

Steve's Logs for all of 2013!

Steve's Log: Jan. 17th 2013

Aw the New Year is upon us... And it will be a joyful one indeed. Lots in store, many stories to write and publish. Fingers crossed, maybe this is my year; maybe... it is!

On the release list is:

Steve's Hallowe'en Story Part II: After arriving back home and finding the city they saved deserted, the group of friends head to Dave's, the one who stayed behind, to figure out what's going on. What they discover is the city was overrun by a hoard of zombies which they now find themselves in the midst of. Now, searching for a vehicle that still runs, they try to find out what exactly happened while staying away from the fresh craving undead...

Steve's Canada Day: A choose your own adventure where you are Stu, the new guy in the group, invited over to Steve's for a game of cards. Just as the game starts, you find yourself in the middle of an alien invasion! Now you must figure out which group members to follow if you want to make it out alive...

Plus another Collection of Short Stories will be available soon!

Take care and enjoy 2013!

Steve's Log: Jan. 30th 2013

The second Hallowe'en Story is out, now working on polishing up Part III. With the finishing touches on the Canada Day story and the second Larry and Harry, it's going to be a good year for sure.

I had entered a contest using the Larry and Harry story but regretfully I didn't win. But I didn't mind, I read over the story and found the missing piece. It's funny, a rejection or not coming in first, isn't always a bad thing; it's what you take from the experience that matters.

The third installment of this Hallowe'en Series takes the group to a whole new level of fear; their inner demons. Dealing with the guilt and training nonstop they begin to have mysterious nightmares that are becoming more and more real the closer the anniversary of that tragic day comes. With little sleep, they struggle to find out who's behind it and how to stop it.

Steve's Log: Feb 7th 2013

Finishing touches are being made to the Canada Day alien invasion story and I must say; it's looking great.

Next up is the third chapter in Steve's Hallowe'en Story which is also looking stunning.

So much to write, so little time. I also need to figure out a great advertising idea to get the word out. I don't mind spending money, like the saying goes, "You need to spend money to make money." But I just need to be confident the money spent is worth every penny. Even if up here in Canada, we cut out the penny. "A penny saved is one earned."

Lots of great stories are coming out, 2013 is looking like a great year for exciting tales for all to read. Well, I better get back at it and write on!

Until next time, stay warm out there.

Steve's Log: Mar. 3rd 2013

I entered my short story titled, Mysterious Invite into a contest located on Authorstand.com

A first person spooky tale that will keep you glued the entire time no doubt. After reading a mysterious email inviting you to your high school reunion with a haunted house theme, you can't resist. After entering the deserted home, your paranoia peaks, as something mysterious is going on...

Fingers crossed.

Smashword has a read an e-book this week promotion going on and Steve's Short Story Collections is available for free for the duration.

With the snowstorms and the abundance of snow outside, good thing I have lots of pending projects on the go and designing cool covers for future e-books.

Stay warm and safe out there. Until next time, Steve

Mar. 23rd 2013

Added my Mother's Day poem of 2011 in the poetry corner, will add last year's soon too. I have a few more I pulled out of the archives to post.

Apr. 5th 2013

As Dave would always say, "What's with this lousy Smarch weather we've been having?" And I couldn't agree more. Is it September, or is it April? With the random flurries, I guess it makes for interesting topics for conversation.

But lousy weather means more writing can ensue; a good excuse to lock oneself inside his office, in front of the computer and write away, no distractions; just down to business... Oh wait, is that battlefield calling? Maybe hop on WoW and see what's going on, join a raid or a random BG...

Unlike the old days, a rainy/flurry day doesn't mean you can't hang out with your friends... they used to be a great reason to get a pen in hand and jot down idea's I've had over the last few days. But in the same breath, I have to give a hats off to technology, without it, I wouldn't have this site or E-Books published on sever writing sites.

A great way to look at things, now let's see some spring weather out there!

Until next time, write or read on!

Steve's Log: April 27th 2013

It's so true what they say, a writer's story is never complete in their own mind. Even after they've been over it, rewriting, revising, perfecting the story, they will never be satisfied. At the time, sure, it looks great. Even after a few years, many stories later, they will go back to it, read it over and go... "Hmm, I could have done that or maybe this." But sometimes, that could spark another story in itself.

That's why maybe I find it so hard to share and tell myself, this is done. Because I know, a few months or even years down the road, I'll look back on it and say to myself, "I could have done better/something else here."

And I did, I rewrote my little Bic, the Ballpoint Pen story, edited and tinkered with Steve vs the Poisonous Cloud, which was always lacking something, but they are just fun little anecdotes.

