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AUGUST 2013 NEWSLETTER

The Speaker for our August Meeting is Kevin Garcia “Story Telling and Myth Making”



Oral storytelling is an art that helped legends and epics evolve for generations. Now modern storytelling can help develop new myths. This talk is a look back at classic epics from a modern perspective, and a look at how modern epics are created in similar ways.

Kevin Garcia is an educator and a freelance writer in Brownsville, Texas. After over a decade of professional journalism with newspapers and websites, he now teaches writing and publishing-related skills at Porter High School. For the past several years, he has been a contributing writer to the Official Handbook of the Marvel Universe and other publications with Marvel Comics.

**The Valley Byliners meets Saturday, August 10th, 1:30 pm
at the Harlingen Public Library
410 '76 Drive, Harlingen, TX**



The Winner of the June Writing Challenge was: “Wiley Coyote” by LeRoy Overstreet

The other entries were:

- “Off a Trifle” by **Judy Stevens**
- “The Pain of the Gunslinger” by **Frank Cortazo**
- “Are You a Bad Egg or a Good Egg” by **Edna Ratliff**
- “Exodus” by **Jose A. Alvarez**
- “Civics” by **Gene Novogrodsky**

The August Writing Challenge

For Valley Byliners Members only

Send your work of up to **1500** words to **Edna Ratliff** by **Aug 5th** to:

writerscontest2012@gmail.com.

- Edna will re-send your entry, sans the author’s name, to the membership.
- Each member can cast his or her vote by sending an e-mail to Edna or by voting in person at the Valley Byliners meeting.
- The winning author will receive \$10.00.

Please note

Every third month the Writing Challenge accepts works up to 4000 words in length. These months are:

- **March**
- **June**
- **September**
- **December**

Every other month the limit is 1500 words except for **May and November**, which are for poetry up to 60 lines long.

Critiquing the Monthly Writing Challenge entries:

Any author who wishes his or her entry to be critiqued must label his work “*Critique invited.*”

Anyone who would like to critique an entry can send the critique to Edna and Edna will forward the critique to the author. Edna asks that the critiques be sent to her no later than Wednesday of the week after our meeting and she will forward the critique to the author on the next day.

Critiquing is not mandatory and is at your discretion.

Looking Ahead
Valley Byliners Presenters

Aug 10— Kevin Garcia, “Story Telling and myth making
 Sept 14—Brenda Riojas, “Creativity”
 Oct 12—Nelda Perez
 Nov 9—Roger Young
 Dec 14—Christmas Party TBA
 Jan 11—TBA
 Feb 8—Writers Workshop
 March 8 —TBA
 April 12—TBA
 May 10—TBA
 June 14—Elizabeth Miller

Verne Wheelwright Emailed us this link:

<http://blogs.hbr.org/cs/2013/06/think-you-want-to-write-a-book.html>

It is an article from Harvard Business Review entitled “Should You Write a Book.” It is too long for this newsletter but it is something we think will strike a chord and that you will enjoy reading.

Thanks, Verne

For a list of other events that Valley writers might be interested in, check out **Edgar Clinton’s** website, **[Writers of the Rio Grande](#)**.