

JUN - SEP 2024

YOUNG

CHRISTIAN WRITER



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Poetry Competition
Winners!

True Story Writing
Competition

Bible Quiz

Movie Review

A magazine of NZ Christian Writers

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Young Christian Writer Magazine

Young Christian Writer is our student magazine published three times a year by NZ Christian Writers.

WRITING SUBMISSIONS:

Send us your writing to be published in YCW magazine!

Email Kathryn:
ycwmag@nzchristianwriters.org

Note: Submissions should be emailed as a Word document with a maximum of 500 words by the 10th of the month before the next issue.

BOOK / MOVIE REVIEWS:

If you have enjoyed a Christian book or movie recently, you can send us your review (200 word limit).

Email your review to:
ycwmag@nzchristianwriters.org

JOIN AS A MEMBER:

Visit our website:
www.nzchristianwriters.org

Welcome to our Jun-Sep 2024 edition of *Young Christian Writer* magazine. If you are new to *NZ Christian Writers*, we want to extend to you a warm welcome. We're a creative group who love Jesus and enjoy writing. Many of us have published books. Some are professional authors and editors, and most of us are hobbyist writers who enjoy sharing stories and refining our craft in writing.

So, what can you expect from *Young Christian Writer* magazine? Over the coming editions of *Young Christian Writer*, readers can expect to see competitions, free giveaways, poetry, articles, short stories, puzzles, art, photography, book reviews and more. Our team tries to keep the content engaging and interesting so young writers can connect with our magazine.

A special thank you to our guest editor, Shing Stirling, who has offered her creative talents to help support the content layout and graphic design. We're delighted she can help serve *NZ Christian Writers* in this way. Our team trust you will find *Young Christian Writer* magazine to be an encouraging and inspiring resource "for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry" (Ephesians 4:12, NKJV).

EDITOR'S NOTE:



With love in Jesus Christ,

Kathryn

PRESIDENT'S NOTE:



As always, write on,

Justin St. Vincent

Have you ever looked at a picture and felt it spark a story in you, one that you're really itching to write? Or perhaps a real-life moment has set your imagination running. Have you thought about what motivates you to write? Is it an emotion, the desire to entertain someone or the hope to make a positive difference? Perhaps it's a combination of those things.

Something I love about writing is the unique content that flows out of my mind. I'm creating something that no one has ever read before. I can surprise, intrigue, entertain and educate my readers. I can take them to experiences they've never had. I feel free when I write. When I'm writing it's as if shackles have been removed and I can fly as free as a bird. When I invite the Holy Spirit to help me with my writing it's exciting. I'm eager to see what ends up on the page. I encourage you to relax, be free, be you and enjoy writing.

COMPETITION RESULTS:

Poetry Competition

WINNERS

SENIOR

Tishani
Vanniasingham

1ST
PLACE

JUNIOR

Keziah
Alexander

1ST
PLACE

Dannica
Knobel

2ND
EQUAL

Hannah
Stirling

2ND
EQUAL

POETRY COMPETITION INSTRUCTIONS

- Write a poem of any style, e.g., haiku, limerick, rhyme.
- Poem must include a Christian theme or message.
- Give your poem a title.
- Maximum of six verses/stanzas.
- Send in your poem as a Word document.

YCW would like to thank Ruth Linton, who was the judge for the poetry competition.



My Hope, your Future

by Tishani Vanniasingham

Age 20

SENIOR



My Lord, Father,
I do not know where this path leads.
This call to spread your word,
How do I sow the seeds?

You understand our flesh,
Made from clay and mud.
But you make us afresh.
You shed your blood.

It is the least I can do,
Rise to your call.
But with my fear, my shame,
I know I will fall.

Unworthy, afraid.
Nothing but dust.
How can I have hope
When I have little to trust?

My child,
Do not fret.
You know I paid your debt.
Do not listen to the serpent lie,
You know you cannot deny,
You are my love, you are my life,
However, there will be times of strife.
Remember, you are more than dust,
Made in my image, little one.
I am your Father, in whom you must trust.