It just proves, if you think you're stuck with writers block on a project, venture back, read your old stuff, it'll get those creative juices flowing again.

Well, back at it, until next time folks, enjoy this weather!

Steve's Log: May 11th 2013

What a day today, I woke up with the intent of spending the morning off writing. Going to get a cup of coffee and just relax and get lost in my own imagination for a while. But when I woke up, my head was pounding; I had the sniffles and could barely think straight.

It's funny, as writers we have exercises to overcome writer's block, or find a new muse or go someplace for inspiration. But when it feels like Superman is squeezing your head, or Thor is smiting you with his hammer constantly, or it just hurts to keep those eyes open from the blinding light, there's nothing you can do but pop some meds and get some rest.

Don't get me wrong, I tried to power through, but I just couldn't take staring at the blank white screen anymore and had to power the computer down. Not wanting to be totally defeated, I was determined to get some writing down so I pulled out the old trusty and dusty notebook and grabbed my loyal pen and sat there in my bed, mind totally blank. It hurt to imagine anything but closing my eyes and resting.

When I woke up hours later, the pills finally wore off, I looked down at the paper and wouldn't you believe it, an entire story I had written out in my subconscious slumber... No I'm kidding, some scribbles and crumpled paper lied next to me.

They say, write on, but some days, you need to just listen to your body and hope the next day, or even a few hours from now, you'll be back at it! And here I am.

Until next time, stay healthy and enjoy this great weather!

Steve's Log: May 26th 2013

Nothing like finding a nice tree to sit and lean against while pulling out the old laptop, nestle that cup of coffee on the grass and get to writing. Although, I find it strange to be writing a sci-fi adventure when it's so sunny out here... especially when I'm trying to imagine a scene of poor Strider floating aimlessly through the darkness of space confined in a spacesuit to sneak aboard an Alliance port. Maybe a change of scenery is in order? But it's so cozy here; so no.

I don't have much to update, except I'm working on multiple stories and hoping to get some out available soon. I did some touching up on the website, jazzed it up some and I think I like it. I'm going back to enjoy this lovely weather we're having up here.

Until next time, have fun in the sun!

Steve's Log: June 8th 2013

The weather is a funny thing isn't it? The start of spring felt more like summer it was so gorgeous, but not, as the closing days of spring inch closer, it feels more and more like spring, heck, even fall. I know there are some who don't believe in global warming or that our wonderful planet is just fine, this kind of scares me. I don't know much about the technical terms or what's actually happening, but warm winters, hot springs... something doesn't add up. Maybe a good story is in there... wait, that's been done before. :D

I should go back to polishing up The Colbert Ops and the next Hallowe'en Story and get them out there.

Until next time, stay cool out there

Steve's Log: June 28th 2013

With the weather being all muggy, it's nice to sit in front of the fan and get some writing/editing done. But even with editing yourself, or asking friends to proofread (for free, thanks all) we miss and make simply mistakes. It's funny, spell check, the keen eye of a few readers and you can still miss obvious mistakes and errors. Even when I upload a file and it's converted into E-Book format, it tells me it doesn't detect any errors, but there they are, like ninjas, in the shadows, between the lines, and when they want to, pounce out and say, "Hey, here I am!" when you don't want them too.

I'm not a professional writer, just a man with a passion, so I think it's expected to make minor mistakes here and there. We learn from our mistakes, so with that said, if we didn't make them, would we ever learn? I guess the next project I'll have to quadruple check and then respell check and still I know there will be little errors present; it's just life. I've read books with misspelled words before, I'm just glad with an E-Book; I can fix, adjust and re-upload the book.

So, this is my pre-emptive apology folks, sorry for any grammatical error you come across or misspelled word you find, like Waldo, they are there but not on purpose, so if you see one, please let me know so I can adjust accordingly.

Well, back to writing I just want to thank you all for reading what I have to write and hope you enjoy it as much as I do writing. Stay cool out there!

Steve's Log: July 3rd 2013

It's time I figured I should really stop kidding myself and come to terms with reality... I'm no writer, just someone who writes in his spare time for himself, someone who enjoys his own tales and that's it.

Anyone I gave a story to, sure if they read it, had some nice things to say, but that's even if they took the half an hour out of their "busy" day to read and help me out. I guess I'm expecting too much out of people I consider family, or close friends. But if I can't even get people I know interesting in sitting down to read my work, how can I expect a total stranger to give me the time of day?

Maybe further down the road, when I start to make or come across more money I will be able to afford to pay someone to help me publish my work, but until that farfetched day, I'll just have to cap the old pen, close the notepad and tuck future and pending projects to the back of my mind and close the door to my imagination... perhaps even forever.

