



Scribbles and Jots

December 2019
Issue 12

For as long as people have been people, they have told stories. December's stories have always been some of the most important ones. They are the stories of the miracle of light overcoming darkness. You can find lamps that provided light far longer than they should have but exactly as long as was needed and candles that shone bright in the darkest night to guide lost travelers to shelter. You will find a jolly man in a red suit whose secret visits leave behind your fondest wishes. Joy is in the words telling how the Earth's rotation slowly lengthens days and shortens the cold, dark nights. Ghosts and spirits sneak up on hardened hearts and remind us that the beat of our life is meant to be a positive addition to the orchestra that is humanity. And don't forget about the bright star shining in the darkness that led wise men and shepherds alike to a manger where a very special baby lay waiting to grow into a man who would one day offer the light of love and forgiveness that shines through even the darkest days in our lives.

Read these stories. Read all of them no matter their origin. If you do, you'll find that the words may be different but the twinkling sparks of hope are all the same. They are winter's fireflies dancing in the darkness and telling us to dance with them. They are the peace that says we will reach the end of our own dark nights and wake up to the light shining bright.

And most of all, these stories remind us to shine our own light out into the darkness for everyone to see.

Are you shining your creative light out into the world?



Be creative

Make something using
only these items:

Glue

Brown Paper Bag

Colored Tissue Paper

As Easy as 1...2...3....

Have you been feeling a little less creative with all of the season change, Thanksgiving celebrations, and upcoming Christmas and holiday festivities? Trust me, you are not alone. So, how do you keep your creative candle burning bright when your calendar's fast pace keeps blowing through your world? Try these three ideas!

1. Give yourself the gift of time. Even if it's only five minutes a day. Then spend that time focusing on your favorite creative outlet.
2. Teach someone else how to do a new creative skill that you have learned. Not only will you both feed your creative inner flame, but you will find that sharing it doubles the joy.
3. Use your talent to create a present for a loved one. Never underestimate the power or something created by your hand and given from your heart.



rite light as a character.



Does the Sun Shine in Your World of Words?

There is a choice in every word you write. Your stories and essays are like a blueprint for your reader. From them, anyone who reads your work will add a brick or some mortar to the foundation of their thoughts. Thoughts become actions. That is how the written or spoken word builds reality.

Over the past few years there has been a sad trend to only show the shadows. The most positive plot can be written from a dark viewpoint or with a twist that makes the outcome negative. I've seen it happen a lot in both fiction and non-fiction. These are the stories that leave you feeling lost and drained of hope when you close the book. They can take days or weeks to recover from and will occasionally haunt your dreams or worry your days without warning.

Luckily, the same is true about writing from a positive perspective. Even the most dreadful topics and situations can be written from a stance of hope. These magical works of words leave behind a mental map that leads to a brighter future. They help us overcome even the worst events in our lives.

What kind of world are your words creating? Is it the kind you want to live in?

Opinion Time

Snowmen

Reindeer

Elves

Angels

Prompt:

What was in
the box from
Great-Uncle
Hampton?



IT Came from My Brain!!!

• I know this month's edition is a tad late and I apologize. All I can say is: 'tis the season to try (and sometimes fail) to keep up with the day in front of me.

On a positive note, I've done some drawing. I've made some Christmas crafts. My car now has doors (although they still need adjusted). And most importantly, I've had a chance to spend some time with much loved people with more to come on the horizon. Life is good here. I hope yours is, too.

So now it's time to wish you the merriest Christmas and the dawning a New Year full of joy and opportunity to let your Creative Spirit SHINE!