

2018 Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual and Sigerson Awards

The Norwegian Explorers of Minnesota publishes a Christmas Annual which has gained international recognition within the Sherlockian community. This publication is distributed each year to attendees of our annual dinner in December as well as to those attending the Baker Street Irregulars Annual Dinner and the Gaslight Gala during the Sherlock Holmes Birthday weekend in New York. The Sigerson Awards, our light-hearted recognition for contributors, will also be presented at the Norwegian Explorers' annual dinner. Every year our members are challenged to submit original works based on a topic we hope will inspire their creativity. This year we ask you to consider:

WAR AND PEACE

Although best known as a monumental novel by Leo Tolstoy, "War and Peace" is now also the theme of the 2018 *Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual*. References and allusions to war and peace can be found across the entire Canon, providing much material that contributors might develop based around this theme. Within the first paragraph written by Watson, he mentioned his experiences in the second Afghan war, and toward the end of the Canon, Holmes went undercover to thwart a German spy. In other stories Holmes helped to prevent war, and his actions can frequently be seen as maintaining the peace! Numerous other canonical characters have had noteworthy war-related or peacetime experiences that should not be overlooked. With 2018 being the 100th anniversary of the end of World War One, we felt that this would be an appropriate theme to inspire our members' creativity.

Contributors are encouraged to explore a wide range of ideas dealing with this topic. These could involve how Holmes prevented a war (or wars), how Watson adjusted to peacetime life, how war affected other characters, or even how particular characters might have waged their own private wars with one other. There is much that could fit our "war and peace" theme, but we will also consider submissions that fall outside of the topic.

We look forward to seeing where your creativity takes you!

Suggested Categories for Submissions (2000 word maximum):

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| 1. Article or essay | 5. Joke |
| 2. Poem | 6. Illustration / Artwork |
| 3. Cartoon | 7. Quiz |
| 4. Sherlockian or Doylean review | 8. Pastiche |

Rules for Submissions:

1. You must be a member of The Norwegian Explorers (local or corresponding). If you are not yet a member, a link to our membership form is located on our website: www.norwegianexplorers.org
2. Entries must be received no later than *October 5, 2018*.
3. Submit electronic versions of papers (Microsoft Word preferred) to: ray@PULPlications.com
You should receive a reply e-mail within two days from Ray Riethmeier or Phil Bergem acknowledging the successful receipt of your submission. Please include the registration information (below) with your submission. Mailing a paper copy of your entry is not required, but if you prefer to do so, use this address: Ray Riethmeier, 12015 Townview Road, Minnetonka, MN 55343.
4. Artwork or illustrations may be submitted by pdf or jpg scan, or by mail (the original or a good copy). The Norwegian Explorers accept no responsibility for the safety of a submitted original illustration or cartoon.
5. All entries must be the original work of the contributor, and must not have had any prior publication.
6. Contributors with submissions published in our Christmas Annual will continue to retain all rights to have their work published elsewhere.
7. Physical entries will be returned only if return postage is provided by the contributor, or if other arrangements are made.
8. Multiple entries may be submitted for each category.
9. Judges for the Sigerson Awards will be selected by the Norwegian Explorers. Decisions of the judges are final.
10. Winners of the Sigerson Awards will be announced at the Annual Meeting in December. Absentees will be notified by email.



Registration Information

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____