



Author Guidelines

T.O.R. Mission

To create discovery for your books by connecting trick-or-treaters to this website filled with scary, mysterious and fantastical stories by children's book creators.

Does your featured book need to be scary, mysterious or fantastical? No! Read on...

The T.O.R. Ghouls:

Trick-or-Reaters was originally brewed up by Curious City and the Erin Murphy Literary Agency. The Head Ghoul is now Amy Denecker, Librarian & Literacy Advocate. Contact her at info@trickorreaters.com.

How It Works:

1. Authors provide T.O.R. with content – a Story to Snatch, a Wicked Read, a Free & Freaky, and a profile of themselves as a Creepy Creator. Look for more details in the Content section below.
2. T.O.R. creates a feature on you that contains all of the submitted content. [See sample features](#).
3. T.O.R. provides schools, libraries, bookstores, organizations, families and individuals with [flyers they can print](#) announcing TrickOrReaters.com.
4. Schools, libraries, bookstores, organizations, families and individuals put flyers in trick-or-treaters' bags on Halloween.

5. Trick-or-treaters visit the site and access your feature by clicking on an Age-o-meter, Scare-o-Meter, or subject in “Choose Your Treat!”
 6. Trick-or-treaters discover you and other new favorite authors.
 7. The content stays up for year-round discovery and remains up each year as the program builds!
 8. Frightfully fantastic?!
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Participation Requirements:

1. Children’s book authors must have a PAL book(s) (published by traditional publishing houses that do not charge money to authors or illustrators).
2. Featured books and content should be appropriate for ages between 3-12.

T.O.R. reserves the right to curate the collection of stories, authors and illustrators featured.

Content & Other Support Authors Provide:

1. **Story to Snatch:** You will need to provide an original or published excerpt of a scary, mysterious or fantastical story in words or images. This story’s age level should be equivalent to the age level of your WICKED READ.

You can one of the following:

- a) 600 words or less excerpt from a haunting or fantastical published work. *See Sample.*
- b) Book trailer or video with haunting or fantastical theme + 100 words of text. [See Sample.](#)
- c) SoundCloud audiobook clip player. *See Sample.*
- d) Up to 30 pieces of sequential art to be displayed as a slideshow + 100 words of text. *See Sample.*
- e) 600 words or less of original scary, mysterious or fantastical prose or poetry. (This is a great choice if your featured book is neither scary nor fantastical.) *See Sample.*

NOTE: The author is required to secure permission from their publisher for the content they submit.

2. **Wicked Read:** One book to highlight.

3. Creepy Creator:

—200 or less word bio. We prefer fun and Halloween-themed custom bios!

—Link to your author or book page.

—Author photo.

4. **Free & Freaky:** A link to or PDF of a free activity for readers. (Optional.)

5. **Fee:** \$50 invoiced by Curious City via PayPal when feature is posted.

6. **Giveaway Book:** Copy of the book mailed to: Curious City | 8 Merrill Street, Unit A | Portland, ME 04101 Attn: TOR. This book will become part of a giveaway for a school or public library.

The T.O.R. Ghouls Will Provide:

1. A freaky feature on you.

2. Classification of your feature by target age, level of scary, and theme to help trick-o-treaters find your feature.

3. A **collection of promotional flyers** available for individuals and organizations to download and share with trick-or-treaters.

4. Rolling announcements to national school, library, literacy, and consumer groups.

5. Ongoing social media outreach.

6. Opportunities to promote your feature and TOR in general.

7. Access to your content for future years of the program! (You only pay once!)