**2016 Contributor Guidelines**



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LiisBeth welcomes queries from women and those who identify as women, from all backgrounds and levels of experience.

We look for well-written, edgy, positive, well-informed articles that offers readers’ a feminist’s perspective on entrepreneurship.

Our readers span the gender and age spectrum, but are primarily women entrepreneurs who either self -identify as feminist or are curious about the issues. They are well-educated (majority with post secondary degrees) and informed, are concerned about gender issues, rising inequality, social justice, and the environment, and are interested in making a difference in the world.

We enjoy quality writing that is highly readable, positive, well researched, and creative. We encourage writers to tackle big and even controversial ideas, but do so with wit, style, balance, and respect. We are not an “angry” platform. Profanity -- in context and if required -- is acceptable.

**EDITORIAL FRAMEWORK (May change from time to time)**

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| SECTION | APPROACH | DESCRIPTION |
| **OUR VOICES** | “As Told To”  Personal Essays  Opinion | Stories **about** people, individual Feminist entrepreneurs, researchers, through leaders, their journey, their ideas, experiences, and viewpoints. |
|  |  |  |
| **SYSTEMS** | Investigative Reporting  Research Reports/Insight Summaries  Opinion  Critical Reviews & analysis | Well researched stories about the “space”—and the systems that shape it. Economy, Politics, Culture, Education, Government, Feminist Thought Leadership, interviews, |
| **OUR BODIES** | Opinion  Personal Essay  Investigative Reporting (P) | Wellness, Health, Food, relatable to life of entrepreneur, how to stay resilient, focused,  400-800 words |
| **REVIEWS** | Review (E, A) | Book;Film; Theatre; Concert; Podcasts all through lens of feminist entrepreneurship.  400-800 words |
| **ARTS & LETTERS** | Comics  Illustrations  Spoken Work Audio  Poems  Art  \*P, E, or A. | Looking for art to illustrate features/articles, plus stand alone pieces that serve as commentary or inspiration to our readers. |
| **ACTIVISM/**  **EQUALITY** | Opinion-E, P  Investigative P  Profiles E, A, P  Observations P, E, A | Highlighting social and environmental justice political issues of concern/interest to feminist entrepreneurs; the work of fem-ent activists, etc.  300-600 words |

**Examples of topics we are interested in:**

* How feminist entrepreneurs view the world
* The entrepreneurial eco-system: how well does it serve? Opportunities to improve?
* Policies, laws, institutions—how well do they serve interests of today’s fem-led entrepreneurs?
* Decision making and choices faced by feminist entrepreneurs
* Success stories, failure/triumph stories
* International experiences with entrepreneurship
* Entrepreneurship and ageism
* Sexism in entrepreneurship space
* First Nations entrepreneurship
* LGBTQ entrepreneurship
* Women of Colour and entrepreneurship
* Ableism and entrepreneurship
* Women entrepreneurs and the environment
* Caregiving, family, and impact on entrepreneurs;
* Cultural, social, gender bias and entrepreneurship
* How media portrays entrepreneurs and entrepreneurship
* Inequality in entrepreneurship
* Lack of industry diversity in women’s entrepreneurship: entrepreneurial ghettos
* How feminine traits like capacity for empathy, preference for collaboration (over competing), concern for community, the planet, health of society, impetus to share, support, see the larger picture etc impacts decision making and actions as entrepreneur.
* The pay gap and entrepreneurship
* Marginalized entrepreneurs
* Access to capital

**Things to note:**

* We do not accept queries that are currently being considered by other publications.
* If you want to pitch a story, we need a query or idea summary which includes brief summary (150-250 words) plus the opening paragraph or nutgraph, and how you plan to go about researching for the piece (if appropriate). If you are new to us, please also send a sample of previously published or your best work from your blog or website.
* If the idea works, we will engage with you. We’ll talk about your intended approach, length, and other relevant things. If you have actually completed the piece, after we’ve talked, tell us if you think it fits the criteria we’ve outlined. Then we’ll be happy to read it, provide feedback, and you can decide if you’re prepared to make any changes. But, please, don’t send the whole manuscript to start.
* Send queries and pitches and questions to [publisher@Liisbeth.com](mailto:publisher@Liisbeth.com)
* We receive a high volume of article queries, and regret that we cannot guarantee a response in every case.

**Quarterly Themes and Due Dates**

Our publishing schedule features a theme each quarter.  We require long form feature articles/arts and letters pieces to be submitted at least 1 month in advance.   As our enterprise grows, we will be publishing more and more original content.

**Quarterly Themes and Due Dates**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **PERIOD** | **THEME** | **Looking for…** |
| **Feb/March** | **Entrepreneur Eco-System ie; Incubators,** | Stories from women entrepreneurs who have participated in a start-up incubator, stories about women only incubators, pitch competition experiences etc. Stories about how women entrepreneurs are being supported –other places in the world. |
| **April-June** | **TBD** |  |
| **July-Sept** | **TBD** |  |
| **Oct-Dec** | **TBD** |  |

**Getting Paid**

We pay with 7 days upon *acceptance* of the article, illustration, or piece. Acceptance will be confirmed in writing. Please send query which includes an overview of your story idea, the proposed opening paragraph or nutgraph, plus a brief overview of how you plan to research or develop the story, plus samples of previous writing.

* $750-$1000 for any assigned or accepted query for a long form narrative **feature** of 1000-1200 words by experienced professional writer.
* $500 for assigned/accepted queries for features between 800-1000 from experienced or emerging writers.
* $150 for all other accepted short articles (350-500 words) or reprints from amateur, emerging and professional writers.
* Generally $150 for accepted but non-commissioned illustrations, poetry, art, spoken word audio clips; Commissioned work rates are negotiated.
* All contributors will receive a profile under our “Contributor” tab on our website. The profile includes photo, web link field, brief description of who you are and your work. We want to help promote your work, and we hope in turn, you will promote ours as well!
* Contributors will also receive complimentary invitations to our IRL experiences including Salons and Field Trips. Once a year, we will also hold a Contributor meet up, with yes, wine/beer/food so you can meet each other, as well as our readers, advisory board etc. If you are looking for a cool feminist entrepreneur community to become a part of, we hope we can fulfill that need!

**Rights**

We believe in fair and equitable exchanges between creator and the magazine. We philosophically operate with a continuum in mind. The more rights we ask for the more we pay, and vice versa. For more details, please contact <mailto:publisher@liisbeth.com>

Updated: January 2016

*These are the 2016 rates.*

*Liisbeth reserves the right to change rates or contributor policies with no impact on work in progress, but which impact rates for any future work. Current contributor guidelines will always be posted on our site.*