

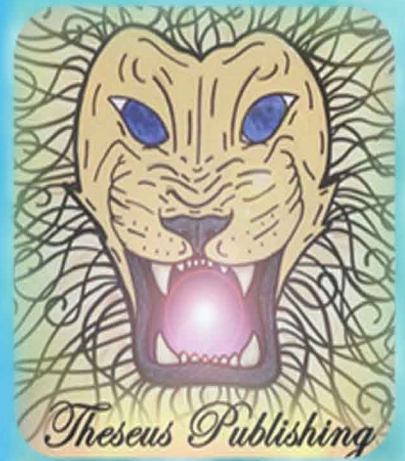
Theseus Publishing Online

Third Edition



January 2013

Welcome to *Theseus Publishing Online Magazine!*
Home to a variety of Sci-Fi and
Fantasy Short Stories.



Editors:
Becky Hayes &
Tasha Williams

What's Unique in this Edition?

This month our edition
includes flash fiction, with
the theme of 'EVOLUTION'

Contributing
Writers:
Various
(See Inside)



WISHING YOU A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!



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TPOM NEWS!

This month we have been experimenting with our *TPOM* designs. We can therefore now share with you our brand new promotional poster!

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As always we would love to hear your views at *Theseuspublishing@gmail.com*

*Theseus
Publishing
Online
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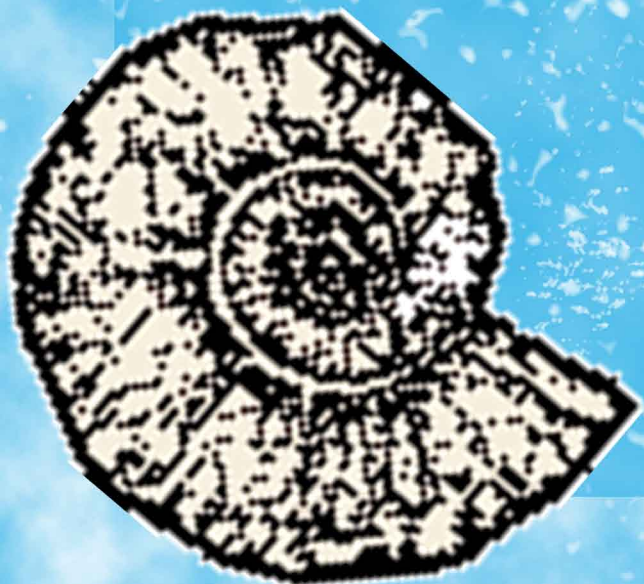
Ever wanted the chance to have your *Sci-Fi & Fantasy* Short Stories published online?

Visit us today at
www.theseuspublishing.weebly.com
or find us on 

This month's Flash Fiction is 'EVOLUTION'



The theme was left open for
people to interpret as they
wished.



Happy Reading ~

50 Word Stories

Looks like a smiley face by Izaak Stoakes

“Ahh...”

He'd just jammed the flag into the Moon's chalky surface when it happened. American Missiles wiped Moscow into dust. Asia cracked. Oceans burned. They watched Earth spill outwards and collapse into shards, hanging in oblivion.

“Looks like a smiley face.”

He laughed.

“yeah. Yeah, it does.”



Dave Loved the harp by Izaak Stoakes

Wizened fingers cracked in their sockets as she tried desperately to force the door open. The room fell into a shivering freeze, a long lost breath rattling like ancient chains down the back of her neck. The pluck of a thousand harp strings drowned out her screams.

He'd come back.



New Look by Gerard Mulligan

He peeled off his face and placed the flesh into the revival slot. He waved a card over the pay point. The pretty assistant walked by and he smiled. The red exposed muscles twisting into a tight mess around bare teeth.

The slot beeped. Good as new. He faced up.

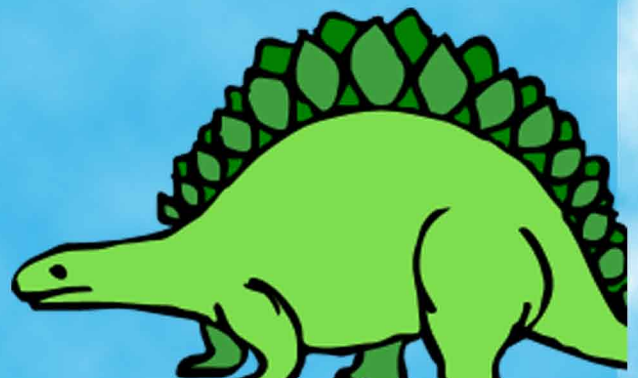
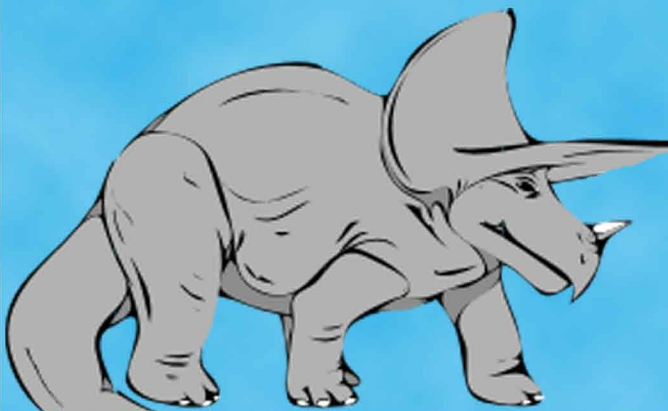


Too different by Izaak Stoakes

“I’m sorry.”

