



The Grumpy Dragon

Art and Writing Submission Guidelines

What we publish:

The Grumpy Dragon is not currently limited on what genres or formats we will consider for publication. However, there are certain types of projects we specifically would like to cultivate for our catalog. These include: science fiction and fantasy, manga, memoirs, children's books, family histories, artwork collections, poetry collections, and, most especially, anything created by teens!

What we pay:

There are two different methods by which we pay our artists and authors.

Single fee agreements: We offer one-time fees for artwork we specifically commission for a project, such as the cover art for a book. The fees for this work varies from artist to artist and from project to project. For the most part, these projects are ones where we will initiate contact with an artist and negotiate a contract for artwork to meet our needs. However, since we do sell t-shirts, coffee mugs, etc. with original designs on them, we might be willing to consider paying an artist for a design. Please email us or send us a letter about your idea if this interests you. For work in this category, The Grumpy Dragon pays for exclusive rights to the design, meaning you cannot use that image for anything other than your artist's portfolio ever again. You have sold it to us.

Royalty based contracts: We offer royalty-based exclusive contracts for authors and artists in order to publish their work. Our generous contracts are usually for 50% of the markup of book sales. (For more information on this, please see our document, "Where does the money go?") With this arrangement, no one else can publish the book as long as it is in print with us. The author/artist retains all other rights, including the right to sell his/her work in other formats. Should the contract with us be dissolved, all rights revert to the author/artist. Sometimes, we will offer artists an agreement with additional money for further use of their images on our product lines. Contracts for royalty-based works are a result of the submission process outlined below.

The submission process:

Step 1: You send us a query letter about your project along with a 2-page synopsis of the work or a couple of representative images of the artwork. Your query letter can be either emailed or snail-mailed. We DO NOT accept full manuscripts without first going through the query process, and unless you provide us a SASE with the appropriate amount of postage, we do not return materials to you. So, please do not send us a box containing the original copies of every painting you ever did because it will not be returned to you, and we will not publish it.

Step 2: We contact you and say, "Please send us more!" We may ask for a couple of sample chapters or the entire work. Again, if it is artwork, we do not want the original pieces at this stage. We merely want to see more of the work so we can decide whether or not to offer you a contract.

Step 3: We contact you and say, "We've seen enough! We want to offer you a contract!" At this point, we will send you a new author/artist packet with information specific to your work and a contract to sign. You read through everything, sign the parts you need to sign (with a parent or guardian if you are under 18), and send the paperwork back to us along with your full manuscript (if we don't already have it) or the entire collection of artwork to be published. At this point, we will negotiate whether you or we will be photographing or scanning any images so you might be sending us originals. Don't worry! We'll be careful with them! We know they're your precious children.

Step 4: We work really hard with you to get your work into a finished format, publish it, and sell as many copies as possible. You sit back and watch the money roll in from the royalties.

Questions?

Spring Lea Henry, who is the editor-in-chief, can be contacted via email at slh@springlea.com or via snail-mail at the address below. Please, no phone calls unless we are in the contract stage. Remember: query letters first!

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