Why?
Because I know your plans,
Wove them with my hands.
You will prosper, my love,
With these plans from above.
Do not worry, my child,
Your wounds I will suture,
Because these plans are my hope,
For you and your future.

The Good Samaritan

by Keziah Alexander

Age 15



A man on route to Jericho
One hot and sunny day
Knew not of greedy thieves who spied
Upon him by the way

Alas for him, they soon attacked
They fought with teeth and hands
They took his bag of money
And then left him in the sand

All stripped and bruised and beaten sore
He lay beneath the sun
A Levite and a local priest
Each passed him one by one

None stirred to help, nor slowed their steps
Each swiftly turned his gaze
So the man lay still till sunset splashed
The sand with crimson rays

T'was then a man of hated birth
Beside the Jew did halt
He bound his wounds with oil
And laid him upon his colt

Which proved to be the neighbour
Of the three who passed the man—
The Levite or the priest
Or the good Samaritan?

A Feather Embrace

by **Dannica Knobel**

Age 14



He promises to keep us and never leave us, He is covering us by the softest feather
His comfort is beautiful and continuous
To Jesus it means to lay down His life to hold us together
He's moulding us like clay, loving us forever
It's the feathers of His wings bringing warmth to the depths.
Jesus' soft feathery embrace is with us in every breath till' the next sunrise.

Creator God

by **Hannah Stirling**

Age 10



God created the sunset
Over the turquoise sea
God created colours
And God created me
He created people
The ones I saw on the street
He created everyone
Anyone I chance to meet



TRUE STORY COMPETITION:




Enter the next writing competition. Win a \$30 Manna Store voucher!

Instructions:

Write a true story about something that happened to you or a family member (if you choose a family member make sure you get their permission first).

Include in your story a mention of something the story causes you to be thankful to God for.

- 
- Give your story a title.
 - Maximum word count is 500 words. There is no minimum word count.
 - Send in your true story as a Word document.
 - Include your name, age and area where you live.
-

Email your entries with *YCW True Story Competition* in the subject line to:
yewmag@nzchristianwriters.org



Competition closes: **15 August 2024**

Anyone up to age 25 can enter. You are permitted to submit more than one entry. No entry fee. Competition results will be published in the next issue of *Young Christian Writer* magazine.

True or False?

Use your Bible to help you identify whether the following statements are true or false. Cross out the incorrect word and write the correct word in the blank.

True False

Jesus said, "It is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.'"

Correct word: _____

(Clue: Matthew 4:10)

True False

Jesus said, "I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it."

Correct word: _____

(Clue: Revelation 2:17)

True False

It is written in the Book of Psalms: 'Let his dwelling place be desolate, And let no one live in it.'

Correct word: _____

(Clue: Acts 1:20)

True False

Now the tablets were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of men engraved on the tablets.

Correct word: _____

(Clue: Exodus 32:16)

True False

It is written: "How beautiful are the hands of those who preach the gospel of peace."

Correct word: _____

Clue: Romans 10:15

True False

Even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

Correct word: _____

(Clue: John 21:25)

True False

In the law it is written: "With men of other tongues and other lips I will sing to this people."

Correct word: _____

Clue: 1 Corinthians 14:21

True False

You shall paint very plainly on the stones all the words of this law.

Correct word: _____

(Clue: Deuteronomy 27:8)

WHOOOPS!

by Mavis Glynn

The bus picked up speed as Jonathan frantically pumped the failing brakes. Through his mind flashed a clear picture, 'déjà vu'. He sent a prayer skyward and yelled at his passengers, "DOWN!"

Heads quickly disappeared below seats. He gripped the large wheel, his focus on the Bedford bus and the road. "We can do this old girl, we know each other and this road well. I'll give the orders, you listen and do."

He grabbed hold of the long, black floor gearstick, seat bouncing, while pushing his foot down on the clutch.

