

CAPITALIZE COMMA LETTERS PARAGRAPH SEMI COLON QUOTATION MARKS SUBJECT ACTION OBJECT PARENTHESES HYPHENATED WORD ADVERBIALS ADJUNCT PERSONAL PRONOUN ACCENT METAPHOR ALLITERATION ALLEGORY RECIPROCAL PRONOUN QUESTION MARK INDEX RHETORICAL THEORY STATEMENT DIRECT OBJECT ACTIVE VERB TO BE RELATIVE CLAUSE ABBREVIATIONS VOWELS ACRONYMS CASE CONSONANTS HYPERBOLE MEIOSIS IRONY SIMILE SARCASM SARDONIC COLLOQUIAL UPPER CASE PUNCTUATION LOWER CASE CREOLES DIALOG DIALECT QUANTIFIERS REDUNDANCY CONCORD PLURALS DANGLING MODIFIERS NUMBERS AGENTS COPULA VERBS PIDGIN STANDARD ENGLISH COLLECTIVE NOUNS IRREGULAR PURALS SUBJECT STANZA PROSE SATIRE RHYTHM RHYME MYTHOLOGY STORIES GLOSSARY CLICHE DICTIONARY EUPHEMISMS THESAURUS SLANG JARGON SYNONYMS SWEARS PHRASES SENTENCE TOPIC AFFIXES SUFFIX PREFIX PREPOSITIONS PARTICLES PARAGRAPHS TEXT PASSIVE VOICE PHRASAL VERBS PERSONIFICATION CHARACTERS PLOT CLIMAX NOUN PREPOSITION ADJECTIVE ADVERB CONJUNCTION ELLIPSES COMPOUND WORD SENTENCE PRONOUN VERB PERIOD CONTRACTION

400 words or less...

CAPITALIZE WORD LETTERS PARAGRAPH SEMI COLON QUOTATION MARKS SUBJECT ACTION OBJECT PARENTHESES HYPHENATED PHRASE WORD ADVERBIALS ADJUNCT PERSONAL PRONOUN ACCENT METAPHOR ALLITERATION ALLEGORY RECIPROCAL PRONOUN QUESTION MARK INDEX RHETORICAL THEORY STATEMENT DIRECT OBJECT ACTIVE VERB TO BE RELATIVE CLAUSE ABBREVIATIONS VOWELS ACRONYMS CASE CONSONANTS HYPERBOLE MEIOSIS IRONY SIMILE SARCASM SARDONIC COLLOQUIAL UPPER CASE PUNCTUATION LOWER CASE CREOLES DIALOG DIALECT QUANTIFIERS REDUNDANCY CONCORD PLURALS DANGLING MODIFIERS NUMBERS AGENTS COPULA VERBS PIDGIN STANDARD ENGLISH COLLECTIVE NOUNS IRREGULAR PURALS SUBJECT STANZA PROSE SATIRE RHYTHM RHYME MYTHOLOGY STORIES GLOSSARY CLICHE DICTIONARY EUPHEMISMS THESAURUS SLANG JARGON SYNONYMS SWEARS PHRASES SENTENCE TOPIC AFFIXES SUFFIX PREFIX PREPOSITIONS PARTICLES PARAGRAPHS TEXT PASSIVE VOICE PHRASAL VERBS PERSONIFICATION CHARACTERS PLOT CLIMAX NOUN PREPOSITION ADJECTIVE ADVERB CONJUNCTION ELLIPSES COMPOUND WORD SENTENCE PRONOUN VERB PERIOD CONTRACTION CAPITALIZE COMMA LETTERS PARAGRAPH SEMI COLON QUOTATION MARKS SUBJECT ACTION OBJECT PARENTHESES HYPHENATED WORD ADVERBIALS ADJUNCT PERSONAL PRONOUN ACCENT METAPHOR ALLITERATION ALLEGORY RECIPROCAL PRONOUN QUESTION MARK INDEX RHETORICAL THEORY STATEMENT DIRECT OBJECT ACTIVE VERB TO BE RELATIVE CLAUSE ABBREVIATIONS VOWELS ACRONYMS CASE CONSONANTS HYPERBOLE MEIOSIS IRONY SIMILE SARCASM SARDONIC COLLOQUIAL UPPER CASE PUNCTUATION LOWER CASE CREOLES DIALOG DIALECT QUANTIFIERS REDUNDANCY CONCORD PLURALS DANGLING MODIFIERS NUMBERS AGENTS COPULA VERBS PIDGIN STANDARD ENGLISH COLLECTIVE NOUNS IRREGULAR PURALS SUBJECT STANZA PROSE SATIRE RHYTHM **KLARA SCHMITT** STORIES GLOSSARY CLICHE DICTIONARY EUPHEMISMS THESAURUS SLANG JARGON SYNONYMS SWEARS PHRASES SUFFIX PREFIX PREPOSITIONS PARTICLES PARAGRAPHS TEXT PASSIVE VOICE PHRASAL VERBS PERSONIFICATION CHARACTERS PLOT CLIMAX NOUN PREPOSITION ADJECTIVE ADVERB CONJUNCTION ELLIPSES COMPOUND WORD SENTENCE PRONOUN VERB PERIOD CONTRACTION

