

Mysteries Magazine

WRITER'S GUIDELINES



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We appreciate your interest in writing for *Mysteries* magazine, a quarterly publication of Shadows Media, LLC. Below you will find information on what we look for in manuscripts, how and where to submit them, payment, etc.

If possible, we ask that all submissions are done via email as an attachment (MS Word, PDF or plain text). We will accept submissions on CDs. Please no floppy disks.

Topics

Mysteries is interested in true stories about anything that is odd, unsolved, or intriguing. We accept unsolicited manuscripts on a wide variety of topics including, but not limited to, the paranormal (ESP, ghosts, monsters, UFOs, etc.), the occult, conspiracies, disappearances, bizarre crimes, unusual archaeology, lost treasures, strange science, and current or historical mysteries.

Submitting Articles

Before starting an article, please send a short proposal to the Editor at editor@mysteriesmagazine.com explaining what you want to write about and how you will approach it. New and first time writers are welcome, but must submit a completed article for consideration.

Completed articles are also accepted if they are unpublished and contain original material. Please submit all articles to submissions@mysteriesmagazine.com. Sending articles to another address may delay it being reviewed for publication or cause it to not reach the appropriate person.

Upon submission, authors may contact *Mysteries* at any time to check on the status of their article. Author also maintains the right to pull their article from consideration at any time unless *Mysteries* has it slated for a future issue.

You may choose to write for one of our columns as well: **Reviews** (Books, DVDs/Movies, and Music), **Ufology Files** (UFO, USO and alien related subjects), **Crypto Safari** (strange creatures), **Behind the Shadows** (conspiracies), **Unseen Forces** (parapsychology, ghost, hauntings, etc.), **Encounters with the Unknown** (readers experiences), **Cults & Cultures** (strange and unknown cults, bizarre cultures, rituals, etc). This is only a partial list of columns. You may email us at editor@mysteriesmagazine.com for more information.

Writers will be notified of acceptance within a few weeks of submission, but we cannot guarantee a publication date. When the article is scheduled for a particular issue, however, we will attempt to notify the writer before publication. The editors reserve the right to reject previously accepted work at any time and for any reason.

Book/DVD/Movie/Music Reviews

We accept unsolicited reviews of fiction and non-fiction books about the paranormal and unexplained, as well as speculation, New Age, and spiritual topics. Reviews are between 250 and 350 words. Please include a high resolution (300+ dpi) scan of the book jacket, along with review. Also include title, author, ISBN #, Publisher, # pages, year published, and cover price at the beginning of each review. Be sure to let readers know what the book is about, the author's qualifications for writing it, and whether it is worth buying. Authors and publishers are encouraged to submit a review copy to:

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Length of Articles

Features

The average feature is 1,500 to 3,000 words, although longer pieces will be considered. Sidebar subjects are encouraged in features.

Columns

The average column is 500 to 1,200 words.

Reviews

The average length of reviews is 250 to 350 words.

Our Editorial Style

Our goal is to entertain and inform the readers. Most articles are written in the third person. Please avoid contractions and assume that the reader knows nothing about the topic being discussed (sidebars are a good way to provide additional information). Work may receive a written critique and editorial suggestions. All work will be edited to some degree, to match our editorial format. **Please do not submit articles if you are unwilling to have your work edited!** Allow 2-4 weeks for a response. *Mysteries* is a family magazine so please use appropriate language.

Bibliography

Articles should include a short bibliography showing where the material came from and/or a list of books for further reading (see “Bibliography” below). Contributors should include a brief autobiographical sketch, a clear photograph or drawing of themselves, and information that they wish to include such as the URL of their website or titles of published works.

Please use a consistent form when writing references. You can follow these forms (see below), or one containing all the necessary information. When referring to a single page use “p”, as in “p 6”, while several pages is “pp”, such as “pp 105-109”.

Books

John Smith: *All About the Paranormal* (Squirrely Publishing, NY, 1992), pp 102-104.

Magazine

Richard Roe: ‘Crop Circles’ in *Oddity Times* (March 1986) v14 n301 p 220.

Newspaper

“The Untold Story of Jeane Dixon”, *The National Observer*, October 27, 1972.

Website

<http://www.shadowsinthedarkradio.com/> (accessed June 8, 2006).

Photos and Artwork

The availability of images, including copyright-free illustrations and original photographs, makes an article more likely to be published.

If you are using illustrations, photos, or text from published sources, you are responsible for obtaining permissions for their use from either the publisher or copyright holder before the manuscript is accepted for publication.

Photos intended to accompany *Mysteries* articles must be of high resolution in order to be considered. Photos must be 300+ dpi. Images with a lower resolution do not print well.

Please include in your submission, whether in a separate file or listed at the beginning of your manuscript; image file name and caption that should accompany it.

Policies on Rights or Accepted Material

Mysteries magazine takes full First Serial Rights on all work accepted, and reserves the right to post—either in part or in full—any articles, reviews or images, at the magazine’s web site www.mysteriesmagazine.com or any other publication or *Shadows Media, LLC* whether print or digital.

If you are having a book published that includes material from an article you have published in *Mysteries*, we do ask that *Mysteries* is credited as the original source (month and year of issue).

If you have questions about this policy, please write to us with your specific question and we will send a detailed reply.

Payment

Payment of \$.05 per published word is made upon publication, as well as \$5 per photograph/ illustration used that is provided by author. One (1) copy of the magazine will be mailed, and a PDF version e-mailed, to each contributor. Additional copies are available at a discount.

Reviews are paid at a flat rate of \$15. At publication

Mysteries does not pay a kill fee for articles not used, except for contracted, assigned articles and only when an arrangement has been specified in writing, in advance.

Author payments are made by check in U.S. Dollars. *Mysteries* takes no responsibility for currency conversion costs incurred by authors living outside the United States of America. Contributors who live outside of the U.S. may choose to avoid currency conversion costs by opting to be paid in kind with a *Mysteries* subscription, other *Mysteries* merchandise or advertisement space (depending on available space). U.S. contributors may also opt to be paid in such a manner if they choose.

Payment for “*Encounters with the Unknown*” is \$25 (including the use of the photograph), paid by check in U.S. Dollars. Photographs will be returned with payment.

Editorial Suggestions

We encourage *Mysteries*’ readers to make suggestions on what kind of articles they would like to see published in *Mysteries* magazine. To do so, write, or email Jeremiah Greer, Editor/Publisher, at editor@mysteriesmagazine.com, *Mysteries Magazine*, PO Box 131, Waynesville, NC 28786.