

Name _____

Period _____

Author website – graded at the end of the term

Over the course of the trimester, you will create and maintain a website/blog/e-zine featuring your best work. Your site should include a combination of prose, poetry, and graphics. Use the WordPress guidelines on the back of this sheet to get started. Mr. Cantwell can help. You may use a website builder other than WordPress, such as Google Sites, but Mr. Cantwell may not be able to help as much. When your site is ready to be shared (once your site looks the way you want it to look and your short story is posted) let Mr. Cantwell know, and he will link you up on his website. Check out the other author sites already on the “CW – Links” page for examples.

Short Story Submissions – due Friday, October 5

For this assignment, you will submit your short story to at least three different lit journals, magazines, or contests!

First, research markets for your story. Don’t pay to submit and don’t submit to vanity sites – there should be an editor who accepts or rejects submissions. I strongly encourage you to submit to *Figure of Speech*, the SEHS literary journal. See the links on my “CW – Links” page.

Standard font for submissions is 12 pt. Times, double-spaced. Each journal has its own guidelines for how to submit. Read these and follow these closely. Ask me if you need help.

Many journals require you to submit through something called “Submittable.” This is legit; most authors use it. It is free to create a Submittable account.

You must make your three submissions and share proof of submitting with me by **Friday, October 5**. You can show me as you submit, take a screenshot of your submission, or include me in the submission by “sharing” through Google docs or adding me to the email (“bcc”) at cantwell@4j.lane.edu.

In most cases, you will need a cover letter. This might be the body of the e-mail or a message in a window provided in Submittable. Keep it short and simple. These cover letters are typically two paragraphs. Include the title and word count in the first paragraph. In the second paragraph, working authors are able to list previous publications or writing accomplishments. Include anything that gives your writing legitimacy, but also try not to come off as an amateur. It is fine to just have the first paragraph. Here is the cover letter I used for a recent acceptance:

Dear Editors,

I am submitting my short story, “Runner” (5,700 words), for your consideration in *The Massachusetts Review*. I hope you find it a good fit for your journal.

I hold an MFA from the Rainier Writing Workshop at Pacific Lutheran University. My fiction has appeared or is forthcoming in *Whitefish Review*, *Newfound*, *Cirque*, *Wisconsin Review*, *Weber-The Contemporary West*, *New Ohio Review*, *Flyway*, and *American Literary Review*.

Sincerely,
Tom Cantwell