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Hello, all.

I'm thrilled you are part of this journey with me. Welcome!

First, the good news:

I received a Silver Honourable Mention for my entry to the Writers and Illustrators of the Future contest for the 1st quarter of 2023. This is the 40th year for this contest which attracts a "couple thousand" entries from around the globe each quarter. My entry last year received Honourable Mention for which I am still ecstatic, so to receive a Silver is even more exciting. I hope to share the short story soon, once I find a publication for it.

Which brings me to my other good news:

I now have 15 rejections from various journals and publications! On target to receive 100 rejections in 2023. Which, playing the odds, will result in 5 acceptances somewhere along the way. Wish me luck!

On the subject of publication, the Saskatoon Writers' Club Inc. is on schedule to publish its next anthology of short stories and poems this fall. I've submitted a short sequel to *Camelot Confidential* titled *Christmas Presents*.

In my personal novel-writing journey, I have submitted my first manuscript to a few publishers and imprints (for which I have received three rejections so far). *Princess* is one of those stories that has been in my head for decades (I found the original first chapter handwritten in the 1990s) and was finally put on "paper" in 2018. It has since gone through several rewrites, three beta readers, and the Saskatchewan Writers' Guild manuscript evaluation service. I'm hoping for an indie press or science fiction/fantasy romance imprint to publish the book.

The other completed manuscript which went through the SWG manuscript evaluation service is scheduled for a professional edit at the beginning of May and is also in the hands of a beta reader. Once feedback is in and final revisions made, I plan to submit it to an imprint that publishes fiction set in the 1980s.

I will post updates to my website and share the most exciting news in this newsletter.

Thanks for being interested enough to read this!
Monica

