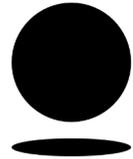


# Contributor's Guidelines



Floating.point is a monthly literary and design 'zine published in Seattle, Washington. We believe that arts and technology are expressions of the same vital energy of the human spirit and are completely compatible.

We welcome you to submit your most entertaining and thought-provoking attempts at this fusion. Especially if they resulted in explosions.

---

## Melding of arts and technology

For example:

- A fictional account of Alexa prototypes that didn't make it to market because they kept questioning whether someone "really needed all that crap" and wouldn't they be better off "learning to appreciate what they already have",
- The schematics for a 4D printer that prints organs that we could use but don't currently exist,
- An expository essay on the relevance of transgender identities after the invention of sex-change gene therapy,
- A comic series detailing the adventures of a plucky electron as it makes its way from one end of a power cable to the other,
- A near-future romantic fantasy about an inclusive and integrated workforce at a unmanned aerial vehicle control room for a private security contractor,
- Interviews with mad scientists, aesthetic objectivists, ethical marketers, imaginary number crunchers, air-gapped web developers, and other characters and oddities.

## So, jokes about tech basically

That's not an entirely unfair appraisal. What's important, though, is that every smirk contains a viral load of idea. A spoonful of sugar helps the medicine go down, after all.

Tech's greatest strength is that it makes good on its promises to deliver a better future and tech's greatest weakness is that it lies to itself about its negative effects on the present.

Through the power of entertaining jibes we can show how one man's vision of a brighter future can be another person's poke in the eye with a sharp stick and then maybe offer some constructive criticism and best practices going forward.

## So, social justice warrior stuff

Excerpts from your graphic novel in iambic pentameter about a cybernetic social justice ninja-hacker would be most welcome, yes. But also a first-person narrative from a transsexual electronic dance musician who rises to stardom in a near future fascist social media dystopia would be equally enlightening.

## Etchings, paintings, ceramics, sculpture?

If there's even the slimmest pretense of inhabiting the liminal gazebo where tech and art mingle over French Roast and Afghan Kush, yes, we can't imagine going to print without it.

## Payment in wealth\*, renown\*, and swag

Currently, we are working on the first issue and have accumulated a massive \$0 in outside funding. Every published contribution will partake of a share in that jackpot.

Additionally, each published contribution will award the contributor 1) a printed copy of the final product, 2) the choice of a bit of swag, such as a t-shirt or sticker, to be determined by the publisher.

\* maybe not so much of these.

## Copyright retention

By submitting content you bestow one-time publishing rights to "Johanna Wilder dba Zip! Bang! Wow!" for the issue in which your contribution appears. This issue may be sold in perpetuity as an ebook or reprinted in its original form (with the exception of minor edits) and sold without further remuneration to the artist. You grant us the right to reprint your work for the purpose of marketing of the issue your work appears in. All other rights are retained by the artist.

---

Floating.point will be sold digitally online and in print through various on- and offline vendors and have a cover price of US\$10.00 for a print version and US\$4.99 for the digital version. Any meager funds generated through these sales support printing, distribution, and the publisher of the 'zine: an elder, mentally ill, trans/queer woman. If you're not okay with that, no worries; but also no bamboozle, yeah?

---

# Fairly Applicable Quanta

## Who's the audience?

We are fabulists, dreamers, hackers, makers, scientists and skeptics, and we believe we deserve art that tickles our fancies and makes us think.

## Should I pitch you an idea?

Yep, fire away.

## How many words?

Just like your primary language teacher, we believe an essay should be as long or as short as it needs to be to effectively convey the message. Just like your art teacher, we believe an illustration should have exactly as many lines and shadows as are required to define the figure. Just like your computer science teacher, we believe the best code is the most readable code that elegantly solves the problem at hand.

We're planning each issue to be around forty-eight pages, so length isn't our primary concern, it's keeping people entertained all the way through.

## Wait, you print code?

Absolutely.

## But also essays?

For sure.

## And art?

In a heartbeat.

## Poetry?

You  
bet  
your  
boots.

## Fiction?

It is decidedly so.

## Non-Fiction?

Truly, we do.

## Anything you don't print?

Press releases.

## I've got a book already written, will you print an excerpt to drum up interest in the book?

Hell yeah.

## Will you print a few photos of my art to coincide with a showing?

Our specialty.

## Will you pitch me an idea?

Sure, email us at [handshake@floatingpoint.pub](mailto:handshake@floatingpoint.pub) and we'll send you a non-binding writer's prompt.

## Any last words?

Nerdy art is so much more than catgirls, dragons, and spaceships, but we embrace those too.

Technology isn't the boogie man that everyone needs it to be to justify their displeasure with the downsides of the economic systems that drive it. Medical tech saves lives and communications tech enhances communities. Most of us are alive and well today thanks to technology.

Yes, there is an element of pop culture that we insist be present in a Floating.point piece and for that we make no apologies. Indeed, the pop culture component of our 'zine is the secret sauce that makes our meatless burger taste just like the real thing and makes people crave our recipe instead.

The kind of art we like is an expression of human's attempts to counteract entropy in a violent and uncaring universe. Really awesome art harnesses the destructive powers of the universe to undermine and topple conventional ideas and fertilizes the soil with the corpses of traditional beliefs, preparing it for new growth. Destruction of the status quo is coming and the change of seasons is unavoidable, the only question is what crops are we going to plant in the newly tilled soil.

We can't go back to the garden of eden, as comforting a destination as it may seem. We are bound for the skies and new worlds, to flourish under the light of foreign stars, so let's pack for the journey appropriately and make sure we don't forget our swimsuits.

Also, we would posit that *All Purpose Cultural Cat Girl Nuku Nuku* is as important a literary portrayal of identity and espionage as *The Scarlet Pimpernel*.

## That email address again:

[handshake@floatingpoint.pub](mailto:handshake@floatingpoint.pub)