effects, *italics* for italics
- formatted with a simple indent at the start of each new paragraph, **not** tab indents, and no extra lines between paragraphs
- common font like Times New Roman 12pt
- use *** centred to indicate major breaks.

All submissions should be by email, with story or article attached, not in the body of the email.

Important: The subject line **must** have "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.

Your submission will be judged on the quality of the work attached, so there's no point in sending loads of stuff about you or your past publications in the email.

Send to occultdetectivemagazine@gmail.com during our Open Call periods. **Please do not send anything other than proposals outside of these times (unless invited), as they may be binned.**

We look forward to seeing your work.

John Linwood Grant and Dave Brzeski

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