FLASH FICTION ANTHOLOGY 2021

6

Jake Ruzicka

When the sky fell, everything changed.
Alex Abbasian
He`s lying in bed, no pulse.
Charles Crawford-Boyce
Don't try, it's not worth it.
Benjamin Lee
Almost there can see the gold.
Harry Gray
I cried constantly, then it hit.
Giselle Peters
First day, heart racing. New chapter.
Zara Phan
Today I know who I am.
Jessica Porter
Sun's shining, the magpies are swooping.
Lachy Roberts
Known each-other for years; still strangers.

25

Uncertain, he stared at the stolen frame. "What do I do now?" he questioned himself frantically, as the police sirens came closer, and closer, and closer.

Ethan Wong

No one can comprehend the fear of what is about to come, the screams of millions suddenly silenced. All that's left is an empty void.

Jett Rogers

I was so uncertain about you. Had you stolen something from me? Were you trying to frame me? But why? I never meant to make you scared.

Jessica Porter

I was in an escape room. I was feeling uncertain and confused, when I found a clue! It was a frame with the words "stolen" on it.

Ashlee McClaren

The final siren sounds... all the sacrifice and hardship finally paid off. Lifting that trophy feels like my life is complete. It was worth it.

Harry Gray

Wind blowing and birds chirping, I open my eyes to the golden morning light but wait... the clock reads 1:23am! Why is the sun out?

Raya Barrington

The frame of growth was gone. Years of work, stolen from my grasp. The future ahead uncertain as I walk the streets aimlessly.

Liam Devereux

I had always trusted you. I was never uncertain of you. You threw that in my face, stole my precious blue ring, and framed me.

Charles Crawford-Boyce

Burning, crackling...

How did this happen? Karma? Revenge? Accident?

I've imagined many different scenarios and events like this.

My life events flash before my eyes.

Luciella Bolger

She loved red, roses, hearts, cherry lipstick so I wondered why she cried as the blood poured out of her, 'I thought she liked red?'

Raya Barrington

'I never thought I would be here', she thought looking at the hospital ceiling, listening to the machines beeping, buzzing.

She took her last breath.

Luciella Bolger

Such a majestic artwork. Even the frame was glamorous. Telling stories no one could tell – leaving most men uncertain of life. It stole my heart.

Alex Abbasian

50

Two figures stood on the edge of a mountain, looking down on the small burning village below. "Looks like our time has come to an end here."

The two figures then walked up the stairs, away from the miniature town they had made together.

Liam Devereux

Bobby and I were playing in the park when lots of dark clouds came over us. We decided to play on one last thing before it rained. Bobby started to slide down the slide, when-BANG- lightning hit him. By the time he tumbled to the bottom he was dead.

Matilda Prout

Today is a special day I think to myself as I open the front door. My friend is already standing there waiting for me. She leans close to my ear and whispers something. "Are you ready?" She asks as she places the knife against my neck. "Yes." I reply blankly.

Taylah Forrest

Two men in suits stood looking at the door. They open it and see a room that looks like any normal room: a couch, a tv, a kitchen; but there was one strange thing - it was dreadfully cold and there was an awful smell coming out of the fridge.

Dante Griffith

I walk down the steps, my blue dress flowing behind me. My feet ache in the heels I have chosen, so much so that I nearly take them off. But I can't do that. Showing weakness today is not an option. Not if I'm going to succeed in killing them.

Desiree Haramis Cokalis

[&]quot;I guess it has."

My good mate and I were walking in a park, talking, laughing, having a good time, but then he went quiet... It feels like the whole world around me has gone silent. It's like the world has stopped. Suddenly he starts running.

"Hey! Slow down!" I shout.

It's still silent.

Benjamin Lee

It was dark and misty. My best friend and I were going for our nightly drive when we saw a figure in front of us. What was someone doing standing on the road at 3am? We slowly crept out of the car filled with suspense...It was an old lady!

Ashlee McLaren

I was scared and uncertain, my legs felt like they were going to collapse. What did I do? My so called 'friend' was pointing her wicked finger at me, everyone was staring with a cold, silent stare. Had I been framed? Though who would believe me? Time was ticking.

Imogen Nolan

I've felt watched my whole life. I spent the night under my bed, dark, with closed windows and doors. Someone was out there experiencing my emotions, actions, and decisions. This person read my life so thoroughly, so completely...

'I love this character. Mysterious!' I thought, closing my favourite book.

