



# **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

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V.2.0



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**C**reepy has turned out over 1000 stories between the live feed and patreon, we've heard a lot. But we want more. We want to be scared. We want to see what kind of darkness you have at your fingertips.

Please read this guide entirely to see what we are looking for, the format we would like it, and all the other details we can think of.

All submissions will be read in the order they are received by our story scouts. They are not professional editors and we don't have the staff to work with authors so **PLEASE ONLY SUBMIT STORIES THAT ARE READY FOR NARRATION.**

This email is for story submissions only. Any emails including questions or comments for the show or it's creator should be directed to [info@creepypod.com](mailto:info@creepypod.com).

# BE THE VOICE YOU WANT TO HEAR IN HORROR

# GUIDELINES | [SUBMISSIONS@CREEPYPOD.COM](mailto:SUBMISSIONS@CREEPYPOD.COM)

Familiarize yourself with the guidelines carefully before submitting in order to receive a response from our team.

- Please email us at [submissions@creepypod.com](mailto:submissions@creepypod.com)
- **Feel free to introduce yourself** and say hello, but things like cover letters or CV's aren't required
- **Please don't spam us with every story you have ever written.** Pick the strongest ones that you think will work best for narration. Anyone choosing to ignore our guideline requests and just send everything they have or just send us links and tell us to check them out once again hasn't read any of this. Their submissions will be ignored and email blocked
- **That doesn't mean you can't send multiple stories,** just pace yourself and be considerate of both us and other authors
- Only submit each story once

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## INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFO IN THE BODY OF YOUR EMAIL

1. Story title
2. Author name you would want to be addressed as on the show
3. Exact word count
4. Number of speaking roles
5. If the narrator is male, female, ambiguous, or gender fluid
6. Send submissions as an editable attachment (.docx)
7. PDF files are okay, but not preferred

# GUIDELINES | CONTINUED

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- **We will try to respond to all submissions** either with acceptance of the story or with a form letter stating that we have passed. We cannot guarantee feedback as to why we passed
- **If you're submitting a story for a special event** or holiday like Christmas, Easter, etc. Or for our 31 Days of Horror, please let us know in the subject line of the email. We will periodically request specific stories and authors (like for Black History Month, Women in Horror month, PRIDE month, etc). If you don't let us know we might miss it, especially if the context is subtle
- **Please don't plagiarize** or pull stories from websites that you didn't write or have the rights too
- **If, while waiting for a response, your story is selected by another podcast**, please email us as soon as possible. By submitting a story, you are giving us approval to narrate it. Again, please be courteous of our time and the time of other podcasts and creators
- **If your story submission has been posted online** at any point, please provide us with a link so we can share the text version with our listeners
- When including a word count, **please include the exact word count** rather than an estimate
- **We don't have formatting restrictions**, but please be sensible. No creative text formatting is needed. No added colors to words. Please don't center indent the story. Et cetera
- Once you have written the story, read it out loud. **Does it sound like something someone would actually say?** Remember, we are telling a story. At a bar, around a



campfire, wherever. We can only do so much with the stories we have. Overly flowery prose is nice to read, but hard to narrate and make sound authentic. Not only that, but run on sentences and certain word pairings are very difficult to narrate. Doing this step in advance only improves your odds of story acceptance

- **Please don't send follow up emails** to creepysubmissions@gmail.com asking about the status of the submission. **We will respond as soon as possible** and reading additional emails just slows things down
- **All payments made in US dollars** via PayPal
- **Do not submit your story by pasting the text into the body of your submission email.** These emails will be deleted as they are far too difficult to read for lengthier stories and it would

mean you clearly didn't read our submission guidelines. Please show us the same courtesy you would like to be shown. That's also why I added this sentence here. Just to make sure

- **Double check** that your story is actually attached to your email
- **If your story submission has been posted online at any point or narrated by another podcast, please let us know.** We try not to retread the tire with our audience. Sometimes it happens, but we would like to keep stories as fresh and new as possible



## PATREON | 1000-3000 WORDS

### INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFO IN THE BODY OF YOUR EMAIL

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**W**e narrated four stories EVERY WEEK just for [patreon.com/creepypod](https://patreon.com/creepypod), so we are always on the lookout for stories that are under 25 minutes. Understand that stories of this length will most likely not qualify for Sunday narration, they are just too short when we are generally only fully producing one story per week on the live feed and we are trying to give all listeners as full of an experience as possible. However, we still want the shorter stories for our amazing patrons!

