

Local Christian Writers' Group Helps Author Hone His Craft

By Kate Wolfe

Dan Gray is a musician and author from Hart, Michigan, whose writing specialty is in the genre of science fiction. Dan has published a story, *Amid the Transmoglier's Lenses*, in the 2013 anthology, *The Transformation Project*, by the West Michigan chapter of his writers' group, Word Weavers International.

When Dan began to write *Amid the Transmoglier's Lenses*, he wrote from the point of view of one of his creatures from a different visual plane, who functioned as the story's protagonist. Writing from the view of this character suited Dan's style well; yet through advice from his writers' group, he changed the point of view to that of a scientist who became the main protagonist. As the scientist attempts to save the earth from an apocalyptic solar flare, his machine explodes, causing a visual rift, exposing the invisible world of the creatures to the scientist. The resulting rift enables the scientist to see into this world and to communicate with the creatures that inhabit it. Through contact with the creatures,



the scientist is transformed into a new creature himself.

"Getting my first story published was a good feeling," Dan says. "But I still asked myself if a clear message had appeared out of the story. I also felt that I could have spent more time expanding and editing."

Dan has continued working on the story, adapting it into a short film script.

Amid the Transmoglier's Lenses is currently on sale on Amazon.com as part of the 2013 Word Weavers anthology.

"Someday I may be able to publish a collection of my short stories," Dan says.

Dan is in process of writing several other stories including *The Rogue Synapse*, and *The Cheese Troll*.

The Rogue Synapse tells of a people seeking to escape from a life of slavery under robotic overlords, who force them to mine an asteroid for an unknown treasure.

The Cheese Troll, which is the story's working title, is an epic venture into a fantastic world of trolls, gigantic beetles, and underwater cities. Dan has incorporated the element of poetry, which accents the flavor of the story's world, and is put into song by the young daughters of the protagonist.

Dan has taken all of these stories to his local Norton Shores Word Weavers small group. He has been a member of Word Weavers International for around six years.

"I learned of the writing group that met through the Meet UP site as I attended a Maranatha Christian Writer's Conference," Dan explains. "I joined the group the following year. Then, one or two years later, the group formally joined the International Word Weavers group."

Dan enjoys the time of fellowship with other Christian writers and the friendly critique sessions in a small group setting.

As a musician, Dan enjoys playing the bass trombone in B-BOP, the Big Band Of Praise, based in Holland, Michigan.

"The Lord has blessed me," Dan says, "and He's given me lots of great experiences traveling to my band's events, and writing extravaganzas."

Like Dan's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/spacerdan

See unique updates at: www.twitter.com/DanStardan

Information on the Big Band Of Praise can be found on their website at: www.bigbandofpraise.com

If you are a Christian writer, please feel free to visit one of the local Word Weavers West Michigan meetings which are held on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month from 5:45 - 7:45 p.m. at the Norton Shores Public Library, 705 Seminole Road. For more information on Word Weavers International or Word Weavers West Michigan, please check out the website: www.word-weavers.com.



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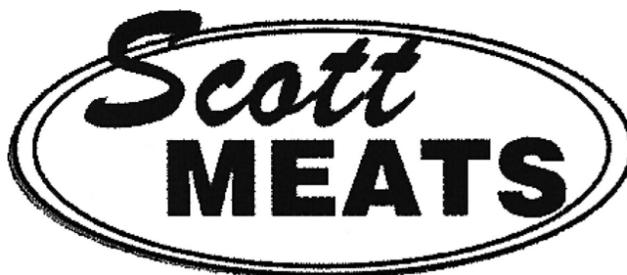
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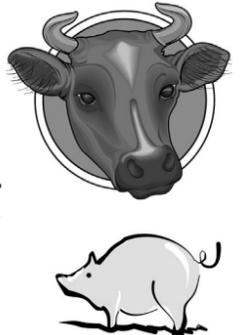


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