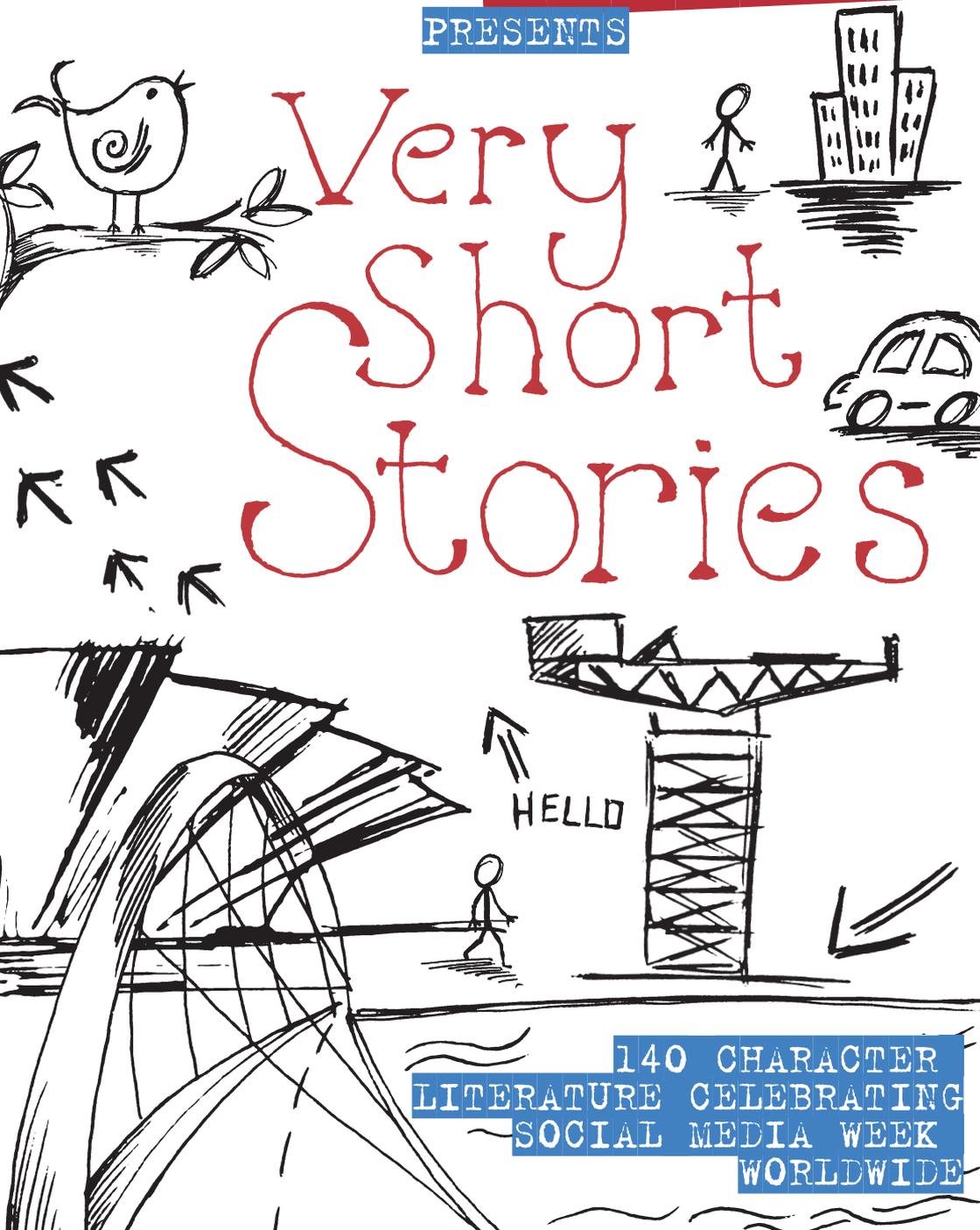


SOCIAL MEDIA WEEK

GLASGOW

PRESENTS

Very Short Stories



140 CHARACTER
LITERATURE CELEBRATING
SOCIAL MEDIA WEEK
WORLDWIDE

Welcome



Cargo Publishing have teamed up with design gurus Branding Boutique and Creative Scotland to celebrate Social Media Week (SMW): a worldwide social media festival which took place from 19th – 23rd September in cities throughout the world, including Glasgow.

