



## **RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR *DELAY: A COMICS ANTHOLOGY***

### **1. Theme**

The theme of this comics anthology is “delay”. The stories must be inspired by and/or take place within Southeast Asia. The theme could be interpreted

- As an element of the plot and/or
- As a comics technique.

### **2. Content Eligibility**

Content must be:

- Original fiction of any genre, and not currently under review or previously published by a publisher. We accept stories that have been self-published on personal blogs, personal social media accounts, personal websites, platforms like Webtoons and Tapas, e-newsletters like Substack, Patreon, or elsewhere. We will also accept excerpts from longer work if they can be understood as a standalone without the need for additional context.
- 10–20 pages long.
- Black & white.
- Written in the English language. Where integral to the story, the use of non-English languages in dialogue or as sound effects is welcome.
- Suitable for readers aged 13 and above, containing no explicit content, including but not limited to graphic language, depictions of violence, drugs, and sex.
- The submission must not contain any AI-generated content.

**Creators/creative teams whose stories are selected will be working with the anthology editors to prepare it for publication. Selected creators/creative teams should expect – and look forward to! – a professional and highly collaborative editorial process intended to support the development of the story to its full potential.**

### **3. Creator Eligibility**

Creators must be:

- Living in Southeast Asia, of Asian descent
- Aged 18 and above upon submission.
- Creators can submit as an individual or as a team.
- Multiple submissions are accepted, up to a maximum of 3 submissions per creator.
- Creators/creative teams must own all copyrights to their submitted work.
- Difference Engine reserves the right to request for verification of eligibility.

### **4. Submission Guidelines: Round 1 (Call for Submissions)**

Submissions must include:

- A written story pitch (500-800 words) outlining the plot, including the ending, typed in Arial, font size 11, single-spaced.
- One page of thumbnails or one page of concept sketches of characters/settings.



- A portfolio sample of three illustrations.
- A short biography of each creator (50-100 words).
- A completed and signed entry form.
  
- All of the above needs to be compiled into a single PDF file no more than 10MB.
- Label the PDF file with the title of the story.
- Email the file to [submissions@differenceengine.sg](mailto:submissions@differenceengine.sg) with the subject header “DELAY Submission: [title of the story]”.
- All submissions must be in soft copy. Difference Engine will not accept any hard copy submissions.

Timeline for this round:

- Round 1 Call for Submissions closes on **26 April 2024, 11.59pm GMT +8.**
- Shortlisted creators will be informed by **24 May 2024** if their submission has been selected for Round 2 (Final Selection for Publication).

## **5. Submission Guidelines: Round 2 (Final Selection for Publication)**

Creators/creative teams will be requested to submit:

- A full script with page and dialogue instructions.
- Five pages of thumbnails.
- One page of finished comics.

Timeline for this round:

- Round 2 submissions close on **16 August 2024, 11.59pm GMT +8.**
- Final creators/creative teams whose stories are selected for publication will be informed by **27 September 2024.**

## **6. Publication Details**

Creators/creative teams selected after Round 2 will be offered a contract in **September 2024.**

*DELAY: A Comics Anthology* will be published in print and digital formats.

Estimated Publication Date: **September 2025**

## **7. Payment**

Stories selected for publication will receive a page rate of US\$30 (or the creators' local currency equivalent). Creative teams may determine the payment division between them.

Each creator will receive two complimentary copies (up to a maximum of six copies per submission).

## **8. Rights Requested**



Exclusive first world anthology rights for one year from the date of publication in both print and digital formats.

Continuing non-exclusive rights to print and reprint as this anthology for 10 years from the date of publication in both print and digital formats.

Copyright to the published work will remain with the creator(s).

## **9. PDPA**

Difference Engine will take all reasonable efforts to ensure that your personal data is securely handled according to the guidelines set out by the Personal Data Protection Act of Singapore.

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*Updated 29 February 2024*

*Difference Engine reserves the right to amend these rules and regulations at any time without prior notice. We will take reasonable efforts to communicate key changes.*