



Writer's Guidelines

Thank you for your interest in writing for FATE. We've prepared these guidelines to show you what we look for in a manuscript. Please know that we cannot accept every good article we receive; we simply don't have room. If possible, please submit your article via email (plain text or as an attachment). We also accept submissions on CD and floppy disk.

Because of the volume of submissions we receive, you can expect to wait one to several months for a response. If you want to be sure your submission has arrived here, include a self-addressed, stamped postcard.

FATE does not publish book-length manuscripts.

Topics

FATE magazine reports a wide variety of strange and unknown phenomena. We are open to receiving any well-written, well-documented article. (FATE does not publish poetry or fiction.) Our readers especially like reports of current investigations, experiments, theories, and experiences. Here is a partial list of typical FATE topics:

Psychic Phenomena: dreams, prophecies, telekinesis

Recent Fortean Phenomena: strange creatures, mysterious events, unexplained coincidences

Life After Death: near-death experiences, mediumship, spirit contact, reincarnation, astral travel, and other proof of life after death.

Healing: alternative healing systems and experiences, including acupuncture, herbalism, and psychic techniques

Ghosts and Hauntings: experiences and investigations of ghosts, hauntings, and poltergeists

Scientific Breakthroughs: including free energy, new discoveries about matter, lost continents, ley lines, and mind machines

UFO Phenomena: UFO sightings, encounters, abductions, activity, investigations, and disclosures

How-to: healing, divination, mediumship, dowsing, ghost hunting, astrology, dream analysis, graphology, visualization, and the like

Sacred, Mystic, and Historic Sites: modern archaeological discoveries and reinterpretations of old ones, the true stories behind myths and folklore, and ancient religions and cultures

True Mystic Experiences and My Proof of Survival: Articles for "True Mystic Experiences" and "My Proof of Survival" departments should be 500-1000 words. They should recount personal mystic or psychic experiences of the writer. All details must be true. If your account is accepted for publication, you will be required to send a notarized affidavit attesting that the incident described is true.

Contributors should include a photo of themselves, at least 3" x 5", either color or black and white. We will return photos unharmed after publication.

Many photos we receive are poor quality. Make sure your picture has good contrast and detail. A plain background is best. Make sure your face shows and is not shadowed by hats or trees, and that glasses don't create a glare. Photocopies, color printouts, pictures cut from larger photos, large group shots in which you are one tiny face among many, and I.D. cards are not acceptable. Our graphics designer will "cut you out" electronically.

Payment is \$25, including photo use.

Photos and Artwork

We want FATE to be as visually appealing as possible. Articles with accompanying photographs and illustrations are more likely to be accepted and published faster.

Articles, illustrations, and photos must be legally reproducible. If you are using illustrations, photos, or text from other published sources, they may fall under copyright law. You are responsible for obtaining permissions for use from either the publisher or copyright holder before the manuscript is accepted for publication. We cannot assume items are in the public domain unless you tell us so and give the source and year of publication.

Photos intended to accompany FATE articles must be of high resolution (i.e., not blurry or pixelated) in order to be considered. Photos must be 300 dpi in the size that they're intended to be printed at. In other words, we need a width of 1380 pixels for a two-column picture (that's 300 dpi at 4.6" wide), 660 pixels for one column, 330 pixels for an author photo (one-half column width), 810 pixels for a half-page illustration, or 1650 pixels for a photo that bleeds off the page. FATE accepts both high resolution digital photos and good, clear photographic prints.

Attach a slip of paper to the back of photos and illustrations, with your name, the story title, and captions.

Keep copies in case of loss.

Photos and artwork will vastly enhance the appearance - and acceptability - of your article.

Style

Write to Entertain and Inform. Articles should be lively, personal, and informative. They should play up the wonder of the subject matter and/or develop practical benefits. Avoid academic-style writing, and please be aware that we rarely publish theoretical articles.