During SMW we asked the Tweeting Public to send us their Social Media Week Very Short Stories, which could be about anything – people, places, a joke, a tragedy – but told in only 140 characters!

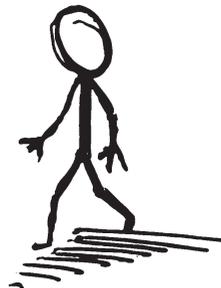
Stories were submitted on Twitter using the hashtag #SMWvss, with the best tweets chosen by Simon Sylvester, author of Twitter Poetry "140 Characters" and collated here for your reading pleasure.

Enjoy! And please feel free to let us know your thoughts - in 140 characters of course...

All the best,

The Team @Cargopublishing

@loveurbrand @CreativeScots @twintangibles



SOCIAL MEDIA WEEK SEPTEMBER 19-23 2011
BEIRUT BERLIN BOGOTÁ BUENOS AIRES CHICAGO
GLASGOW LOS ANGELES MILAN MOSCOW RIO DE JANEIRO
SÃO PAULO VANCOUVER

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Top 10



1> @helensedgwick Helen Sedgwick
The note said: Everything lost under the clock in Central Station has been found. I returned it to the floor and walked on.

2> @MyFriendOtto Bandy
He watched Berlin age as two world wars assaulted her, and saw an echo of his own gathering lines in her worn and crumbling streets.



3> @iainmaloney Iain Maloney
Tell me a story, she said. One about a city. Once upon a time in Glasgow, I said. Heard it, she said. Tell me one about Sao Paulo.



Top 10

4> @EmilyCleaver Emily Cleaver

Chicago wind; a newspaper slaps the windshield. He slams the brakes, sees himself, front page. Killer. He frowns. Man, he looks old.



5> @helensedgwick Helen Sedgwick

My tail was pink and unruly; it clashed with the orange subway. I cut it off with blunt scissors. Now I'm the same but with no tail.

6> @iainmaloney Iain Maloney

"Thank you Beirut, good night!" Backstage the band had an impromptu meeting. All agreed: the tour manager would have to go.

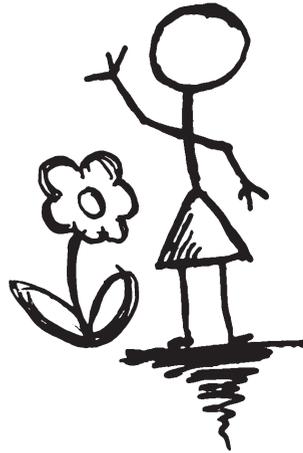


7> @jadamthwaite Jenny Adamthwaite

I bought him a one-way ticket to Moscow. I just wanted to see what he'd do; I had no intention of marrying him when he got here.

8> @MyFriendOtto Bandy

He returned to the frozen lake, sat down at the spot where she had drowned and waited for the Moscow spring to reunite them.



9> @synthjock Gordon Darroch

Bogota was our love's first test. She wore the blindfold. I held the gun. The kidnappers took the bullet. A week later we married.

10> @tweetinthenight Andy White

A tourist in Rio, his samba partner was all tiara and feathers. "I'm not a girl," she whispered. He realised he didn't care.

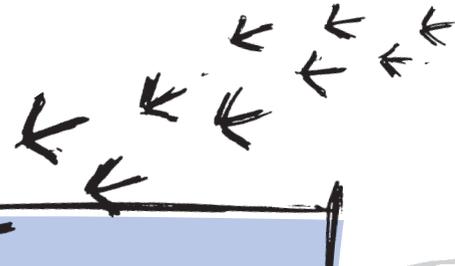
Tweet



Honourable Mentions!

11> @ragbonehair Rebecca LS

He's got the tracksuit, trainers and cap. All ned. And when he gets up to let the wee wifey sit down he's got such a shy smile.



12> @iainmaloney Iain Maloney

He knew his Dad had often sailed into Buenos Aires, but he hadn't expected the dockers to know him. Then he read the graffiti.

13> @katylittlelady Catherine Miller

He sidled up beside her. "I hear, in Glasgow, you enjoy a kiss?" Lips plunged in, not waiting for an answer. So she gave him one.

14> @LynseyMay Lynsey May

Dating for six months, and not even one kiss. Still they shared the stars nightly, with the help of a Glasgow-Berlin webcam link.

