

This trimester, you will draft three stories inspired by writing prompts and share them in peer workshop groups in class. Then, you will choose at least one of the three stories to fully develop and polish as a final piece to then “publish” for the whole class at the end of the trimester. **Your third story draft is due by the end of class on Thursday 2/13. There will also be class time to work on it. Be prepared to share your piece for peer workshop groups in class on Tuesday 2/18.**

Start by choose one of the [Writing Prompts](#) from Weeks 7-9 in class (prompted by Independent Readings and listed below) that you want to develop further. Write a full draft, exploring the idea and taking the plot and characters further and making sure there is some speculative space and/or time element, even if subtle. You’re welcome to alter your initial writing prompt and take it in a different direction. Consider choices of point of view and setting and play around with it. Generate some conflict and see where it leads you. A good starting formula for any prompt is to begin with a character’s desire or need for something, create an obstacle, and then see what choices the character(s) make in response to the obstacle. Consider also lessons from stories you’ve read in class: what techniques have authors used that you’ve enjoyed? Try experimenting with those techniques.

Independent Reading Prompts:

- What would you do if you met the devil?
- Create the best weaponized space suit.
- You travel back to when your parents were teenagers . . .
- You realize you’ve stopped aging, what’s the first thing you do with your immortal life?
- What would you do if your house was eating your life and rotting everything around you?
- If your dad’s friend’s niece became your love interest because she was the kindest, would you make a move?
- If you could time travel to fight, where/when would you want it to be, and who would you fight?
- Write about a close companion betraying you for your own sake. What was the reason behind the betrayal? Will you forgive them?
- If you flew to Dá Lat in Vietnam, what would you do?
- What is the name of this planet: 🤖? Who lives on it?
- You teleport to your great great grandparents. Where are you? Who else do you meet?
- “To be punctual meant to exist as a point, meant that as well to arrive somewhere on time.” Using that definition, write something that plays with the idea of being punctual. Or, write a definition for *chrono-synclastic infundibulum*.
- Write about a person disappearing in the middle of a conversation who goes to the past or future.