



Sweet Summer Sweat '17

General guidelines:

- Entries can be in any format: prose, poetry, drama, comic, or a combination
- There is no word limit
- Plagiarism is a sin

Colourless Green Walrus Sleep Furiously

Chomsky famously used “Colourless green ideas sleep furiously” to show the distinction between syntax and semantics. Since then, many have attempted, often with a story that ends with the quote, to give meaning to the otherwise nonsensical, but grammatically correct, construction. Write a backstory for a nonsensical quote or song lyric or limerick... you get the gist. Brownie points for guessing the second reference in the title :)

Where do vanished objects go?

“Somewhere in the cosmos along with all the planets inhabited by humanoids, reptiloids, fishoids, walking treeoids and superintelligent shades of the color blue, there was also a planet entirely given over to ballpoint life forms. And it was to this planet that unattended ballpoints would make their way, slipping away quietly through wormholes in space to a world where they knew they could enjoy a uniquely ballpointoid lifestyle, responding to highly ballpoint-oriented stimuli, and generally leading the ballpoint equivalent of the good life.”

- Douglas Adams

You had always wondered where lost things end up. All the socks your dryer never bothered to return and all the ballpoint pens that disappeared from your desk, do they live somewhere... else now? What about all those people who seemingly disappear entirely, to be seen again only in newspaper cutouts?

Thoughts like these never help when you're lost yourself, do they?

Chronosynclastic Infundibulum

From Kurt Vonnegut's 1959 book, "The Sirens of Titan", the Chronosynclastic Infundibulum is a dimension where all the different kinds of truths fit together, and where there are many different ways to be **absolutely** right about everything. A Mathematical singularity where infinity ends, two parallel lines meet in Euclidean space, the last several digits of Pi can be seen and the entire number forms a perfect palindrome etc. Those caught in it could exist at all points in time in one place and also appear at another point for say, five minutes.

In a world that has long forgotten what Vonnegut knew, you and a handful others are the only ones who remember. So when a devious demagogue who charms with doublespeak comes along, you know exactly where he's come from.

2meta2fast

Write a piece about a character who starts noticing all the bad cliches of a hurriedly written story all around him. Like thunderstorms whenever they go to a funeral. Or the one where a criminal monologues long enough to be caught. Or a writing prompt asking people to write a story about a character who realizes they are a piece of fiction.

#SorryNotSorry

Satanic Intervention

You die and go to hell for committing one of the seven deadly sins - pride, greed, lust, envy, gluttony, wrath and sloth. However, you are not greeted with fire and brimstone, but a demon/demoness that smuggled you away and is apparently... your biggest fan.

Unremarkable Protagonist and the Stationary Tale

Write a piece where nothing happens. There is no imminent danger, no revolution on its brink, no gods, demons, extra dimensions that threaten us. Illuminate to us the beauty, or the despair, or the humour, of the mundane.