

GUIDELINES

what we are looking for and how it works

HOUSE FRAMEWORK

- our chief mission is to bring work forward that is positive and inspiring. This does not mean that we aren't interested in 'dark' writing, but the darkness needs to be balanced by light.
- overall we are looking for work that is transformational and supports the idea that humankind may transcend any innate shortcomings, rather than be ruined by them.
- in short, we don't see it as our mission to bring into the world more negativity.
- our mission is also to work creatively with people. We try to ensure that writers are properly rewarded for their work whilst also having an informed view of what it takes to get their work to market.

GENERALLY

- except in exceptional circumstances, we edit out swearing. We learned long ago, by blacking out all the swear words in any piece, that good writing will stand up perfectly well without it. If your writing is full of expletives, and you are wedded to it remaining so, we are probably not the publisher for you.
- work submitted can be on any subject, and written in any style or form.
- we prefer submissions in English but have worked in Spanish and Urdu.

MECHANICS

- check the relevant page of the website to see if we are open or closed for submissions.
- communication about unsolicited work is by email only.
- unless for a competition, where you must follow the rules laid down in the **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**, you are welcome to email us about submitting work for publication (provided we are open for submissions - see above) by sending us a 500 word synopsis of your work.
- your email should contain this synopsis within the body of the email. It should NOT be sent as an attachment. This is so that we can quickly assess your ideas without having to download attachments.
- we aim to acknowledge your email, with a reference number for your synopsis, within 72 hours.
- your synopsis will be read and, if it seems right for our list we will contact you again and ask for a sample chapter/10,000 words.
- hereafter the process will slow as your work is read and discussed between members of the editorial board.
- if we are attracted to the work, before offering you a contract, we will ask you for a personal profile and maybe even an interview. This is so we can assess how best we might sell your work. Once we know more about you we can assess **ourselves** as to whether we at SQUAW PIES have the contacts and skills necessary to act in your best interests.
- if we think we can do a good job for you, we will offer you a contract, as well as suggestions of support agencies, in the event that this is your first publishing experience.

FINALLY

- we are a small house. Despite all working full-time, our time is oversubscribed. We overcome this by working efficiently and by limiting how much time is spent in communication with writers of unsolicited work. If we think your work is not suitable for us, or that we are unsuitable for you, we will tell you so and thereafter only rarely enter into any further communication with you about it.
- we operate within the requirements of the law with regard to data protection.
- SQUAW PIES is a registered company in the UK - Co. Reg. No. 11300067 and some of its editorial board are members of the Society of Authors and Royal Society of Literature.

