



The mission:

To celebrate the works of talented, underrepresented authors and deliver them to a readership that demands more.

"Everyone has a story." These words are the driving force behind this project. We believe that EVERYONE has at least one good story in them, and that story demands to be shared with the world. Don't be afraid to be different. It doesn't have to be vampires, werewolves, witches, wizards, or about rich spoiled teens. In fact we'd prefer it if you avoid those tropes unless you're doing something totally new with them. Don't be afraid to create new tropes or utilize ones that have no European connections. We're doing something totally new here, so don't be afraid to branch out and do something totally new in your writing.

We are looking for original works of genre fiction (science fiction/fantasy/mystery/romance/young adult) that feature a person of color and/or LGBT as the central character. We are tentatively accepting stories featuring characters with disabilities, but that is subject to the character not magically being healed. Book-length manuscripts must be at least 250 pages, and short stories cannot be over 100 pages. All manuscripts must be double-spaced, in 12-point font (Times New Roman, Courier, etc) in black text, and must be a Word/Open Office-compatible document. We ask that you insert a header with your name and the first two words of the title at the top of each page. Please do not send them as read-only files as that will make any editing more difficult. We are also accepting poems in traditional and experimental styles with a maximum of 10 pages. The same formatting rules will apply.

Personal and critical essays are also welcome as long as they are relevant to the aforementioned themes. Poetry, essays, and short stories may be subject to inclusion in anthologies depending upon the number of submissions fitting a specific theme. Publications will be available in a range of e-book formats, as well as paperbacks for those that wish to order them.

Please send all submissions to verb.noire@gmail.com.