



WORD  
LIMIT  
55

# WORD FICTION CONTEST

*Fine Lines* is excited to announce its first-ever writing contest! Submit a piece of fiction that is no longer than 55 words in length. Your challenge for this type of writing is to think of a brief scene instead of a more elaborate one you would develop into a longer short story. All winning entries and other selected entries will be published in the contest journal, *written*.

## Requirements:

- This contest is for fiction only. Fiction includes a setting, character(s), conflict, and resolution. All entries of poetry and essays will not be considered.
- Two categories exist: Youth (18 and younger) and Adult (19 and older). Writers of all ages are welcome to submit, although contest winners will be judged based on an overall well-written story. The subject matter should be appropriate for everyone. Refer to our website for the journal's subject matter requirements.
- You must adhere to the 55-word limit; you can have less, but you cannot have more. Some specifics on word count: hyphenated words count as one word, as do numbers when digits are provided (i.e. "one hundred twenty-seven" is three words; "127" is one word); initials each count as a word (e.e. cummings would be three words); acronyms, such as MGM, would count as one word.
- Submissions must follow the MLA format and be edited for errors.
- Titles are suggested, although not required. Titles should not exceed 10 words in length. Titles are not included in the 55-word count.
- Entries should be typed in Times New Roman font, double-spaced, and in a document with 1-inch margins. All entries should include the following: name, age, physical address, email address.
- Cost: \$5 for the first entry; \$3 for each additional entry. Make checks payable to *Fine Lines*, or visit [finelines.org](http://finelines.org) and use PayPal. Entries will not be returned.
- What makes a winning story? One that tells a story using a minimum amount of words, has a powerful message, is with the absence of fluff, has a compelling story line...

## Prizes:

Winners from *each* category (Youth and Adult) will be awarded the following prizes:

- 1st place: \$100 Visa gift card+copy of *written*+*Fine Lines* subscription (1 yr.)
- 2nd place: \$50 Visa gift card+copy of *written*+*Fine Lines* subscription (1 yr.)
- 3rd place: \$25 Visa gift card+copy of *written*+*Fine Lines* subscription (1 yr.)
- 3 Honorable mentions: copy of *written*+*Fine Lines* subscription (1 yr.)

**All entries must be postmarked no later than Oct. 31, 2009.**

Email entries to: [contest@finelines.org](mailto:contest@finelines.org), or send physical copies to:

*Fine Lines* Contest  
PO Box 241713  
Omaha, NE 68124-5713

Send inquiries only to:

[kim.bultsma@finelines.org](mailto:kim.bultsma@finelines.org)

A list of winning and other published authors will be posted on [finelines.org](http://finelines.org) near the end of Dec. 2009. Hard copies of *written* will be available for purchase in Feb. 2010 for \$10.