Giselle Peters

Tom and Daimo were skiing at Mt Buller. The sun was blooming, the birds were chirping, and the sky was blue as anything. The day was perfect, well that's what they thought. They were skiing down a gully... "Agghhhhhh" they fell out of sight down a 50-foot crevasse...The search has begun.

Lachy Roberts

You aren't ready for the apocalypse, no mercy will be shown, Turn off your phone leave it behind so nobody can trace you, they'll follow you home. Take a right turn, make sure nobody can face you; just one look in their eyes and your soul is theirs to claim.

Jett Rogers

Matt and Jimbo climbed through the new hole in the cellar door. "Wow." Matt gasps, astonished by his parents' collection. "What's this?" he questions and bends down to inspect the paper sticking out of the cupboard. "Wait, they've kept this map the whole time? Did you know Jimb —?" BANG!

Ethan Wong

100

Among the rubble stood a man, fiddling with his bowtie and straightening his jacket. It was as if he was oblivious to the creaking of the twisted metal and wood of the old manor. I tried to look away as the battered chandelier dangled precariously above his head. I couldn't help but glare with morbid curiosity. As I watched, he began to pull a baton out from his jacket pocket. Only then did my toothache begin, always in situations like this. Yet this was the least of my worries. As the baton swayed, the earth moved with a ghostly force.

Eddie Mason

On October 11th, 2012, Vick and his girlfriend Noon went shopping. On the way home riding on the bus, Vick was desperate to go to the bathroom. They were eager to get home but unfortunately Vick could not wait. Getting off at a nearby restaurant, Noon waited for Vick to get out of the bathroom when breaking news showed up on the TV. A horrifying crash had occurred on the freeway. A drunk driver swerved into the exact same bus Vick and Noon were on - everyone died at the scene... Noon yelled in shock "We shouldn't have gotten off that bus!"

Charlotte Kranz

The gala was going to be the fanciest event ever! I really wanted to go. There would men is black suits and bow ties, and women in big fancy ball gowns.

The only problem was I had just had surgery on my teeth and I had a major toothache. I decided to go to the event anyway, plus something big always happens at these events and I didn't want to miss it.

Except this time the big thing was not as good as I thought it would be.

The big chandelier fell onto the dance floor and squashed five people.

Matilda Prout

The letter.

That was why she was bolting through the dimly lit streets. the lavish, stolen, framed painting in hand. A policeman hot on her heels. The letter she had received the night prior ordered her to not only steal an artwork- but move it to a nearby alleyway. Even though she was uncertain if this letter was legitimate, she could use the extra cash. Seeing that there was nowhere else to run, she put her hands up in surrender, the painting dropping to the ground. Flinching, the police officer took the painting, leaving her with a bag of bills.

Zara Phan

Alone in the house... Voices in her head keep saying 'someone's here...'

Examining the dark ghost-cold room - creaking coming from who knows where, a dim shadow behind the beige curtain. Opening the curtain, to see someone she knew holding a sharp bloody knife.

They speak –

"Sorry."

The voices in her head were louder and louder, 'RUN!'

Was it too late?

Imogen Nolan

I walk up to the door, peering through as my fingers stumble at the locks. On the other side stood a man. Opening the door, I look up at him, determined to make eye contact; my neck straining at an awkward angle. I step to the side, allowing him to walk through the doorway, crouching as he does. He straightens again, knocking the glass chandelier above. He moves to the side, fixing his green bow tie.

"A toothache, is that correct?" he asks.

"That's right." I mumble, my mouth numb from the painkillers he advised me to take.

"Open please..."

Desiree Haramis Cokalis

I woke up and saw that my husband has left me a note.

I racked my brain pondering why he would leave me a note. I didn't want to read it until I figured out what day it was - it wasn't our anniversary or birthday or anything like that. Right as I looked up at my TV, there was an ad for Valentine's Day – Valentine's Day! That's the reason!

I ran to my bedroom to open it. When I got there, I picked the letter up and opened the page... As I read, I felt sick... "I want a divorce."

Dante Griffith

Today is prom and I'm going to show everyone who I'm in love with. We both stand outside the doors of where the prom is being held. I'm wearing a red dress while he's wearing a red bow tie to match. We open the doors and I look up. A bright, well-lit chandelier hangs in the middle of the hall. It was beautiful.

All of a sudden, I feel a sharp pain in my mouth. I realize I have a toothache which snaps me back to reality. I hear the whispers of my friends.

"I knew it! I told you she had been talking to a troll!"