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ADJECTIVES: CREATIVE NEW FRESH FUNNY DARK LIGHT BEAUTIFUL DIFFERENT SAD SWEET
VERBS: BRAINSTORM WRITE DREAM DISCOVER IMAGINE RUN FLY INVENT CREATE ENVISION

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400 words or less...

ADJECTIVES: VERBS: BRAINSTORM ADJECTIVES: CREATIVE NEW FRESH FUNNY DARK LIGHT BEAUTIFUL DIFFERENT SAD SWEET
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Organization Name

400 Words or less...

Purpose

400 Words or less is a monthly short-story challenge for anyone who wants to work their creative writing skills. 400 Words or less presents three photographs of things and then members must write a story involving these three things whether it be fiction, non-fiction, or poetry. But whatever genre chosen members must compose the piece within 400 words. Grammar and punctuation will be left as is within the original piece in case the author intended it as such. 400 Words or less does not critique, it merely acts as an exercise in writing and the motivation to practice the art of storytelling.

Page Summary

Intro (SWF) - Introduces the site concept in animated sequence

Topic (SWF) - Presents images for the three topics chosen for that month's challenge

Submission Guidelines (SWF) - Rules for the challenge

Read All (SWF) - Pulls in XML data containing each user's name, title, story, the date of submission, and the story rating. Next and previous buttons allow user to move through entries for that month.

Login (PHP) - Included on all pages, although replaced with Submit and Logout upon logging in

Register (PHP) - Allows users to register an account, which will let them access the Submit page for posting stories

Submit (PHP) - Form that allows users to submit their entry to the monthly challenge

Logout (PHP) - Ends session and returns user to Intro/Login screen

400 words or less...

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Design Summary

Each page or interface will be in muted colors and presented a vector animation - these animation sequences are supposed to represent the world inside each person's mind, the ideas, the shapes, the dreams and the randomness of the imagination. 400 words or less... would like the user to take these ideas, these fantasies and push the images into words and the words into a story or poem for each month's challenge. 400 words or less... acts as a canvas for the imagination to initiate, to allow the user to begin writing, and then to come back with the finished product of the challenge and share in a way that can inspire other writers and help them work their own creative writing skills.

Perception Tone

Dreamy

400 words or less...

Page Copy

Home/Intro

Welcome to 400 Words or less. This is a monthly challenge to fire up the imagination, to put dreams into words, to exercise your creativity. We are your canvas. We are a reason to write. Will you accept the criteria and push your writing into new worlds? 400 Words or less. 3 topics that must be woven into one story. You can begin writing now.

Topic

Every month, you will be given three topics and your challenge is to weave those topics into a story or poem. Do you have to do it? No. Should you do it? All skills take discipline and practice, even writing...So yes, we think you should. This month's words are: Spy, Sunflower, Toothpick (Aug. Content Only) Goat, Baguette, Gypsy (Sept. Content Only)

Submission Guidelines

Yes we do have rules. We're not trying to limit your creative talents, but this is our challenge and we have a few requirements:

- 1) You must include an accurate age-rating of your story. This is a public site and there are bound to be children online. Whether they find this site or not, the random work on the main page will always be set to a PG filter. If you try to trick us and we catch it, your account will be blocked.
- 2) You may only submit one creative work per month. If you want to write multiple pieces, by all means, do it for yourself! We're just trying to present equal visibility for all of our members without overwhelming our hosting account.
- 3) Your creative piece must involve each of the 3 topics in some way. It can involve any number of things as long as you also add our 3 things. Furthermore, you to present your idea, story, or concept in 400 words or less; just a snippet of creativity. It is harder than you think.
- 4) You will need a member account to submit a story. Just click login at the top of the screen. To join, you must be 13 or older.

