



CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

STOCKING
STUFFERS

2017 ADVENT CALENDAR





2017 ADVENT CALENDAR: STOCKING STUFFERS

Edited by Tricia Kristufek

Winter holidays around the world feature celebrations solemn and convivial, feasts and parties, and quite often, gifts to loved ones. Whether these gifts are funny and flirty, erotic, or lovingly bestowed, the perfect gift may be the most endearing way into a man's heart.

EXAMPLES

- Jo Murphy thinks he's going to die when he realizes he accidentally brought the intimate gift he bought for his very recently ex-boyfriend to his best friend Andre's white elephant winter gift exchange. But before he can correct his mistake, his gift gets picked up by Stefan, Andre's cute coworker. Jo means to apologize... but the delighted mischief in Stefan's eyes makes him think maybe he won't have to. If he plays his cards right, Jo might come away from the evening with more than just a kitschy knickknack.
- When the local shelter is in danger of shutting down due to lack of funds, and in the middle of winter, besides, Sal begins a campaign to raise the needed cash in a hurry. All he can do is appeal to the local businesses, especially the construction company who employs most of the men in the neighborhood. Only the owner of that company, Stephano, is about as intimidating a man as Sal has ever met, and doesn't seem the type to care much about animals in need. That fact should be enough to turn Sal off the man, as sexy

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as his tall, dark and handsome is. Then gifts begin arriving on the shelter's doorstep. Who is the secret Santa coming to the rescue?

- Mace just can't find the perfect gift. He's found okay gifts, funny gifts, gifts in terribly bad humor, and some that aren't too bad or are even pretty good... but not the perfect gift. And he really needs it to be perfect, because his loving husband Tony deserves the absolute best. The perfect match, the perfect mate, the love of his life. No common gift will do. He almost despairs, especially when he's suddenly given a critical assignment out of town on Christmas Eve. If he's not even home, how can he give Tony a gift at all?

HERE'S HOW IT WILL WORK

- Requirements: Stories will be set in and involve any end-of-the-year holidays, such as Advent, Boxing Day, Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, New Year's, Saint Nicholas's Day, Solstice, Yule, and more.
- Romantic themes are required and stories will focus on happy endings.
- Requirements: Bittersweet Dreams will *not* be accepted for this anthology.
- Because of the packaged nature of the set, all stories need to stand alone. No sequels to or spin-offs of previously published works will be accepted.
- Submission Deadline: **July 1, 2017**. Contract offers will be made by August 1, 2017.
- Publication Date: December 2017
- Advent Calendar story length: 5,000 – 18,000 words
- Manuscripts shorter or longer will be considered but will have to be extraordinary.
- Follow general Submission Guidelines for instructions and formatting.

TO SUBMIT

Send all submissions to submissions@dreamspinnerpress.com. Please include "ADVENT" in the subject line.

For specific questions, please contact submissions@dreamspinnerpress.com.

Send in the body of the e-mail:

- Your legal name, pseudonym if applicable, and contact e-mail address.
- Working title, series name if applicable.
- Genre and manuscript length.
- General story description in two paragraphs.
- Writing credentials.

Attach to the e-mail:

- A short but complete story summary and/or synopsis.
- The complete manuscript, for all lengths of works.

FORMATTING YOUR SUBMISSION

Please follow these simple formatting guidelines. Our editors will thank you.

- Submissions will be accepted in .docx, .doc, .rtf, and .txt formats.
- Standard 12 pt Times New Roman, 1 inch margins, .5 indent for the first line of each paragraph. 1.5 line spaces between lines. No tabs or spacing to indent, please! Page numbers in the upper right corner, author name in the upper left corner with the title of the work following. Example: Stephen King / The Shining
- All submissions must be spellchecked and edited for American English grammar and spelling. Regional words and slang are acceptable when appropriate.
- Dreamspinner Press edits works using *The Chicago Manual of Style* as its primary reference. Editing your work to these standards prior to publication will greatly facilitate the publication process.

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