So this is Steve from Steve's Short Story.com waving goodbye and saying thanks, give it a few years when I'm six feet under to be noticed or "Discovered."

I really wish now, seeing how it turned out, that I never took the chance last year and made my own website or put up some EBooks on sites, that way, none of my work would ever have gone out there and I would have always been curious, "What if?"

I think being that curious, never knowing how it ends is much better off than going all the way through the story to find out the ending was jam packed with misery and despair. Who would continue going on if they saw their ending was going to be a sad, lonely and pathetic one... that's right, a small margin of them; if any at all.

Even now, being 33 and where I am, half way through my story of life, if I went back to chapter 4, my twenties and showed myself this section of my life, you bet your ass I'd wish it was a choose your own path and select another choice than the ones I made. I wouldn't want to repeat this minimum wage journey, living in a room at my buddies place, going absolutely nowhere in life.

Steve's Log: July 15th 2013

It's so warm out there and the humidity is to blame as it has now become the new evil out there, stalking the outside, looking for a way to seep in. Just sitting here, writing, I'm sweating buckets, and I have two fans blowing on me. The sweat sticking to my skin, a cold shower did help, but only for so long. Ice cold water is also helping, although I find myself pressing the cup against my forehead more than drinking it.

As I've stressed before, man I find editing tedious and boring, but just as important as the rest of the writing procedure, if not the most. But in this heat, it can be overbearing at times, but luckily, I have ample amounts of other projects that could use some attention too.

Soon, Larry and Harry will make their pushing debut, and I know they're just as exciting about it as I am, maybe Harry will soon have some logs of his own to share in this journal, who knows.

Well, until next time, stay cool and hydrated. Back to writing for me.

Steve's Log: Aug 13th 2013

I keep getting told I over think way too much and need to just believe in myself and get it done. That idea alone got me thinking, yes, probably too much no doubt. I need to just take a deep breath and take a chance. But... not buts, just go with your gut!

I keep struggling with the Larry and Harry adventures, is it good enough, is it too much for the readers, will they understand what I'm trying to get at with some of the scenes. I just need to get them out there and let you, the readers tell me what you think. Maybe I can't redo, but I can improve in the future, what doesn't kill you makes you stronger right?!

With that said I also completed the Colbert Ops and plan on touching up the third part to Steve's Hallowe'en Story, maybe wait to release it until Halloween... hmm.

I have lot's still on the desk ready to be started, finished, edited so I better get back at it. Meanwhile, enjoy the weather, take those ereaders out there and find a shady spot!

Until next time, your pal Steve

Steve's Log: Sept. 7th 2013

Oh boy, it's been a while since I wrote made a log entry. Sorry, it's been busy. Between which story to focus on, a new job opportunity which ultimately failed, it's been hard to find a few minutes to jot down a thought.

I've been getting some reviews on some of the stories I've been posting on other sites and have been getting good, positive feedback. Which is good, it shows me that I'm on the right path. Although, I find, the negative feedback helps you grow, I mean, don't get me wrong, any day of the week I rather receive; "That's awesome!" "Keep it up!" "I loved this story, keep on writing!" over the alternative; "This sucks, worst thing I've ever read." "What were you thinking, just stop now." "Really, you thought this was good

enough to write, switch your dream job pal.” Which aren’t helpful negative feedback that I was referring to, just popped in my mind while I was searching for examples.

I rather get, “This is not bad, however....” Enter some constructing criticism and helpful solution to make the story work. Even in a bad story, a good story is hiding, waiting for someone to sort through it all and sift out what makes it bad.

Anyways, I better get back at it, it’s raining out, which means a great excuse to get some much needed writing done.

Until next time, stay dry and if you’re in school, study and read!

Steve’s Log: Sept. 25th 2013

Some days I hate writers block, other days, I can’t thank it enough. The rainy days where you find yourself stuck on a scene or ending and can’t focus on it anymore. So today, instead of taking a break and doing something else entirely (usually to get my mind off it and start fresh, I find it helps) instead I pulled out my plastic bin I refer to as, “Steve’s archives.” My archive is where I keep everything I’ve ever written on actual paper (I know, weird nowadays) and my old, filled up journals.

I like to reflect back to them every now and then, see where I was, what I was thinking and how certain older stories were developed. It’s so weird to see how differently I think now and how far I’ve come since. I have stuff I wrote back when I was twelve. (I’m thirty-three now, a long time ago) It’s like stepping into a time machine and going back. I can’t do it too often, because then it would lose the emotional connection I think.