The Stegosaurus crushed the last of her cigarette into a grime covered pewter ashtray. The Triceratops was desperate to hold himself together, but the crack in his voice was louder on the scratches on a vinyl record. Their coffees were untouched, cold.

“We’re just too different.”



The Meeting by Gerard Mulligan.

It was only when Dr Goddard stepped through the portal entrance from the university operations room into the jungle and actually came face to face with the Australopithecus Afarensis female did he realize that his entire academic career had been wrong. Instead of the prehistoric scrawny simian he had been expecting, the lean muscular naked female covered in small hairs eyed him with a cool detachment. The meeting did, however, answer one of the key questions of the entire costly expedition. The distant predecessor of mankind did not use verbal language but advanced telepathy to communicate. Her mind grabbed his thoughts and sent him into a pool of relaxation. She absorbed his entire history and culture in moments. Her questions then came to him as floating ideas rather than words and his mind translated them as best he could. To his surprise, he found himself eager to answer her inquiries.

‘You come from the future? Why leave your home to come here?’ she asked.

‘We wanted to meet you, to study your people.’ he answered.

‘You believe that we are your ancestors?’

‘Yes’

She came forward and walked around him.

‘I am called Red Flower and what you believe is possible. We do share a familiar shape but you are so much degraded to us. You use crying sounds to speak like the animals we hunt and you use your hands to move things rather than your mind.’

‘Yes.’ he could only agree.

‘But still, the species has picked up some new abilities. You can use your hands to birth new things to work for you.’

“We call it technology.”

“This technology will take you back home?”

‘Yes, back to the university, through the portal entrance, they are waiting there for me to return.’

‘And you have birthed great birds which can fly to the stars.’

‘We call them spaceships.’

‘This is an achievement. We can use this.’

From beyond her, more of her kind stepped from the trees. Males, females, old and young. They surrounded him without fear and one of the children reached out to stroke his arm. He could hear the clatter of their unspoken conversation as they discussed his arrival and the opportunities it presented but the flow of thoughts was too fast for him to understand.

‘This is my tribe but there are many more among the trees.’ Red Flower explained. ‘Unlike your tribes, we do not fight among ourselves unless necessary. In many ways, your people are like our children and will be easy to control. And once we own you, we will own your spaceships, and then we too can travel to the stars.’

‘But if you bring all your tribe, my people will be very alarmed.’ he said.

‘You speak the truth, your people are very easily frightened.’ Red Flower noted. ‘I will travel back with you alone. It will be a great achievement for you, to bring back one of our kind, and I will have time to gain control more of your people. After I own enough of your people, I will bring my people through.’

‘Yes.’ Goddard agreed.

‘You go first, the returning warrior with his captive.’

Goddard nodded and picked up his back-pack. He felt that somehow that he was being pulled into bringing her back but under the pleasant presence of her mind it also felt the right thing to do. He turned and walked back through the portal entrance with Red Flower following. She bowed her head bowed as if in submission and readied herself to appear amazed.

Pet Problems by Cassandra Willis

I've always wanted a pet T-Rex since I was a child. I think most people go through the dinosaur phase of childhood, learning all the names, collecting all the species, drawing all your favourites. But I never grew out of that phase. And I've never got over my obsession with the T-Rex. There's just something so amazing and powerful about them. They are the kings of the lizards after all. They must have got that name for a reason.

I think if I had one I'd call him Rover, or Scrappy or maybe even Tiny (to be ironic). I would build a massive kennel for him in our garden. It would be great. If I got him as a hatchling I bet he would think I was his mummy, and let me ride him and stroke him and play hide and seek with him. And he could chase all the people I don't like away too... maybe even eat them for me! Though I guess that would spark bad behavior...

I read somewhere that T-Rex's have these huge, massive skulls. And their teeth are like the size of my arm. Apparently, the force of their bite is really strong too and it beats any other animal that has ever lived, even the crocodile and the great white shark! But if I had my own T-Rex I would teach him that biting was bad. I'm sure he would learn eventually.

We could play games with each other. The only thing is playing catch with him would probably be a bit of a problem... Everyone knows that T-Rex's arms aren't the longest. But I would never draw attention to that of course. I wouldn't want him to ever feel self-conscious about himself. That would be mean.

I could probably take him into school, once he is toilet-trained and knows that biting is not very nice. I could show him to my class during show and

tell, and everyone would be so jealous that I had a pet T-Rex and they didn't.

