

PUBLISHING YOUR POETRY

A Guide To Submitting Your Poems

You Have Poems To Publish?

- ▣ Congrats are in order
- ▣ 9 out of 10 poets never submit their work
- ▣ Getting over the first submission is a huge step

A Few Thoughts Before Submitting

- ▣ Too early, or too late?
 - Some poets rush in before they are ready
 - Some poets wait too long

- ▣ Workshops and Readings
 - Have other poets seen your work and have you gotten honest feedback?

Matchmaker, Matchmaker

- ▣ Poetry Publishing is 10% writing, 90% matchmaking
- ▣ *Match your poem to its market, and your chances of acceptance increase several fold instantly.*
- ▣ One size fits all is usually a thing of the past

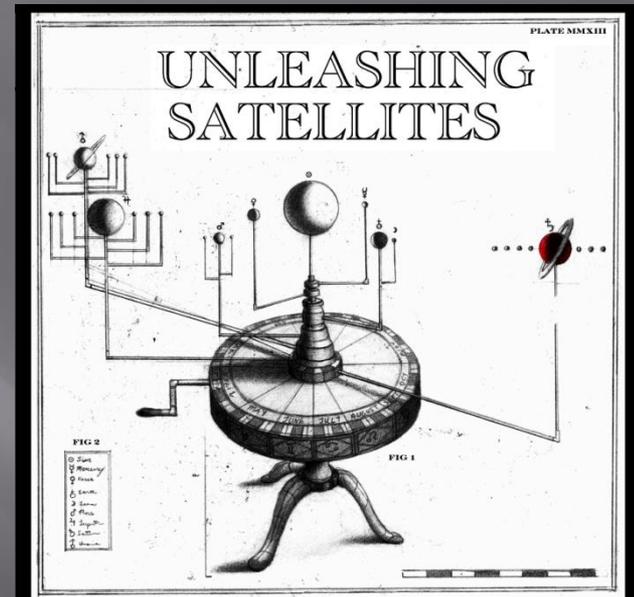
Understanding The Different Markets

- ▣ School art and lit mags
- ▣ Local and Regional Publications
- ▣ Magazines
- ▣ Themed Anthologies
- ▣ Contests
- ▣ Academic Journals

- ▣ Online Publications

School Art and Lit Mags

- ▣ Highschools and Colleges normally have an Art and Lit Magazine
- ▣ Open to their students
- ▣ Some are open to outside submissions



The
Undergrad
Poetry
Project

Local and Regional Publications

- ▣ Counties, States, Towns often do regional publications
- ▣ Groups and Organizations local to specific areas
- ▣ Many have live events and book launches
 - Great way to meet poets and writers in your area

Local Publication Examples

Stranger to Blue Water



A West Virginia Poetry Anthology

*Edited by
Daniel McTaggart*

NoVA Bards 2017



*An Anthology of
Northern Virginia Poetry*

Magazines

- ▣ Publications that come out at a given interval
- ▣ Weekly, Monthly, Quarterly, Annually

- ▣ Rattle, Glimmer Train, Etc
 - Some magazines aren't focused on poetry but still accept poetry

Themed Anthologies

- ▣ A call for submissions of poems of a specific topic
 - Autism
 - Breast Cancer
 - Working in Retail
 - Sonnets
 - Pets

RETAIL WOES



Poetry From Both Sides of The Counter

*Edited by Nick Hale,
Jillian Roath*

Contests

- ▣ Poetry contests put out calls for books but usually for individual poems
- ▣ Sometimes there is a prize
- ▣ Many contests have a way for the winners and honorable mentions to get published

- ▣ Occasional Entry Fee Normal if Prize Provided

Academic Journals

- ▣ Considered the upper end of poetry publishing
- ▣ Colleges and Universities Publish their own Journals
 - Sometimes they have open submissions, sometimes they don't
 - Usually tend to publish professors and prominent poets
 - Some of them only publish professors from their school
 - Distribution through academic library system

Online Publications

- ▣ Online publications are more of a category than a type
- ▣ There can be online
 - Anthologies
 - Journals
 - Magazines
 - Contests
- Audiences vary greatly, from hardly anyone to thousands or tens of thousands of readers

Researching Markets

- ▣ Lists Online
- ▣ Duotrope.com - \$5 Subscription, access to over 6000 markets
- ▣ The Poet's Market

TIPS TO UP YOUR CHANCES OF PUBLICATION

Thoughts from The Publisher

Become Familiar With The Market

- ▣ Get to know the publication you're sending in to. See previous issues or books, get a feel for their style
- ▣ Get to know their guidelines
- ▣ Get to know the projects they have done

Previously Published, Simultaneous Submissions, Multiple Submissions

- ▣ Some markets will take poems already published if you have the rights to them, other's won't.
- ▣ Some markets, higher end usually will not want you to send in poems that are already being considered elsewhere.
- ▣ Multiple poems are ok to submit if the publication allows it but there is normally a limit to how many poems can be submitted at once.

Poem Rights

- ▣ You should retain the rights to your poems
- ▣ Most publications want printing rights or online distribution rights
- ▣ Some of them might want exclusive rights for a short period, usually a month, 3 months, 6 months or a year. After the exclusive period is over, you should be able to submit your poems elsewhere.

Compensation

- ▣ Some markets might pay to use your poem
- ▣ Most probably will not pay
- ▣ Some will give contributor copies, or copies at a discount
 - This varies greatly depending on the size of the publication

Vanity press means you are paying to be published.

Warning About Fees

- ▣ Generally speaking, there should be no fee to submit a poem unless
 - It's a contest with a cash prize
 - The submission fee includes a copy of the publication

Dealing With Rejection

- ▣ Don't cry like this guy on the right --→
- ▣ Rejection is part of the process, everyone gets rejected, you will only get published by working through rejections until you find the right match