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Page Copy (cont.)

Read All

These are the answers to our challenge for this month so far. Looking for inspiration? Try reading some of your peers' work.

[Will also include username, title, date, rating, and story pulled from database]

Register

Do you want to submit a story? Are you feeling confused – like where the heck did they put the submission form? Just login and you'll be able to get there. We just have to do it this way because otherwise the spam-bots post a lot of their own stories and they don't follow the guidelines at all!

Not a member? Not a spam-bot? Well registering is quick and painless and helps us fight the army of ever-growing spam-bots. Just fill out the registration form, check your email, and receive your password. Then you'll be able to submit your story.

Form contains the following fields:

- Username
- Password
- Email

Submit

Assuming you've read the submission guidelines and have prepared your response to this month's challenge, you can use the form below to submit your work. Thanks for participating in our challenge!

Form contains the following fields:

- [pulls in username]
- [pulls in date]
- Age-Rating
- Textarea (400 word limit)

400 words or less...

Audience

The primary target audience for 400 Words or less is adults over 18 who write professionally or simply as a hobby. However, 400 Words or less accepts submissions from high-school students as well. 400 Words or less acts as an exercise for writers to practice their freewriting skills or expand their creativity.

Persona



Name: Luke Chanticleer
Age: 37
Occupation: Marine Biologist

Raised by parents who loved traveling across country to visit National Parks for camping and hiking, Luke spent plenty of his childhood in cars on long trips. During these times his parents would keep him entertained with audio books and by making up tales from scratch. These short, off-the-wall, and generally made on the fly stories were called 3-thing stories by his father. These jaunts into creative storytelling and audio books turned into a love of reading and writing for Luke. Realistically, he decided that making it big as a writer was out of the question until he could support himself with a “real” job and so he went to college for Biology and wound up doing Marine Biology for the Science Technology Center of Maddison, Delaware. While working 40 plus hours a week fried any desire to write, Luke still found himself perusing writing websites, which was when he stumbled upon 400 Words or less. The once-a-month creative assignment reminded Luke of the tales his father spun in the car and well it was only once a month and it had a word-limit on it. Luke was inspired to give it a try and while 400 Words or less didn’t present any obvious rewards, it was motivation enough to keep writing, even if just once a month, and to see what others wrote each month.

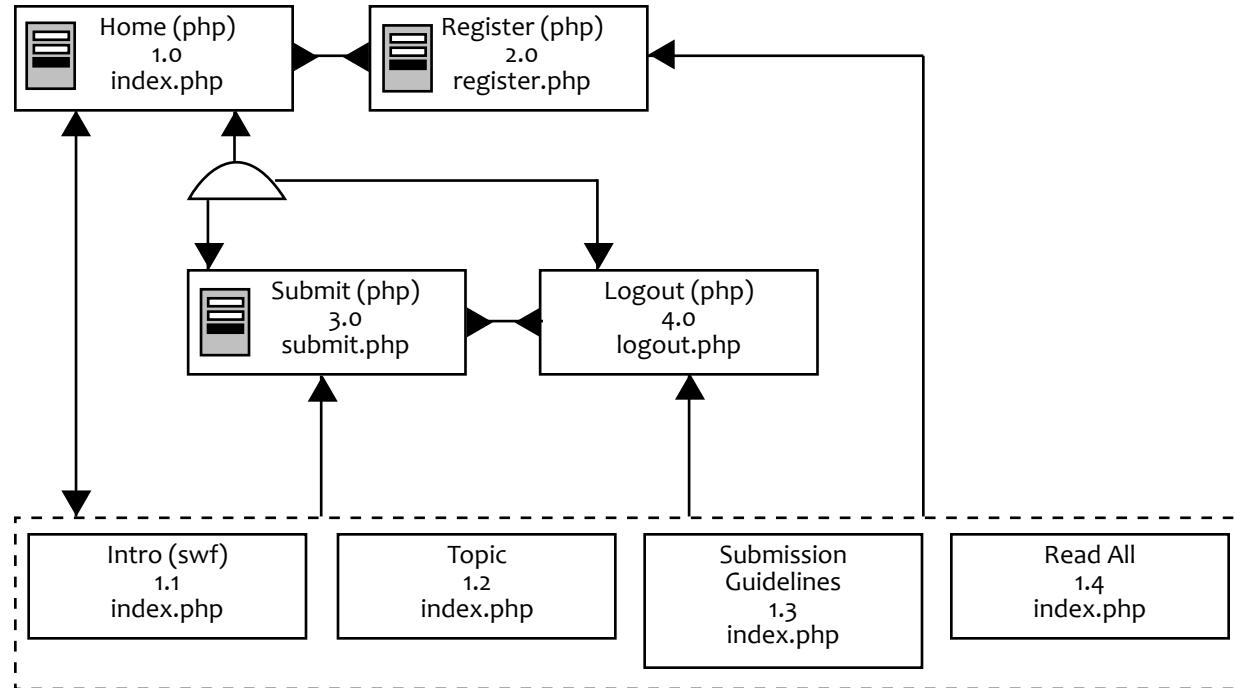
ADJECTIVES: CREATIVE NEW FRESH FUNNY DARK LIGHT BEAUTIFUL DIFFERENT SAD SWEET
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400 words or less...

