

# Writing for the Friend

friend@ChurchofJesusChrist.org • 1.801.240.2210



Thank you for your interest in contributing to the *Friend*! Please remember that **stories must be based on actual events** and must be written from the point of view of a child 3–12 years of age. If you'd like to be compensated, send us a query letter to review first.

Please note, we are no longer purchasing games or poetry submissions.

## We especially need stories that feature children ...

- In countries outside of the United States/from non-Caucasian cultural and ethnic groups
- In various family situations
- Grappling with sensitive issues or challenging situations in an authentic way
- Standing up for what's right, even when immediate consequences aren't happy ones

## Example topics include ...

- Choosing the right
- Coping with scary events (like a natural disasters)
- Disabilities (especially from the point of view of those with different ability levels)
- Following Jesus
- Including others and respecting those who seem different
- Media choices—being safe and smart
- Peer pressure
- Prayers, including seemingly unanswered ones (Please note we have lots of stories about lost and found items already.)
- Preparing for the temple and going into YM/YW, having callings, etc.
- Repentance (as a daily gift that helps us find happiness)
- Sabbath day
- Scripture study (as a family, or those without family support)
- Word of Wisdom

## What makes a good *Friend* story?

- Stories must be based on actual events. Dialogue and other minor details may be fictionalized.
- These stories are typically 500–600 words long.
- The story is written from the child’s perspective. The author tells us what the child is thinking but shows the thoughts and actions of adults by words and actions.
- The author is honest about how the main character feels—the author doesn’t try to make them unrealistically good or stereotypically bad.
- The child in the story is working to try to solve their own problems. There is no preachy adult telling them what they should or should not do.

## Children’s Submissions

We love to get children’s art, stories, and quotes at the *Friend*. All children’s submissions should include the child’s photo, age, and address, and **MUST** include the signed parental permission slip found on the back cover of the magazine. The *Friend* does not pay for children’s submissions. Due to the number received, they cannot all be published, nor can they be returned.

## Submitting Your Work

Send your submission to [friend@ChurchofJesusChrist.org](mailto:friend@ChurchofJesusChrist.org), or use the “[Submit Your Material](#)” link on [friend.ChurchofJesusChrist.org](http://friend.ChurchofJesusChrist.org).

If you would like to send your work in the mail, please include your name, address, telephone number, and email address with each submission. Enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you would like your manuscript returned. Address submissions to *Friend* Magazine, 50 E. North Temple St, Room 2393, Salt Lake City, UT 84150, USA.

## Review Process

Editors will review your submission, and a staff member will let you know whether we would like to accept your submission for our files. If your submission is accepted, you will be asked to sign a contract that allows the Church to publish it in print and online. Due to the amount of stories we receive, there is no guarantee that all accepted submissions will be published. Because of our lengthy planning and approval process, if a submission is to be published, it will usually not appear in print for at least a year, and often longer. If your submission is published in the magazine (not including child submissions), two copies of any issue containing your work will be sent to you.

The *Friend* currently pays by commission only. If you would like your work to be considered for purchase, please send a query letter to the email address above. Or you can send us your material immediately as a donated piece. **Thanks again for your interest in the *Friend* magazine!**