



CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

 **DREAMSPINNER**
PRESS



WARMEST WISHES

2018 ADVENT CALENDAR

Edited by Tricia Kristufek

Celebrating the end-of-year holidays doesn't always mean sleighs, snow, and snuggling to ward off the cold. How about making merry when it's just as warm (or hot) outside as inside romantic hearts? Twinkle lights in palm trees, unity cups on the sideboard, bonfires in the back yard, eggnog by the pool, and no chimneys to be found... just the warmest wishes of the holidays bringing lovers together around the world.

A huge part of the world celebrates end-of-the-year holidays that aren't anything like Bing Crosby's "White Christmas." In the southern hemisphere, it's not even winter!

What about holidays in the Caribbean, or Tahiti, or Saharan Africa? What about India, Argentina, or New Zealand? Examples of around-the-world holiday possibilities: Saint Nicholas Day (Christian), Fiesta of Our Lady of Guadalupe (Mexican), St. Lucia Day (Swedish), Hanukkah (Jewish), Diwali (Hindu), Christmas Day (Christian), Three Kings Day/Epiphany (Christian), Las Posadas (Mexican, Guatemalan), Boxing Day (Australian, Canadian, English, Irish), Kwanzaa (African-American), Omisoka (Japanese), Yule (Pagan), Saturnalia (Pagan), Pancha Ganapati (Hindu), Hogmanay (Scottish), Dōngzhì Winter Solstice Festival (Chinese), and many, many more!

EXAMPLES

- Barry jumped at the chance to escape a New England winter to be Santa at his niece's day-after-Christmas-birthday picnic. But his costume was made for December in Vermont, and a day in the Houston sun puts him dangerously close to heatstroke. Fortunately,

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his sister's very attractive neighbor has a pool, air conditioning, and some creative ideas for reviving a melted St. Nick.

- Austin Ericson has had a hard year. In January, he found out his fiancé had been cheating on him for months. In October, his job transferred him to Ecuador. By the holidays, Austin is homesick and heartsick—but when he confesses his troubles to his neighbor, Andres suggests a way to help him move forward. After all, what better way to put his ex in his past than to burn him in effigy? Andres might be just the person to ensure Austin starts the New Year looking forward....
- Marco and Hong Yu have been sailing on the same luxury yacht crew for seven months. When their ship puts into port in Bangkok in November, it only seems right that they attend the Loi Krathong festival to pay respect to the goddess of water. But Marco has more than their crew's safety in mind. When he sets his bread boat in the water, he makes a wish: for Hong Yu to see himself as Marco sees him, and for the coming year's good fortune to be one they share.

HERE'S HOW IT WILL WORK

- Stories will be set during and involve any end-of-the-calendar-year holidays.
- Romantic themes are required and stories must feature happy endings.
- 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.
- **NEW EARLIER** Submission Deadline: **June 1, 2018**. Contract offers will be made by July 1, 2018.
- Publication Date: December 2018
- 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.

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

TO SUBMIT

Send all submissions to submissions@dreamspinnerpress.com. Please include “ADVENT 2018” in the subject line.

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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