Mum says that a T-Rex would be too big for our house. She says it would be mean to have one stuck outside all the time, but I'm sure my T-Rex wouldn't mind. He would love being outside! Sleeping all day in the shade and drinking from our duck-pond.

Mum also said all his stomping around would keep her awake at night, and that his ground-shuddering steps might make the house shake too much. She doesn't want any damage. I don't really know how to solve that though... I did think about making my own T-Rex slippers to soften his step, but then I realized how much material I would probably need. I don't think you can order Size 100s on the internet.

I guess the main problem would be the food... a pet T-Rex would get quite hungry very quickly, and I wouldn't want him eating the neighbor's cat and getting into trouble. I bet he would like beef-burgers though! Who doesn't like beef-burgers?! I would probably have to order quite a lot, but if I had my own T-Rex it would definitely be worth it. I'd spend all my pocket-money on it and everything.

I just wish my mum would understand. She finds a problem every time I mention it. It's so unfair. I've always wanted a pet T-Rex so bad... But I'm stuck with my lame pterodactyl instead.





When it comes to the genre of 'Sci-Fi and Fantasy' *Jurassic Park* is one of the big contenders. It's a film (and book) that I absolutely love, so naturally I had to do my own little article on it. Plus, it links in pretty well with this month's theme of *Evolution*.

The original book *Jurassic Park* was written by Michael Crichton. The book itself is actually quite different to the movie adaptation. Much of the novel's original violence and technicalities were removed in order to make the film more family-friendly, and cost-effective. Michael Crichton eventually sold the rights to adapt his novel to Universal Studios, after a huge bidding battle between Warner Bros, Tim Burton, Sony Pictures Entertainment and 20th Century Fox. The film is set almost completely on the island Isla Nublar. On this island John Hammond, the CEO of InGen and an eccentric billionaire, has managed to fund and create his very own dinosaur amusement park. The dinosaurs themselves have been genetically engineered by Hammond's genetic scientists through the use of prehistoric dinosaur blood that has been preserved

within prehistoric mosquitoes.



The film stars Sam Neill as dinosaur expert Dr Alan Grant, Laura Dern as Dr Ellie Sattler, Jeff Goldblum as Dr Ian Malcolm and of course Richard Attenborough as John Hammond. Over the course of the film things begin to escalate dramatically. When the dinosaur's electrified enclosures are switched off, all the guests are thrown into a fight for survival. The main protagonist throughout is Dr Grant. The film mainly follows his attempts to get himself, and Hammond's grandchildren Lex and Tim, back to the Visiting Centre safely. Visually the film is extraordinary, especially considering how much technology has developed since. *Jurassic Park* can still defiantly give modern-day CGI a run for it's money.

The movie was, of course, directed by the legendary Steven Spielberg and was released in 1993, raising \$900 million worldwide. A 3D re-release of *Jurassic Park* is to be released on April 5th 2013, in celebration of the movie's 20th Anniversary. I quite obviously love this movie, as it never seems to get old. And if you haven't seen *Jurassic Park* then you should definitely give it a go. I would say you should go to the re-release in April if you really want the full-amazing-experience.



The long-awaited *Jurassic Park IV: 3D* is set to be released June 13th 2014 - How Exciting! It's only been 12 years in the making!



The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey Review

By Tasha Williams

After the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy took the film world by storm in 2001, many fans of Middle Earth were wondering when the famous J.R.R Tolkien prequel to the trilogy would be made into a film. And a few years back, award winning director Peter Jackson answered these questions, stating that *The Hobbit* would be made into not one, but THREE films. Before its release, fans seemed to be split into two groups - those who were confused on how so short a novel could be split into three long movies, and those who were just simply excited to see Gandalf the Grey (played by the fantastic Sir Ian McKellen) on our screens again.

Martin Freeman takes on the main role of Bilbo Baggins with ease, providing a humorous yet engaging character for the audience to relate to, as we see Bilbo decide to embark upon an adventure with Gandalf and a group of dwarves led by Thorin (Richard Armitage) who wish to regain their homeland of Erebor from a gold hungry dragon named Smaug.

The Hobbit covers a variety of themes, such as friendship, loyalty, loss and comedy and whilst there were parts that made the audience laugh, there were also those that tugged on the old heart strings as well as had you sat on the edge of your seat with anticipation.

I watched this film twice, both in 2D and in the highly anticipated 3D HFR (High Frame Rate), which is basically more frames per second so the picture appears that it is being played in front of you like a play rather than just a film. I found the HFR difficult to get used to at first as I'd never seen a



film in that way before. But over the course of the movie, I realised just how great it is and really paves a path for a new way of watching films.

Overall, I think that *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey* was absolutely blimmin' fantastic. I can't wait for the next two, and I can whole heartedly say that Peter Jackson has done it again in making Middle Earth one of my all time desired places to live...except Hogwarts of course, but that's another debate that I refuse to partake in.

Rating: 10/10



And what about the Next Issue?

INTERGALACTIC ZOU

More info will be available soon at

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.weebly.com*