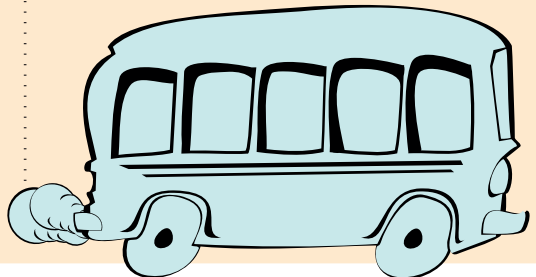
Suddenly he was in his déjà vu dream. A great smile adorned his face as they maneuvered down the hill and around the corners, fast and furious style! The old bus seemed to respond, complaining a little as Jonathan worked the clutch and gears.

Although from a worm's eye view they appeared to be almost airborne, as the road levelled out he could hear the motor grinding down. With great expertise he used the hand brake and

headed toward the road's edge to pull over. Amazingly the large vehicle shuddered safely to a halt. He let out a sigh, "Thank You, Jesus."


He looked back at his passengers, pleased to have the Intermediate Rugby Team and not the Senior Citizen's shopping group! Heads slowly popped up. As he enquired if all were okay, one boy jumped up exclaiming, "Cool! That was awesome!" There were shouts of agreement from most. A pale-looking coach was still a little shaken.


Jonathan stepped outside, patted the side of the bus, said, "Good job!"; then saw bags and sports gear strewn everywhere. The doors of the storage compartment had flapped open, releasing his cargo. He put his hand on his head, "Whoops!"



POETRY GROUP:



 Facebook: [TheOutSpokenPoetry](https://www.facebook.com/TheOutSpokenPoetry)

 Instagram: [theoutspokenpoetry](https://www.instagram.com/theoutspokenpoetry)

 YouTube: [@theoutspokenpoetry](https://www.youtube.com/@theoutspokenpoetry)

www.collectiveuni.com/theoutspoken

Contact: Ravi Prasad
raviprasad12@hotmail.co.nz

The OutSpoken Poetry NZ is a spoken word poetry collective based in Auckland, New Zealand.

Its origins began in 2013 with an initiative to facilitate workshops for high school students on Wednesday afternoons. What began as a space for young people to express themselves through performance poetry has transformed into a community for those of all ages and backgrounds.

The collective celebrated its 10th year in 2023 and continues to create opportunities for people to give spoken word poetry a go and to share their work in a safe space.

God's Character

by Hannah Stirling
Age 10

God
Merciful Loving
Forgiving Healing Helping
Patient Kind
Jesus



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MOVIE REVIEW:



Forgiven

Review by Kathryn Paul

The Gospel is creatively shared during a potentially life-threatening hostage situation. What would you do if you found yourself held at gunpoint inside a church building? How would you feel towards the criminal? This story raises these challenging thoughts.

Have you ever overreacted to an accident or mistake you've made and then done things that made it worse; until you felt there was no way out? *Forgiven* shows that hope is an option even if you feel everything has gone against you.

This movie is classed under drama, family and thriller. I would recommend it for mature viewers ten years and older, due to the content of fear, guns and threatening behaviour. The Bible is actively used in this story and that is an excellent aspect of the movie. This story would be great for small-group discussions. The cast includes Kevin Sorbo, who also acts in *Soul Surfer* and *God's Not Dead*.

WRITER'S HUMOUR:

Q: Why did Winnie the Pooh quit his job writing obituaries?
A: He didn't like being the bear of bad news.

I have a friend who writes songs about sewing machines. He's a Singer songwriter, or sew it seams.

**Dad jokes are the best and I'm now going to write why...
Why.**

I'm starting to write a book about a tornado disaster. It's just a draft at the moment.

