

# 1st Annual 8-Word Mystery Contest

• Sept 1 thru Oct 31 •

Enter as  
many times  
as you like!

WIN  
**\$25**  
VISA Gift Card

**\$8**  
per Entry  
(tax deductible)



Sponsored by

Friends of the Watauga Library, a 501 (c) (3) organization  
and the Cook the Books Mystery/Crime Fiction Book Club

## PARTICIPANT ENTRY FORM

name (please print)

address

city state zip

phone

email

Must be 18 or older to enter.  
Check here confirming you are 18+.

(Office use only)

## CREATIVE WORKS RELEASE FORM

### PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE CREATIVE WORKS

I certify that the submission to the 8-Word Mystery Contest is my own original work. I give my permission for the Watauga County Public Library and/or Friends of the Watauga Library to reproduce my entry resulting from my participation in the 8-Word Mystery Contest. I understand that the purpose is to promote the Watauga County Public Library and its services/programs. I give my permission with the following understanding: **No compensation of any kind will be paid to me at this time or in the future for the use of my 8-Word Mystery Contest entry.**

I understand that the Watauga County Public Library and/or Friends of the Watauga Library may record via photo, video and/or audio the events or activity in which I am participating as a result of this contest. I give my permission for the Watauga County Public Library and/or Friends of the Watauga Library to use photographs, audio, and/or video of me for the purpose of promoting the Watauga County Public Library and its services/programs. I give my permission with the following understanding: **No compensation of any kind will be paid to me at this time or in the future for the use of my likeness or audio contributions.**

(please sign)

### 8- WORD MYSTERY (must be 8 words - no more/no less)

- Submit your mystery story within the box below.
- Sign the Creative Works Release Form above.
- Include payment of \$8 (\$1 per word). Checks should be made payable to **Watauga County Public Library**.

(Office use only)

## CONTEST DESCRIPTION

One story, eight words.

There have been many versions of the 6, 7, and 8-word story in the past. As early as 1906 a newspaper classified section called "Terse Tales of the Town," published an eight-word story that read, "For sale, a baby carriage, never been used."

It is said a 6-word story was penned after a ten-dollar bet Ernest Hemingway made at lunch with some other writers. Hemingway collected the winnings!

So harness your imagination and see if you can write a mystery in 8 words! Have fun and play along - it becomes addictive!

### RULES & HOW TO ENTER

- Download an entry form at [www.arlibrary.org/watauga](http://www.arlibrary.org/watauga) or pick up a form at the Watauga County Public Library, 140 Queen Street, Boone, NC 28607. If downloading, please print the form on letter size paper.
- Create an eight (8) word mystery story.
- Anyone who is 18 years old or older can enter - county residence and/or library membership is not required.
- Each submission must be the creative and original work of a single individual (No plagiarizing! No co-authors on a form!)
- Entries must be submitted to the Watauga County Public Library at 140 Queen Street, Boone, NC 28607. You may mail entries or drop them off at the Circulation Desk during library hours.
- There is no limit to the number of entries a person can submit; however, a separate entry form must be used for each entry along with its signed release and tax deductible entry fee of \$8. Receipts will be issued immediately at the Circulation Desk for drop-off entries. Mail-in entries will receive receipts via email in November.
- The Watauga County Public Library and/or Friends of the Watauga Library reserve the right to reproduce your work.
- The contest runs from **September 1, 2018 to October 31, 2018 at 7pm.** Late entries will be disqualified.
- Submissions not selected as top three (3) entries will be shredded.

### JUDGING

A team of 5 judges from the literary community will individually rank submissions received.

The scores will be tallied and the entry with the highest rank will be declared the winner.

In case of a tie, award winning author, Robert Inman, will determine the winner.

### PRIZE

There will be one (1) winner declared for the first annual contest. A \$25 VISA gift card will be the prize for the winning entry.

### AWARD RECEPTION

A free reception for all participants will be held!

**Evelyn Johnson Meeting Room  
Watauga County Public Library  
140 Queen Street, Boone, NC 28607**

**Nov 13, 2018  
5-7pm**

The top three (3) entries will be exhibited at this event and the prize for the winner's 8-word mystery will be awarded. **You do not have to be present to win.**

## 8-Word Mystery Contest

Visit [www.arlibrary.org/watauga](http://www.arlibrary.org/watauga) for this form!



(828) 264-8784

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