

2021 Shell of a Story~ Outline

Debbie Brady, creator of Oyster Art, is stepping out from behind her camera lens to host the first annual micro-story writing competition designed to spark creative writing across Canada and around the world from February 1–28, 2021. Shown below is a new artwork inspired by a Limfjord Flat oyster shell from Denmark. It is the visual prompt for your original story limited to no more than 300 words. Tell the story it evokes by considering all its characteristics, give it a one-word title and submit it, for a chance to win a piece of Oyster Art. No entry fee.



The writer chosen to have the winning story will:

- receive a print of the “A Shell of a Story” inspiration artwork.
- have their story’s one-word title used to name the artwork on www.oysterart.ca
- have excerpt(s) from their story become the story-starter caption for the artwork.
- have their story featured on www.oysterart.ca as well as links to it from other promotional platforms such as Oyster Art Exclusives newsletter.
- be promoted as the winning author and their story featured via other available avenues
- be referenced as the past winner in any future “A Shell of a Story” writing competitions.

Participation benefits:

- Brighten up your February by enjoying a new source of inspiration with a unique visual as a writing prompt.
- Names of every entrant, their country (to demonstrate the international writing community) and the one-word story title, may be listed as participants in 2021 “A Shell of a Story”.

Competition dates:

Entrants can submit their stories February 1–28, 2021. The winner will be announced here and via social media on March 15, 2021—a literary nod to William Shakespeare and the immortal words “Beware of the Ides of March” uttered by Julius Caesar.

Rules, Guidelines and Stipulations:

- Entrants pledge that their submission is an original work and that they own all rights to the submission. The author retains copyright to their story submission. Debbie Brady Photographic Art (DBPA) is not responsible for any breach of this pledge.
- For the purposes of this competition a micro-story is being defined as one with a narrative structure no longer than 300 words.
- Since the competition is based on merit and not a random draw an author can submit more than one completely new original story.
- Entrants agree to have their name, country and one-word story title listed on www.oysterart.ca after the competition has ended and the winner announced.
- Stories must be submitted in English by entering the text into the online form.
- There is no entry fee.
- Stories will not be accepted as attachments.
- The competition will only receive submissions February 1–28, 2021.
- Winner will be officially notified by email on or before March 15, 2021. Only the winner will receive individual written notification. Other entrants can access public announcements as indicated.

- Stories must be inspired by the artwork provided and must be suitable to general audience consumption.
- Entries must not have been broadcast or featured amongst winners in another competition, published, self-published or accepted for publication elsewhere (including blogs or personal websites) prior to submission to this competition.
- Entries that fail to comply with rules and terms and conditions will be disqualified.
- Entrants grant permission to DBPA to reproduce and publish the complete winning story submitted acknowledging the author as the copyright owner without extra remuneration.
- Entrants grant DBPA the right to edit, abridge, or excerpt all submitted stories for the purposes of publication or promotions without extra remuneration.
- Should the situation arise where an acceptable/appropriate story has not been entered during the competition it will end and no winner announced or stories made public.
- Photographic artist, Debbie Brady, will select the winning story and one-word-title combination. The winner will be contacted via the email provided in the submission. The decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into with other entrants.

Enquiries:

Please contact debbie@oysterart.ca if you require any clarification on rules or entry procedures.

Privacy Policy:

All personal information, such as address, telephone number, email address collected by Debbie Brady Photographic Art is done solely for the purposes of administering this competition and shall not be used for any other purpose without consent. By providing this information, you consent to it being used for the stated purposes. "A Shell of a Story" competition details and results posted on www.oysterart.ca abide by the established Privacy Policy.