**I've started writing German poetry.
Could be verse.**

true story noun

: an account of something that really happened

(Merriam Webster Dictionary)

You can write a true story in the form of:

- a news article
- a biography
- a journal entry
- a non-fiction article
- a creative non-fiction story
- a letter to someone telling them about something that happened
- or another creative way, as long as it is about something that is true



Here are some ideas to inspire you to get started:

1. Tell a personal story about a time when you lost something but were grateful when it was found.
2. Write about a time when your parents did something for you, which caused you to appreciate them more.
3. Tell about a memorable moment in your life.
4. Recreate the earliest significant experience you had with school or learning.
5. Share a story about trying something new.
6. Write about a time when you had to do something out of your comfort zone and how that changed your life.

by **Zoe-Ann Kite**

Age 8

Edited by Kathryn Paul

Prance the Racehorse!

The clock struck midnight and a ten-year-old girl named Doroth woke up to a mysterious sound.

Doroth stood up with her curly golden hair falling in a beautiful way. In the dark Doroth waited silently. Her long black dress with white flowers flowed around her legs. She lit the candle and walked downstairs hearing a clank sound under the cold wood. Everyone was asleep so it was silent with only the sound of rain. It was still silent when Doroth went outside. She didn't want to go back to sleep so she just stood in the rain.

The puddles were getting bigger. The mysterious sound came closer and she saw two men were pulling a lovely racehorse. It was an Arabian stallion! The men whipped it, but the horse collapsed on the wet ground. The men gave up and left him in the rain. Doroth stood up, herself also soaked in rain. It wasn't like a normal horse. It was a real horse with the perfect style for jumping. The horse came back to life and studied every single bit of Doroth's outline, then with no signal he vanished into mid-air. So Doroth went back to bed.

The next morning came and everybody woke up. The young maids made food while Doroth was still in bed. She was going to get up but didn't. Something felt like everything was going to fail. Who were those men? Doroth's mother quickly came upstairs with her black hair tangled in a rough plait. She said, "Doroth, a horse has been brought to us!"

Doroth sat up. The clock wouldn't stop an unusual clicking sound. She went outside then her mother came out and said, "Doroth, our neighbor Dottie and his son, Declan are coming over for dinner. You might be interested because they are good riders and Declan has invited you and the horse to go to his stables. Your father is going to keep the horse but only if it's trainable and he can get two more horses to ride and keep the horse company."

Would Doroth ever be able to get that Arabian for her own? She thought very hard but when she opened her eyes right before her was the magnificent, fantastic, incredible racehorse! The horse had big round eyes and a shiny silver coat with a white blaze. It was as fit as a horse could ever be. Doroth's jaw dropped. There was a bridle and saddle. The horse didn't look shy at all but in fact it nudged her as if asking her to ride him. He remembered her!

While she trembled on his back, Doroth wondered if he might have collapsed last night to save himself. Eventually, they started a walk, then pranced around, which was hard to deal with. Suddenly he went into a trot, then the fastest gallop Doroth had ever been on. After the day finished, she admitted that she had never ever had such a fun day. At dinner Declan ate quietly and Doroth thought of a perfect name, Prance.

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Connecting Christian
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inspire Christian writers
throughout New
Zealand

VALUES
Christian faith, God's
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quality and social
outreach

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change of address, queries)

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A stylized illustration in the background shows several people of various ethnicities and ages holding up a long, colorful banner. The banner has sections of red, grey, and yellow. The people are depicted in a flat, modern style with simple features. The overall color palette is soft and pastel, with light blues, pinks, and yellows. In the top left corner, there are white cloud shapes against a light blue background.

NZ CHRISTIAN writers

NZ CHRISTIAN WRITERS is a nationwide collective of authors, bloggers, editors, lyricists, poets, publishers, songwriters, storytellers and writers throughout New Zealand. Along with our bi-monthly magazines and competitions we offer inspiring seminars and writers retreats to encourage, inspire and upskill people in their writing.

NZ Christian Writers' vision is to create a vibrant community of Christian writers by connecting them to other like-minded writers in New Zealand. We welcome both beginner and experienced writers.