15> @MyFriendOtto Bandy

They stared because they didn't understand; he was married to Moscow and she'd betrayed him. He bit down on the gun, tasting metal.

16> @jadamthwaite Jenny Adamthwaite

"How did this North Pole myth start anyway? Not that I mind - no one looks for me in Glasgow now." He grins and pats Blitzen's nose.

17> @Lachsantihoot Lach's Antihoot

Asked my tattoo where it was from. "All over. Rio, Chicago, LA." I tell people 'Rio' because it just sounds the coolest.



18> @LynseyMay Lynsey May

They promised to meet in Vancouver. She got there first and snagged a film director. He cried until she promised him a speaking part.



19> @whiffytidings Richard Brown

They kissed over champagne in first class to Milan. Then returned independently to a guide to the San Siro and the Prada catalogue.

20> @sheeldz Mark Shields

Glasgow is asleep, yet I'm awake; the nocturnal prey hunter, awaiting my next victim. I flick the switch on my dash to 'For Hire'.

21> @yearningangel Jan B.

He felt isolated after moving from Bogota to Chicago. Americans never asked about the beauty of his country. Their only topic: drugs.



22> @yearningangel Jan B.

Twenty stories above the lake, a massive gust plastered her body to the balcony window. So that's why they call it the Windy City.

23> @wordsbyzodda Michael Zodda

After living a lie for years, Bob had to come out. He announced that he liked ketchup on hot dogs and resigned as mayor of Chicago.

24> @jamdeb Debra S

She went to find fame and fortune in Los Angeles. She's appearing nightly on Sunset Blvd carrying her belongings in three plastic bags.

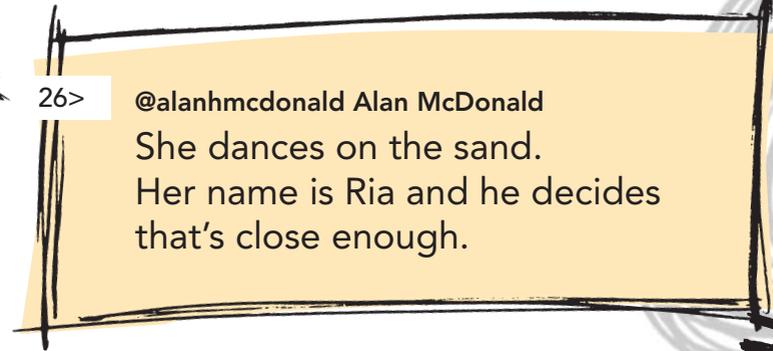


25> @iainmaloney Iain Maloney

We stopped for gas. He didn't even get out of the car, just drew a line through 'Bogota'. I paid, kicked up dust. Not long now.

26> @alanhmcDonald Alan McDonald

She dances on the sand. Her name is Ria and he decides that's close enough.



27> @ragbonehair Rebecca LS

"Moscow life is not ALL vodka and potatoes!" Sergei knocks back his glass, signals the waitress for another bottle. "Just mostly."

28> @ragbonehair Rebecca LS

The North and West winds dance between the skyscrapers, waltz among the walkers. They like to meet here; Chicago's special to them.



29> @EmilyClever Emily Cleaver

She drags him up the Fernsehturm, stuck like a pin the Berlin sky. Alexanderplatz swings below him, but she is more distant still.



30> @synthjock Gordon Darroch

How far could he get on the Pacific Coast Highway with a rucksack and a sign for Bogota? Flashing blue lights supplied the answer.

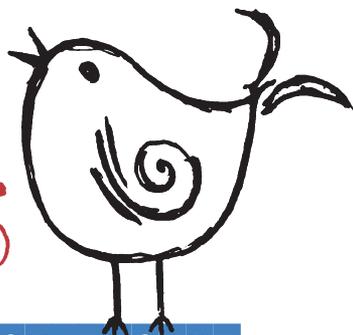
31> @iainmaloney Iain Maloney

My Da left Glasgow when he was 17. Travelled the world. Name a place, he'd been there. Amazing. Apparently I'm just like him.

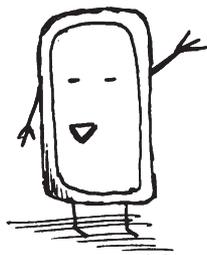


Happily Ever After... But that's another story!

Very Short Stories



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