## **SUNDAY NARRATIONS** | 3500-7000 WORDS

**T**o qualify for Sunday narrations, stories must be at least 25 minutes long. Just having a story of the right word count isn't enough, it still needs to bring the goods, but it's a start. Longer than 7000 words is possible, we obviously do longer stories, but we need a good lead time in terms of production. And stories longer than 7000 words REALLY need to wow us for the added work. We pay a set rate for all stories, with Sunday stories being negotiable due to levels of visibility.

### **INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFO IN THE BODY OF YOUR EMAIL**

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# KNOW OUR STYLE

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## WHAT WE WANT...

**SINGLE NARRATOR STORIES** Obviously we have a large cast, but for production sake, single narrator stories work the best (a story where only one person is speaking). We understand that when telling stories, we all tend to quote what someone else said, and that's fine, but it has a very distinct tone. Multiple speaking roles will always be considered, but single narrator stories tend to get preferential treatment.

**WHAT SCARES YOU** We hear it plenty, "that wasn't scary." Well, then scare us. Tell us something new. Something dark and horrible. Something that we can't say no to. The things that scare the writers tend to be the things that bleed through into the writing and make for the most compelling stories.

**DIVERSITY** We celebrate diversity at the Creepy podcast. BIPOC, LGBTQIA, anyone and everyone is welcome here. Just leave your hate at the door. If you have a story that is specifically for a black or female voice actor, please tell us. If your story really grabs us and there is an ethnicity not currently represented on the show, we will find someone to read the story to do it justice.

**SCARE US** We've read a lot of stories, and been a bit desensitized. Feel free to push the boundaries of gore and horror, but remember this is audio. Think about the listener when you are writing it.





# WHAT WE DON'T WANT...

## **GRAPHIC DEPICTIONS OF CHILD/SEXUAL ASSAULT**

Yes, these are horrible and thus fall into horror. But going into detail about assault does little to drive the story forward and serves more as shock value. Shock value isn't scary to us, it's unnecessary and exploitative. Yes, we have stories that involve both, but limiting to implications or subtle details is far more powerful in a story and will detract fewer listeners from your work as it shows your control over and appreciation for the material.

**HATE SPEECH** Just like above. Don't do it. Your character doesn't need to say it to make himself the bad guy. It can be alluded to. If it does nothing to drive the character or story forward, it will be deleted without response.

**ADAPTATIONS** Please don't send in fan fiction or adaptation of another author's works. No sequels either. If you don't have permission, we don't have permission and won't use your story.

**SCRIPTS** Just write the story. We want to hear the narrator's voice as the driving force in the story. Writing scripts is fine and may be accepted in the future, but not currently.

**PRODUCTION SUGGESTIONS** If you really want a specific narrator to read your story, save that part for story acceptance. We also don't need help with sound design or music. Trust the process.



**MORE INFO**

## RESPONSE TIME

Current response times can vary wildly depending on how many submissions we get. Please allow at least 1-2 weeks for a response.

## RIGHTS & LEGAL

Authors retain full rights to any story or script performed on **Creepy**. In exchange for your submission, we offer payment. That payment only gives us the right to perform and adapt your story for our podcast. You are free to do with the story as you will after that.

**Creepy** does not retain the rights to publish or distribute your story outside of the audio performance without written permission from the author.

Audio production of your story remains the property of **Creepy** and may not be altered, sold or distributed without prior written permission.