Taylah Forrest

200

The Abominable Salesman

"You can have this grandfather clock in your living room for just pennies on the dollar!"

Mark shouted. He had been running an Antique shop on the corner of Bedford Street for nearly forty years, and even though he was successful in finding many customers, not one of them had any interest in his grandfather clock. Not one. He was then soon beginning to suspect the people knew about the murder of the elderly woman, and in the following week, he received little to no customers. Now he was really suspicious.

A month later, two people walked into the antique shop, one dressed in a grey suit, with neat, brown hair, and the other in a navy-blue suit, wearing a black fedora.

"Now what do these gangsters want with me?" Mark thought to himself.

"Mark Biggleswade?" The man with the fedora asked.

"Yes?" Mark replied.

"I arrest you in the name of the law!"

"Me? For doing what?"

"Murdering your customers for almost forty years. That's why we're here." the detective explained.

"I'm afraid you've made a mistake there, my friends. The customers killed themselves."

"Now, how does that work?"

"Simple. Let me show you..."

A Study in Antiques

Dale Rockford sat on the armchair in his living room, whilst reading the newspaper and listening to the beautiful symphony of an orchestra playing from his mobile phone. As he turned to the next page, a certain article about stolen antiques caught his eye. Dale kept reading, with his face buried in it, and when he was finished, he spoke to himself:

"Looks like there's work to do!"

Immediately, he put on his coat, and headed out the door of his apartment, to the Antique shop where the items were stolen. However, when Dale arrived, he noticed two policemen being shown a grandfather clock by the owner of the shop.

"Drat! They're already onto it!" Dale whispered to himself.

As he started to walk back home, Dale suddenly heard an explosion from the shop that shook the whole street. He burst through the doors of the store, which was now on fire, and saw that the two detectives lay dead on the floor, but the shop owner was nowhere to be seen. Quickly scanning the shop for evidence of an escape before the raging inferno devoured it, he saw an open backdoor, but he then heard a voice in his mind:

"Come and find me..."

Ethan Croft

The salesman stood opposite a ruined pillar, riddled with lush green foliage, pleading with passersby to look at his wears. I was curious of this mysterious figure, so I walk up to stand beside him and grab his attention. His head immediately shot around. This figure wore a tattered hood over his head, obscuring his face in inky shadows. That's when I met his eyes.

He enquired on how weary I appeared and offered me a vial of viscous black liquid; its label shabbily removed. To be truthful, I was worn out from the long journey from the capital. So, I accepted his gesture and forked over a pouch of gold. He greedily snatched the pouch from my hand and plunged it into his oversized bag.

The figure wished my farewell and made his way into the woods. I swear I caught the smallest glimpse of a tail protruding from his cloak. As I began to pour the liquid into my mouth, I felt a strange sensation come over my body. In a puff of billowing, vibrant smoke, I peer down to find that I had shrunk into a kobold!

What I fool I was to trust that sly salesman.

Eddie Mason

300

The Doona Hog

As I wake up, in the corner of my eye I see a card saying, "HAPPY VALENTINES DAY!"

"Wow!" I thought, "I have the best husband ever. He's so sweet to get me a beautiful card."

As I slowly open the card, my eyes glued to a word I would never have imagined - DIVORCE. I jumped out of bed and bolted to my husband silently sitting on the couch waiting for me.

I looked him dead in the eye and I yelled "YOU WANNA GET A DIVORCE! WHY?!"

He slowly nodded with his hands in his face, facing down to the floor not saying a word. So much tension in the room! I've never felt like this ever with him.

I look down at the end again to read the word 'Divorce', my eyes swelling up with tears not being able to say anything, slowly breaking down.

So many thoughts in my head...

I whisper underneath my breath to myself, "After all that time we had together and he even married me, now he wants a divorce!"

Frozen inside not knowing what else to say, I look back up to him. Shedding tears I finally break the silence "Why do you want to get a divorce after all these years? After all the fun times together you want to get one?"

He finally broke the silence. He mumbled for a bit and then spoke.

"You hardly help around the house you're such a lazy potato. I just can't get over the way you grind your teeth at night and... how you ARE SUCH A DOONA HOG! My God! I WAKE UP COLD EVERY NIGHT! I put up with so much from you and I can't take it", he yelled.

I look at him dead in the eye again then I just put my head down. He was right. I am a Doona Hog.

Ashlee Stillman

All works written and edited by Authors during Lockdown 6.0 between 23rd August and September 3 2021. All rights retained by Authors as named Copyright 2021