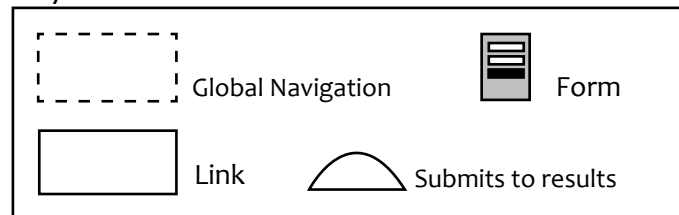
ADJECTIVES:
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Key



400 words or less...

ADJECTIVES: CREATIVE NEW FRESH FUNNY DARK LIGHT BEAUTIFUL DIFFERENT SAD SWEET
VERBS: BRAINSTORM WRITE DREAM DISCOVER IMAGINE RUN FLY INVENT CREATE ENVISION
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980px



Username Password Login

Not a member? Register now.

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Dragonfly animation that brings in remaining text after first sentence is typed

Green background

400 words or less...

ADJECTIVES: CREATIVE NEW FRESH FUNNY DARK LIGHT BEAUTIFUL DIFFERENT SAD SWEET
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Topic

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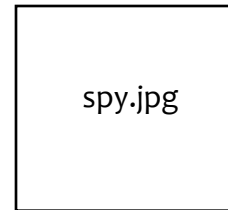
Username Password Login

Not a member? Register now.

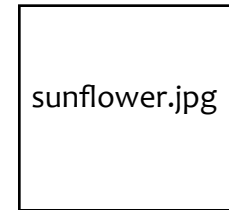
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Topic

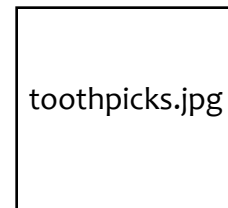
Every month, you will be given three topics and your challenge is to weave those topics into a story or poem. Do you have to do it? No. Should you do it? All skills take discipline and practice, even writing...So yes, we think you should. This month's words are...



spy.jpg



sunflower.jpg



toothpicks.jpg

grass.png

Green background

400 words or less...

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Submission Guidelines

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Username Password Login

Not a member? Register now.

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Submission Guidelines

Yes we do have rules. We're not trying to limit your creative talents, but this is our challenge and we have a few requirements:

1) You must include an accurate age-rating of your story. This is a public site and there are bound to be children online. Whether they find this site or not...

clouds

clouds

2) You may only submit one creative work per month. If you want to write multiple pieces, by all means, do it for yourself!..

3) Your creative piece must involve each of the 3 topics in some way. It can...

clouds

Green background

400 words or less...

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Read All

980px



Username Password Login

Not a member? Register now.

[Intro](#) | [Topic](#) | [Submission Guidelines](#) | [Read All](#)

Read All

These are the answers to our challenge for this month so far. Looking for inspiration? Try reading some of your peers' work.

Username wrote...

date

Title (Rating)
User submitted story #1

Green background

<< Previous

Next >>

400 words or less...

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Register

980px

<p>Logo</p>	<p>Username <input type="text"/> Password <input type="text"/> Login</p>
<p>Not a member? Register now.</p>	
<p>Register</p> <p>Do you want to submit a story? Are you feeling confused – like where the heck did they put the submission form? Just login and you'll be able to get there. We just have to do it this way because otherwise the spam-bots post a lot of their own stories and they don't follow the guidelines at all!</p> <p>Not a member? Not a spam-bot?..</p> <p>white background</p>	<p>Dragon zooming around mountains animation (SWF)</p>
<p>Green background</p>	

400 words or less...

