



# PROJECT OBSESSION

[www.TrainwreckProductions.org/Obsession](http://www.TrainwreckProductions.org/Obsession)

**PROJECT OBSESSION** is a community playwriting project by Trainwreck Productions. In a series of photographs found on our website, actors have been captured in tableaux at various locales in our hometown of Dubuque, IA. We are asking writers – locally and nationally – to be inspired by the photographs and our theme, “Obsession.” Tell us the story of an image in the series in the form of a one-, two-, or three-person theatrical scene. Trainwreck Productions will review the writing submissions, ultimately selecting and editing scenes to create one unified, character-driven theatre production with overlapping relationships and a visceral, multifaceted theme. Trainwreck Productions will present the production as a part of their upcoming season.

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## REQUIREMENTS

1. Scenes must be inspired by one of the “Obsession” photos posted online at [www.TrainwreckProductions.org/Obsession.php](http://www.TrainwreckProductions.org/Obsession.php).
2. Scenes should have the same number and gender of characters as the impetus photo.
3. The scene must somehow incorporate your interpretation of the theme “obsession.” No judgment. Doesn’t have to have good or bad implications.
4. All scenes must be contemporary. No period, past or future settings.
5. *Dialogue* may not exceed 2000 words. (The 2000-word limit does not include stage directions, formatting, etc.)

## GUIDELINES

We are asking for play scenes. This means we are looking for *scripts* in which characters *speak* and *do*.

### THINGS WE LIKE:

- **Plot** – An interesting, well-developed story; events that lead to a plausible, satisfying climax; and conflict with clear reason.
- **Characters** – Real, engaging people who are motivated to grow or change in believable ways.
- **Dramatic Action** – Look it up.
- **Short Plays/Scenes** – We are *not* accepting short stories. If a character is telling a story, they must be trying to DO something with it. “To tell” or “to share” is not a fantastic objective to play on stage.

### THINGS WE DON’T LIKE: *Please avoid the following...*

- Scenes set in bars, coffee shops, or high school
- Scenes with scene/setting changes
- Scenes requiring complex or expensive sets
- Characters who are writers, playwrights, or actors
- Scenes built on singular gimmicks
- Scenes containing graphic violence or sex
- Unmotivated or extraneous profanity (profanity that advances story, relationship, or character is fine)
- Demanding pre-approval of any edits we make
- Inquires about the status of your submission

**FEEL FREE TO BEND OUR REQUIREMENTS/GUIDELINES ONLY IF THE RESULT IS AN INCREDIBLE SUBMISSION.**

## SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

1. **SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2014.**
2. Email your submission as a single Word document attachment to [decker@trainwreckproductions.org](mailto:decker@trainwreckproductions.org).
3. Multiple submissions (each in their own Word document) are allowed.
4. Please write this in the subject line: **SUBMISSION: Title of Your Piece by Your Name.** (e.g.: SUBMISSION: Drugs are Bad by Jonathan Rand.)
5. In the body of your submission email, include a clever two-sentence bio written in the third person. No cover letters are necessary or desired. Give us cleverly worded insight into who you really are or imagine yourself to be.
6. Wait patiently.
7. Very patiently.

## TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. **Credit:** If your piece is selected for inclusion, you will be credited by your name, either as the playwright of your scene or as a contributing playwright to the entire project.
2. **Alterations:** By submitting, you are granting Trainwreck Productions permission to edit and alter your work for the purpose of crafting it into the framework and cohesiveness of the entire production/script. Alterations are intended to be minimal, but may include the changing of character names and the addition of dialogue to establish relationships to the characters and storylines of other included scenes.
3. **Rights & Royalties:** By submitting, you are granting Trainwreck Productions the sole rights to publishing, producing, and/or otherwise profiting from your submitted work, including alterations or variations thereof. We cannot pay you for your accepted submission (we have a lot of overhead and little income), but we still love you. If we become capable of reasonably doing so, we would like to try and compensate you, but we can make no promises.

*Thank you for your interest and participation in our project. Whether or not your piece(s) is accepted, we hope that you will find this project a rewarding experience.*

*For more information about Trainwreck Productions, visit us online at [www.TrainwreckProductions.org](http://www.TrainwreckProductions.org).*

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