

The 2016 First Chapter Contest Rules

BADGES WILL BE AWARDED for First Place, Second Place, and Three Finalists will be awarded in each of these genres.

- Mystery/Thriller
- Romance
- Science Fiction/Fantasy
- Historical Fiction
- Non-Fiction/Memoir

The badges can be applied to the author's eBook cover and Website, as well as used anyway to author chooses to promote his or her brand and book. In the past, winning authors have used it on their Facebook and Twitter pages.

Book reviews will be written for the First Place Winners in each genre.

Entry Rules

1. Entry Rules must be submitted no later than June 1, 2016 by digital entry to FirstChapter@etwritersguild.org. NOTE: Neither ETWG nor any judge is responsible for late delivery of entries or lost entries.
2. For each entry in both Category I and Category II (see below category descriptions), a non-refundable fee of Fifteen Dollars (\$15) must be made to ETWG via PayPal on the same date as the author's entry is submitted.

Category I: First Chapter – Published Work

Your entry must be the first chapter from a novel or book published between January 1, 2015 and June 1, 2016 to be considered eligible for this competition. Each author is limited to one entry in this category.

Category II: First Chapter – Unpublished Work

Your entry must be unpublished and not accepted for publication. Published on line is considered published. If accepted for publication after work has been submitted to this contest, the author is responsible for contacting the contest committee to have the entry removed from the competition. Each author is limited to one entry in this category.

Format

The Chapter must be between 1,000 and 1,500 words. Any entry exceeding 1,500 words will be disqualified. If your First Chapter is longer than the maximum word count, you may submit up to the first 1,500 words of the chapter.

- Software used to prepare the manuscript must be Word compatible.
- Page Size: 8 ½ X 11
- Spacing: Double Spaced
- Margins: 1-inch margins all around
- Font: Times Roman 12 pt.
- Header: Each chapter page must have the title of the book and its genre in the header and a page number in either the header or the footer.
- Cover Sheet: Each entry must have a cover sheet containing only the following information centered on the page:

Title of Book
Genre
Author's Name
Complete address
Telephone number
Email Address
Word Count
Category (indicate either Category I or Category II)

NOTE: Submit only one cover sheet. Author's name should not appear on subsequent pages.