Although FATE publishes relatively brief articles, we look for depth of content. We rarely want round-ups that merely list a variety of sightings or events. In general, it is best to focus on one event or type of event, or one time period, and provide convincing detail. Let the reader feel what it was like to be at the event.

Length

Features run 1,500 to 3,000 words.

Briefs are 500 to 1,000 words.

Fillers are 500 words or less.

Truthfulness

FATE is non-fiction. All articles should be documented in these ways:

Personal experience articles should include full details of names, dates, times, and places. Although some of this material may be withheld from publication if you specifically request it, we must have it all correctly documented for our files.

You may be asked to provide contact information for all participants. You may be asked for a sworn and notarized statement from yourself and other participants or witnesses verifying facts described. You will be reimbursed for this cost after publication if you provide a copy of the receipt.

Sources for quotes and unusual information must be included.

Articles that are not based on personal experience should include references.

Format

We encourage **email submissions!** We also accept Macintosh or PC formatted floppy disks, as well as CDs. Label disks with your name, article title, whether the disk is Macintosh or PC, and the software used. If you are using an unusual word-processing program, save it as a plain text or ASCII file. Include a printed copy of the article.

Use 8 1/2" x 11" white paper, a standard typeface, and do not use all caps. Please double space.

On the first page, include your full name, address, and phone number.

Place identification at the top of each page. Include your name, the article's title, and page numbers.

Include a cover letter with your submission.

Whether you use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, output should be letter quality. Faxed articles are not acceptable.

Keep a copy of your manuscript in case of loss. We do not accept responsibility for materials sent to us.

Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with enough postage to return your article if it is not accepted. (From outside the United States, send several International Reply Coupons, available at any post office.) If return postage is not included and your submission is not accepted, you will receive notification but your article will be discarded.

Policies on Rights & Previously Published Material

FATE normally purchases the right to assign copyright and all rights, literary, electronic, and otherwise, to all articles and photos we accept. FATE generally retains all rights to the articles, illustrations, and photographs that we publish. This entitles FATE to use the article again, in print or in any other media, including but not limited to radio, film, and electronic media. It does not prevent you from sending a substantially different article on the same subject to another publication.

FATE will consider submissions of previously published work but will not offer payment for such work if accepted for publication in FATE. This category includes book excerpts, articles published in other periodicals, material posted on websites, and all other work that has previously appeared in print or on the Internet. Contributors must advise FATE of the publication status of submissions when they are submitted. Failure to indicate that work has been previously published will invalidate any agreement to pay for such work.

We like to see our writers published! If you are having a book published that includes material from an article you have published in FATE, write to us, giving details, and we will send you written authorization to use the article at no charge as long as FATE is credited as the original source (month and year of issue).

If you have questions about this policy or about re-selling your work elsewhere, please write to us with your specific question and we will send a detailed reply.

Payment

Standard payment for feature articles is 5 cents/word, payable after publication. FATE does not pay kill fees if an article is not used, except for contracted, assigned articles where an arrangement has been specified, in writing, in advance.

Author payments are made by check in U.S. Dollars. FATE takes no responsibility for currency conversion costs incurred by authors living overseas. Contributors who live outside of the U.S. may choose to avoid currency conversion costs by opting to be paid in kind with a FATE subscription or with other FATE merchandise.

Payment for "True Mystic Experiences" and "My Proof of Survival" is \$25, including the use of the photograph, which will be returned.

Photos and illustrations that accompany news and feature articles will be paid for after publication, at a rate of \$10 per item. (We do not pay for the use of contributor's photos in "True Mystic Experiences" and "My Proof of Survival.") Photo use will be determined by the graphics designer.

We will send you one advance copy of the issue in which your article appears, with a coupon enabling you to buy additional copies at a discount price.

All original manuscripts, articles, letters, book reviews, documentation, photographs, illustrations, etc., that are published will remain FATE Magazine Inc.'s property.