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Submit

980px

Home | Submit | Logout

Logo

Submit Your Story

Assuming you've read the submission guidelines and have prepared your response to this month's challenge, you can use the form below to submit your work. Thanks for participating in our challenge!

Age-Rating:

Title:

white background

Boat and waves, with fish jumping (SWF)

Green background

400 words or less...

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VERBS: WRITE DREAM DISCOVER IMAGINE RUN FLY INVENT CREATE ENVISION

Fonts

Logo

Myriad Pro, 36pt, 24pt

Login/Primary Navigation
Verdana, 12pt

Body Copy
Verdana, 10pt

Body Descriptions (SWFs only)
Century Gothic, 12pt

Secondary Navigation (Flash)
Myriad Pro, 14pt

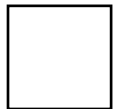
Colors



#000000



#799d94



#ffffff



#ABA5A5

400 words or less...

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Username: Password: [Login](#)
[Do you need to register?](#)

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Username: Password: [Login](#)

[Do you need to register?](#)

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Topic - Sept

Every month, you will be given three topics and your challenge is to weave those topics into a story or poem. Do you have to do it? No. Should you do it? All skills take discipline and practice, even writing...So yes, we think you should. This month's words are:

Goat
Baguette
Gypsy



SEPTEMBER

ADJECTIVES: CREATIVE NEW FRESH FUNNY DARK LIGHT BEAUTIFUL DIFFERENT SAD SWEET
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Submission Guidelines

Yes, we do have rules. We are not trying to limit your creative talents, but this is our challenge and we have a few requirements:

- 1) You must include an accurate age-rating of your story. This is a public site and there are bound to be children online. Whether they find this site or not, we have to keep a strict PG-13 rating. If you try to trick us and we find out, your account will be blocked.
 - 2) You may only submit one creative work per month. If you have multiple pieces, by all means do it for yourself! We're just trying to protect the interests of our members without overwhelming our hosting account.
 - 3) You must touch each of the 3 topics in some way. It can involve any of our 3 things. Furthermore, you to present your ideas in a meaningful way; just a snippet of creativity. It is harder than it sounds.
- You must have a member account to submit a story. Just click login at the top of the screen. If you are 13 or older.

ADJECTIVES: CREATIVE NEW FRESH FUNNY DARK LIGHT BEAUTIFUL DIFFERENT SAD SWEET
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400 words or less... Username: Password: Login
Do you need to register?

Intro Topic Submission Guidelines Read All

Read All

These are the answers to our challenge for this month so far. Looking for inspiration? Try reading some of your peers' work.

Sophie wrote... Sep 02, 2010 3:17 PM

Bad Goat (G)

There was once a goat that belonged to my neighbor. It was constantly jumping the fence. My neighbor didn't care at all. But it made me mad and it was a goat. Goats eat everything. It ate my flowers, it ate my laundry, it ate my grass, and it ate my fresh baked baguettes which I had in a basket to bring to work with me for dinner.

That was the final straw. I cursed that goat and since I am a gypsy, my curse was a good one. The goat turned into an edible mushroom and I ate the goat.

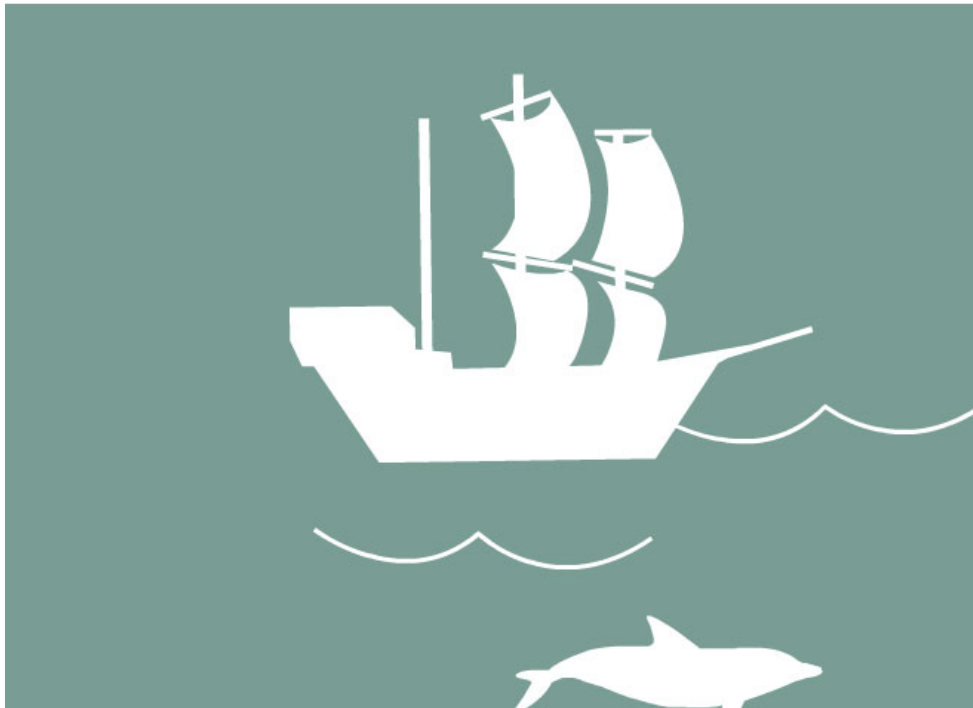
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[Go Home](#)



