

FWA Collection #2—Slices of Life

FWA publishes a new story *Collection* annually, each a different new theme and different Person of Renown.

FWA Collection #2—Slices of Life is the title for FWA's second Collection of sixty short pieces, written by FWA members, submitted electronically, published by FWA, and marketed across the nation through national booksellers as well as on our own website.

Our next *Collection* theme is *Slice of Life*.

Slice of Life is a type of story that depends less on plot than on an event that effects a change. The slice of life emphasizes mood and characters(s) rather than action and builds to an emotional peak through carefully selected detail, skillful characterization, and naturalistic dialogue. Unlike a traditional work that has a beginning, middle, and end, the slice of life is a seemingly unselective presentation of life as it is—a brief, illuminating look at a realistic rather than a constructed situation, revealed to the reader without comment or interpretation by the Author.

The story makes a point but comes to no conclusion. The reader does not know what comes before the events of the story, nor does he know what lies ahead for the characters.

—Excerpted from *Writing A to Z*, Edited by Kirk Polking,
Writer's Digest Books, 1990.

Virtually all stories about life changing moments are eligible. Readers love variety and look for fiction or nonfiction subject matter with a wide interpretation. Stories may be funny, quirky, dramatic, tragic, disturbing, or heart-warming, and can be written from any point of view, in first, second, or third person—your choice.

FWA's judges will select their sixty favorites from the electronic submissions received before deadline, all sixty of which will be published. From these sixty, our second *Collection's* Person of Renown, Eliot Kleinberg (veteran journalist and Author of *Weird Florida*) will name his ten favorites. Eliot's selected ten will appear first, the remaining fifty following in alphabetical order by Author's last name.

Submission Guidelines & Requirements

1. Submissions for the second *Collection* will be accepted from February 1, 2010, through midnight May 16, 2010. The submission email address will be provided in FWA's *E-Newsletter*, *The Florida Writer*, and on online at our website.
2. You must be an FWA member to submit. If your membership will lapse before the book is printed in the fall of 2010, your submission will not be considered for inclusion.
3. Stories must not have been published previously and must be the original work of the submitting Author.

4. Submit your best work. We encourage you to participate in one of FWA's Critique Groups to strengthen your submission and potentially increase your chances for selection. Use spell check!
5. There is no entry fee. Each FWA member may submit up to five stories.

How to Format and Submit

1. Because this is an electronic submission, you need no cover letter. Submit the story within the body of the email. **NO** attachments.
2. **One story per email entry.** Submit your entry from your permanent email address. All communication with entrants and finalists will be via email only.
3. Stories are judged blind. For tracking purposes, though, type your name, as written on your FWA membership card, **only** in the subject line of your email (nowhere on your manuscript), along with your story title, and word count (i.e., Joe Smith, The Desktop Dog, 899 words).
4. Formatting and Word Count: Single space the story using **Times New Roman 12** or **Ariel 12** font. Story title should appear at the top of the story, the word count below the title. The title is not to be included in your word count. Contest stories must not exceed 1500 words. Do not write with the goal of reaching 1500 words. Short is good and sometimes better. No headers or footers, no page numbers, and **no Author name anywhere in the manuscript.**
5. All submissions will receive an email reply acknowledging receipt. If you don't receive this notice within forty-eight (48) hours, please resubmit your entry.
6. FWA members are responsible for following these guidelines. Entries that exceed the maximum word limit, are submitted as attachments, or include Author information anywhere in the manuscript, will not be considered. They will be deleted. This does not include a signature block in the e-mail, which is permitted.

If Your Work Makes the Top Sixty Stories

1. FWA has first-time publishing rights in North America only, including reprints of the entire book, as determined by sales, and the Author retains the copyright to his/her work.
2. All Authors receive an e-mail to let them know whether or not their submission is selected as one of the final sixty. Authors whose stories are selected will be required to sign a legal release for printing rights, as outlined above, to be assigned to Florida Writers Association.
3. All submissions are contributed to FWA for publication in exchange for Author recognition.
4. Should your entry be selected as one of the sixty, you will be asked to email your BRIEF biography of **no more than fifty (50) words**, along with your website URL and a photo of yourself (black & white, if possible).
5. FWA retains republishing rights for the entire *Collection*, including electronically, while Authors retain the right to republish their short stories individually, if they so desire.
6. FWA does not retain any rights to unselected works without written Author approval.
7. Books will be sold through FWA's website, at the Conference Bookstore, and through national outlets such as Barnes & Noble, Amazon, etc.

The FWA *Collection* offers you, our member, a great opportunity to have your work published. And it's a super way to support Florida Writers Association.