

AUTHOR CHALLENGE 2011

Official Rules & Conditions



MeeGenius!

The MeeGenius Author Challenge 2011 encourages aspiring authors to write and submit an original story book for children.

What can I win?

Grand Prize

The grand prize of an eBook publishing contract on the MeeGenius proprietary publishing platform (based on MeeGenius' standard publishing agreement) will be awarded to encourage the writing of eBooks for children and a cash prize of \$1,500.

And, MeeGenius will also provide at no cost, access to a library of e-books published by MeeGenius through its publishing platform for one year to the school of the Grand Prize Winner's choice (subject to such school's consent to MeeGenius' applicable terms and conditions; books distributed by MeeGenius for third party publishers are excluded).

First Runner-Up Prizes

Three (3) Runner-Up Prizes of an eBook publishing contract on the MeeGenius proprietary publishing platform (based on MeeGenius' standard publishing agreement) will be awarded to encourage the writing of eBooks for children and a cash prize of \$500 to each runner-up.

All Challenge prizes are not substitutable or transferable, except at the sole discretion of MeeGenius. One prize per person. All taxes and other expenses, if any, are the sole responsibility of the winners. This Challenge is void where prohibited or otherwise regulated. All federal, state and local laws apply.

Who can enter?

You are eligible if you are 18 years of age or older as of the date you enter and are a legal United States resident residing in one of the 50 United States or the District of Columbia during the competition. Entries originating from any other jurisdiction are not eligible for entry. This Challenge is governed exclusively by the laws of the United States. **NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN.**

You are **not** eligible to enter and will be disqualified if you are a previous Grand Prize winner of any MeeGenius contest or an employee of MeeGenius, Inc. or any of their respective parents, subsidiaries and affiliated companies, or a member of the immediate family (parent, children, siblings, spouse, regardless of where they live) or same household of such employees (whether related or not).

How do I enter?

Online entries only. Go to www.meegenius.com/challenge/welcome and submit your story using the online entry form, filling in all requested information completely. A story should be between 10 and 20 pages in length and formatted according to the [example manuscript](#), which can be downloaded at the same web page.

- Each page should be no more than 450 characters (or approximately 75 words per page).
- Triple-space between pages, and label the page number in the manuscript according to the "Example Manuscript."

- No text formatting will be accepted or taken into account. All of the type should be the same size and style.
- Text should be in the English language. Foreign-language manuscripts and translations are not eligible.

Please do not submit any illustrations with any entry manuscript. If an entrant wishes to illustrate the book, the entrant will be given the opportunity prior to Finalist Round, though MeeGenius reserves the right to provide an illustrator and to illustrate any entry in its sole discretion. Any entries submitted with illustrations will be disqualified.

All electronic entries must be received by 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) on November 1, 2011. Entrants may be notified by November 28, 2011 as submissions are evaluated by MeeGenius staff. Final Challenge results will be announced on the MeeGenius Web site on or around March 7, 2012.

Each electronic entry should be submitted only once. **Stories submitted to MeeGenius Inc. may not be submitted to other publishers or literary agents while under consideration for the prize.** Stories previously submitted to MeeGenius are not eligible.

Authors may submit up to two (2) story manuscripts to the Challenge. Each submission must meet all eligibility requirements. Use of automated processes and devices to submit electronic entries are not permitted. MeeGenius is not responsible for any changes or effects caused to the entrant's computer system as a result of submitting electronic entries.

Only entries submitted via the website electronic form will be accepted. Entries submitted via facsimile or other express delivery services will NOT be accepted. MeeGenius is not responsible for lost, late, misdirected or otherwise undeliverable submissions, or submissions that cannot be processed due to phone, network, electronic or computer hardware or software failure, telephone or other communications malfunctions, errors or failures of any kind, lost or unavailable network connections, web site, Internet or ISP availability, unauthorized human intervention, traffic congestion, incomplete or inaccurate capture of entry information (regardless of cause), failed, incomplete, garbled, jumbled or delayed computer transmissions which may limit one's ability to enter the Challenge, or technical failures of any kind, including any injury or damage to participant's or any other person's computer relating to or resulting from participating in this Challenge or downloading any materials in this Challenge.

By submitting your story, you accept all contest rules and agree to be bound by the decisions of MeeGenius (including decision made in conjunction with popular voting as applicable), which will be final. You also agree that if you are a Grand Prize or one of the Runner-Up Prize Winners, MeeGenius reserves the right to publish and use all or a part of your entry as an eBook and for other uses as described and provided for in the MeeGenius Publishing Agreement (downloadable at <http://www.mee genius.com/r/challenge/MeeGenius-Publishing-Agreement.pdf>). Even if you are not a winner, MeeGenius reserves the right to publish and use all or a part of your entry as an eBook and for other uses as described and provided for in the MeeGenius Publishing Agreement in which case you may be contacted separately with an acceptance of your entry **for publication purposes only**. If you are not a winner or separately contacted about publication by March 31, 2012, all rights in your submission fully revert back to you and you retain full rights to your submission.

MeeGenius will be collecting personal data about participants online, in accordance with its privacy policy. Please review MeeGenius' Privacy Policy at www.mee genius.com/about/privacy and User Terms

and Conditions at www.mee-genius.com/about/terms. By participating in the Challenge, entrants agree to MeeGenius' collection and usage of their personal information and acknowledge that they have read and accepted MeeGenius' Privacy Policy and User Terms and Conditions.

Author Guidelines

All entries must be the fully original creations of the entrants and be appropriate story/content for children ages 2 to 8. In addition, for entries judged by MeeGenius and its staff will also look at the following criteria:

- Emotional connection
- Writing quality
- Uniqueness
- Read-aloud potential

MeeGenius will disqualify any entries with language, themes or content inappropriate for children. MeeGenius may also disqualify any content which we determine, in its sole discretion, resembles or directly copies or reproduces previously published stories, such as, but not limited to, those in publication, in magazines, from publishing companies, on major book or children's story websites and winners in national contests.