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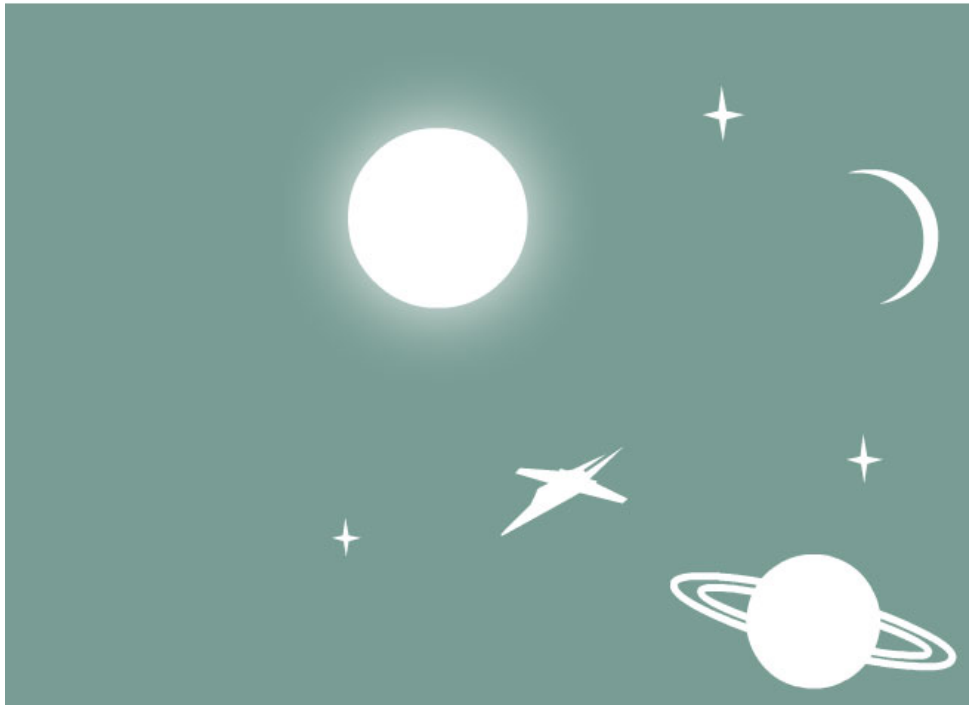
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400 words or less...

[Home](#) | [Submit](#) | [Logout](#)

Welcome back, Felicity!



Submit a Story

Assuming you've read the submission guidelines and have prepared your response to this month's challenge, you can use the form below to submit your work. Thanks for participating in our challenge!

Title

Age Rating:

Your Submission

400 words or less...

ADJECTIVES: VERBS: BRAINSTORM
CREATIVE NEW FRESH FUNNY DARK LIGHT BEAUTIFUL DIFFERENT SAD SWEET
WRITE DREAM DISCOVER IMAGINE RUN FLY INVENT CREATE ENVISION

NOU PREPOSITION ADJECTIVE ADVERB CONJUNCTION ELLIPSES COMPOUND WORD SENTENCE PRONOUN VERB PERIOD CONTRACTION
CAPITALIZE COMMA LETTERS PARAGRAPH SEMI COLON QUOTATION MARKS SUBJECT ACTION OBJECT PARENTHESES HYPHENATED WORD

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