

How (Editors wish you would) Submit to Literary Journals

Writer's Mill
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Who is me?

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Maren Bradley Anderson is a writer, teacher, and alpaca rancher in Oregon. She is the Editor of [the Timberline Review](#) and [PURE Insights](#) and has written plays for the Apple Box Children's Theater. Her writing has appeared in *The Christian Science Monitor*, *Alpacas Magazine*, and *the Timberline Review*. She teaches at Western Oregon University. Her new novel [Sparks](#), sex farce [Closing the Store](#), and alpaca ranch romance [Fuzzy Logic](#) are available online and through your local bookstore.

My website: <https://marens.com/>

Nice [article about me](#) in the Itemizer-Observer



Definitions

Definitions:

“Literary” = interested in CRAFT

“Genre” = particular beat/worlds of the genre. Usually fiction

Also, I’ll say “genre editors” and I mean Poetry, Nonfiction, and Fiction.

Part One: How do I know
where to send my stuff?

Q: How do I learn where to submit my stuff?

A: Look for each magazine's central aesthetic.

Profiling a Market:

Primary interest/subject of the market	(In the <u>handout</u>)
Limiters:	
Geographic	
Gender	
Values or Beliefs	
Other	
Education levels	
Other stuff	

The Timberline Review



Examples

Breakout rooms/groups. Get on the internet and write a profile for these markets (on handout):

1. *Alpaca Magazine*—leading publication for alpaca owners. Nine member Board of Directors.
2. *Calyx*—a journal for and by women (prose, poetry, art) Ed. Brenna Crotty
3. *The Christian Science Monitor*—an independent international news organization, *shedding light with the conviction that understanding the world's problems and possibilities moves us toward solutions*. (news, stories, commentary, in print and online) Founded by Mary Baker Eddy. Current Ed. Mark Sappenfield.
4. *High Desert Journal*—an evolving conversation on understanding the people, places and issues of the interior West (multiple genres) Ed. Charles Finn et. al.
5. *Inflectionist Review*--strong preference for non-linear work that carefully constructs ambiguity so that the reader can play an active role in the poem (poetry and prose) Eds. John Sibley Williams and Anatoly Molotkov

Q: What is the audience of that magazine?

A: You can usually tell with a little research.

Profiling an Audience

Age range of audience	
Primary interest of the audience (why this magazine/journal?) Job titles, hobbies, etc.	
Male/Female/Other	
Geographic Location	
Likes/Dislikes/Values	
Education levels	
Ethnicity and Race	
Other stuff	

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Who do you think the audiences for these journals are?

Breakout rooms/groups. Get on the internet and write a profile for these markets (on handout):

1. *Literary Mama*—online, writing about motherhood in a variety of genres. Ed. Christina Consolino et. al.
2. *Mom Egg Review*—literature and art about being a mother (multiple genres). Changing guest editors.
3. *OEJ (Oregon English Journal)*—pedagogy papers on teaching English, poetry, fiction, non-fiction. Ed. Kimberly Campbell
4. *Phantom Drift*—a journal of new fabulism (poetry, fiction, non-fiction, and b/w art) Ed. Matt Shumacher
5. *Windfall*—poetry of place (Pacific NW) Ed. Bill Siverly

Part 2: How do I find journals?

Listservs/emails

- [Trish Hopkinson's blog](#) submissions
- Litpages
- [Duotrope](#)
- [Everywriter](#)
- [Submittable submishmash](#)
- [Freedom with writing](#)
- [Play submission helper](#)
- [Newpages](#)

Magazines, books, and websites

- [Poets and writers](#)
- [Writers digest](#) (not lit mag specific)
- Writer's market (online, [book](#)) (the website isn't working because Writersmarket.com was recently sold to Penguin Random House)

Facebook Groups

- [Screenwriting](#)
- [Inside willamette writers](#)
- Binders full of women and non-binary poets (secret group, invite only)
- [Honor Roll!](#)--women scriptwriters over 40. Invite only

Journals have FB pages, too

- [*The Timberline Review*](#)
- [*Willawaw Journal*](#)

Part 3: How Journals Work

A word about journal staffs

Most literary journals are volunteer-run because there is no money to be made.

Volunteers are always in flux

This means that the tastes can shift year to year

Some can be very, very niche

Most other markets are subscription or advertisement models (usually both).

These have more stable staff

Also very tuned in to their slice of the market

Q. How do I read a Call for Submissions (CFS)?

<https://www.csmonitor.com/About/Contributor-guidelines/Contributor-Guidelines-The-Home-Forum>

<https://manager.submittable.com/opportunities/discover/?page=1&sort=>

What is the timeframe?

- When is the market open for submissions?
- How long is the reading period?
- Turnaround time?

Q. Does it pay?

- Paying markets vs. not paying markets
- Not better or worse quality

Q. Will I get to revise?

- Editors and revision
- Emerging writers
- However well-meaning the editor is, it is your writing

CFS Questions

<p>Q. What is the timeframe?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• When is the market open for submissions?• How long is the reading period?• Turnaround time?	(also on handout)
<p>Q. Simultaneous submissions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Are they allowed?	
<p>Q. Does it pay?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paying markets vs. not paying markets• Not better or worse quality	
<p>Q. Will I get to revise?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Editors and revision• Emerging writers• However well-meaning the editor is, it is your writing	

Q. How do I keep organized?

[Maren's submissions spreadsheet](#)

Q & A