By entering, entrants are representing, warranting and certifying (and, upon MeeGenius' request, agree to represent, warrant and certify in a sworn affidavit or other writing) that their respective entries are their own fully original creations, have not been published, publicized or submitted elsewhere for consideration or publication, and have not won another contest, and further that their respective entries (including but not limited to any other materials of such entrants that may be integrated into their entries) will not infringe or violate the rights of any third parties, including but not limited to copyrights, trademarks and/or rights of publicity/privacy.

How will entries be judged?

All entries will be posted to the MeeGenius website and otherwise published on the Internet for voting and/or commentary by the general public. Accordingly, each entrant agrees to grant, and you hereby grant, to MeeGenius and its affiliates and third party service providers any and all legal and other rights it and they may need in order to post your entry as well as your name, bio, likeness, image and/or voice ("publicity rights") for all Challenge-related advertising and publicity, conduct and operation of the Challenge and otherwise in all manner, media and formats in connection with the Challenge.

Selection of which entries will advance to the "Finalists Round" or be declared winners may be based, entirely or in part, on "popular vote" based on users using a "Like" button or such other method as MeeGenius may elect to use in its sole discretion. MeeGenius and its staff will also have the right to select entries to advance to the Finalists Round or any or all of the winners, irrespective of the results of any popular voting.

Notwithstanding any popular voting, including results displayed on its website, MeeGenius may overrule or disqualify any voting or results if it determines, in its sole discretion, that such voting does not accurately reflect the spirit or intentions of the Challenge in any manner or for any reason whatsoever. Without limiting the foregoing, MeeGenius reserves the right, in its sole discretion to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend the Challenge should a virus, bugs, non-authorized human intervention, fraud or other cause beyond its control corrupt or affect the administration, security, fairness or proper conduct of the Challenge as

determined by MeeGenius in its sole discretion. In such cases, MeeGenius shall have right, if it so determines in its sole discretion, to select the Grand Prize and/or First Runner-Up Prize Winners from all eligible entries received previously. MeeGenius reserves the right in its sole discretion to disqualify any individual that tampers or attempts to tamper with the entry process or the operation of the Challenge or website or violates the Challenge rules. **All decisions by MeeGenius will be final.**

Please note that any attempt by any entrant to deliberately damage the MeeGenius website or undermine the legitimate operation of the Challenge may be a violation of criminal or civil laws and should such an attempt be made, MeeGenius reserves the right to seek damages from any such person to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law.

Entrant also acknowledges that, once posted, his or her entry will be viewable and may be used and reproduced by the general public as well as others, including without limitation Internet-based search engines, archival services, and others, and MeeGenius shall have no responsibility or obligation to any entrant to prevent any third party from using his or her entry or publicity rights in any manner or format that the posting thereof on the Internet may permit or result in.

By participating, entrants and winners agree to release and hold harmless MeeGenius, Inc., their respective suppliers, advertising and promotion agencies and their respective parent companies, subsidiaries, affiliates, partners, representatives, agents, successors, assigns, employees, officers and directors, from any and all liability, for loss, harm, damage, injury, cost or expense whatsoever including without limitation, property damage, personal injury and/or death which may occur in connection with, preparation for, travel to, or participation in Challenge, or possession, acceptance and/or use or misuse of prize or participation in any Challenge-related activity and for any claims based on publicity rights, defamation or invasion of privacy and merchandise delivery. If MeeGenius, in its sole discretion, has reason to believe that any entry contains any material that may infringe or violate the rights of a third party, MeeGenius may take all other measures MeeGenius may deem appropriate to protect its interests.

In case of dispute as to the identity of any entrant, entry will be declared made by the “Authorized Account Holder” of the email address submitted at time of entry. The “Authorized Account Holder” is defined as the natural person who is assigned an email address by an Internet access provider, online service provider, or other organization (e.g., business, educational, institution, etc.) responsible for assigning email addresses or the domain associated with the submitted email address. Any potential winner may be requested to provide MeeGenius with proof that such winner is the authorized account holder of the email address associated with the winning entry.

What happens if I win?

A pool of finalists will be selected, from which the winners will be voted on or judged and awarded. If you are one of the finalists, you will be notified on or about between the period from December 19, 2011 and January 30, 2012 via email and/or phone. Finalists may be required to sign an affidavit of eligibility, a liability release/assignment of rights and confirmation of his or her acceptance of the MeeGenius Standard Form of Publishing Agreement and its terms, though failure to do so will not affect MeeGenius’ rights and privileges as granted under these rules. Each finalist agrees to return such documentation within five (5) days of receipt of MeeGenius’ request. Any finalist who rejects or fails to comply with this requirement or cannot be easily located at the email and/or phone number provided may forfeit prize and an alternate finalist may be selected.

If you are one of the winners, you will be notified before March 7, 2012 via email and/or phone. Winners will be announced or posted on the Internet at www.meegenius.com and elsewhere and otherwise by and after March 7, 2012, following the announcement and reasonable attempts to notify all of the winners. Any winner who has not or fails to comply with the requirements of these rules or cannot be easily located at the email and/or phone number provided may forfeit prize and an alternate winner may be selected.

After accepting prize, the Grand Prize winner will not be eligible to win another Grand Prize in a subsequent MeeGenius contest, challenge or competition. All federal, state, and local taxes, if any, are the winner's sole responsibility. Prizes are not transferrable and cannot be assigned.

MEEGENIUS RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CANCEL THE CHALLENGE OR ANY ASPECT OF THIS PROMOTION AT ITS SOLE DISCRETION.