But this time was different. I was looking in an old notebook and saw an idea that I had scratched out. I guess back then, I didn’t like the idea or just thought it wasn’t the right time, but as I looked over my past self’s notes, creativity sparked. And now, I have a new story in the works... Bye Bye Writer’s Block!

Well, I better get writing, until next time, Steve

Steve’s Log: Oct. 16th 2013

Halloween is approaching and that means, getting the third installment to the Steve’s Hallowe’en Story polished and ready to publish. I’m going to try and hopefully, release part IV as well. Just means I’ll need to design a cover page and edit and fine tune.

And let’s not forget that NaNoWriMo is creeping up as well. I had so much fun doing it last year; I’m going to give it another shot. I had much success, ok, I only got 25,000 which is technically half way, but I’m a short story writer, I completed Steve’s Hallowe’en Story part VIII. So it was a victory to me.

This year I plan on writing for it, the Colbert Mandate. Click on the note I’ve made on the backboard for more details.

Until next time, write/read on and have fun!

Steve's Log: Oct. 25th 2013

I like poetry, don't get me wrong, but not the sappy, meaningful, you need a moment to think of what the poet was trying to get across. I know many will disagree, but poetry to me needs some sort of rhyming structure. It's part of the poetry challenge isn't it? Sure, I could write nonsense that would make sense to some, have not fluidity, no timing... can I call that poetry?

I like theme poetry as much as comedy. I get inspiration from previous brilliant minds. My next project, Twas the night of Hallows Eve (Steve's Hallowe'en Poem) I've been trying to get in the mood for a while now. Of course, what better time to get into the spooky writing mood than right now! I've posted what I have so far on the facebook page, I'm pretty impressed with it so far.

Well, back to writing, and go away frost, no one wants to scrap you off the windshield ok!

Steve's Log: Nov. 9th 2013

9 days into NaNo! Oh boy, am I terrible at this. So many distractions need to focus. This just tells me that I couldn't cut it being a professional writer. I hate deadlines, I feel the need to over think scenes, I just can't aimlessly write. But I feel I need to do this because it will make me a better writer in the end. Like the old saying, "Whatever does kill you, makes you stronger!" 50,000 words by the end of the month... ok, we'll see. If I finish a rough draft of the Colbert Mandate, I'll call that a success. I don't need a word count; I need a project finished count. I mean I can write 50,000 words, it'll be a wordy, over descriptive piece where all the characters will be over acting, trying to out-speak one another.

I just had a chuckle and a good idea. Rewrite the story when I'm done and turn it into an over the top, over acted, overly descriptive story. I know some people like that... but it's only supposed to be a short story, not a short story turned novel by word count.

Until next time, keep those fingers typing!

Steve's Log: Nov. 16th 2013

15 days into NaNo, halfway there and I completed The Colbert Mandate! Nice, 19,500 words. Now, like I planned, onto the third installment to this sci-fi series; The Colbert Files. I have some idea's written down, but still unsure where I'm going. I hope I can keep writing, get to 50K words. But my real NaNo goal is done, I got a story done.

Well, got to keep this short, I should be writing.

See you all on Nov. 30th!

Steve's Log: Nov 30th 2013

Last day of NaNo! I was able to finish two short stories, tallying about 36K words! Sure, 14K shy of the "goal" set forth by the event, but I was successful. And I finished those over a week ago and have been doing some random writing here and there. Working on a new poem, finishing up some smaller stories, editing, I can safely say between all of that, I struck gold, (50K) or really close. But I believe the 50K isn't the goal per say, but completing a writing project/goal you set for yourself at the beginning of November.

Onward to December, the last month of 2013... wow, where did the time go? December means one thing, resolutions... if you made a New Year's resolution, this is the time you look it over and see how close to achieving that goal is? Or maybe you already have, or maybe, just maybe you totally forgot all

about it and are nowhere near completing that task. Was it too much to finish in a year, or did you procrastinate it? Sure, there's always next year, that's how we all feel, but what if there isn't? Hmm, that sounds like the start to a good story doesn't it?

Back to writing I guess, until next time!

Steve's Log: Dec. 16th 2013

Merry Christmas and happy holidays to everyone! I'm currently working on a good old Christmas Poem to share and enter in a contest. But I did manage to do some editing to my Steve's Christmas Story and have posted it for all to enjoy.

Ok, it may not be a cheery, hurray story, it might be holiday horror, next year I'll work on a more festive genre story. I've been focusing on this poem. Didn't think it'd take me this long, I'm usually good at cracking down and getting the job done. Maybe perhaps too much eggnog... never, especially when you add some rum to it. ;) Ok, I think I see the issue... better get back at it.

Until next time, stay warm, drive safe and get the shopping done before it's really too late!