

The 2005 AABCS Short Story Contest

2005 Story Theme: **South of the Border: Sights, Sounds and Smells of the Mexican Riviera**

Thanks for participating in our **2nd AABCS Short Story Contest**. We are so excited about the upcoming cruise, and the short story contest is a fun part of our event. Please take a moment to read the rules and guidelines.

1. The contest is open to **all 2005 AABCS** cruise participants. However, in fairness to our *aspiring* and *up and coming* authors, featured authors are not eligible for the competition, but we welcome your stories for our booklet.
2. Entries must be typed, double-spaced, **MAXIMUM 1000 words**. Longer stories will be disqualified.
3. Entries may not have been previously published.
4. The story needs to touch on the theme to qualify (*it does NOT need to include the exact topic dialogue*). To add to the fun this year we have five obscure elements/objects that must be mentioned in your story (details below).
5. Give Us a **GOOD** ending; don't fall flat at the end ☺. We LOVE surprises!
6. Type your name, email address, and word count at the **END** of the story.

Are you up to the challenge?

In keeping with our theme "*South of the Border*", your story must take place somewhere along the Mexican Riviera. Mexico has thousands of miles of Pacific coast, stretching from its northwestern border with California, to its southern border with Guatemala. Be creative!

Here are the five elements/objects that must be mentioned in your story:

1. Diego Rivera
2. An Iguana
3. Collard, Mustard or Turnip Greens
4. Afro-Mexicans (*Mexicans of African descent*)
5. "CP" Time

Word Count: 1000

Deadline for Entries: September 5, 2005

The **AABCS Staff** will choose the finalist. The **2005 AABCS** Cruise Participants will choose the winner while onboard the Carnival Pride. There will be prizes for the winners and runners up. The winning stories will be included in the 2005 AABCS Commemorative Souvenir Booklet and on the AABCS Web Site.

Agreement:

This story is my original work and I received no assistance with it. My story is 1,000 words or less. I understand that the **African American Book Club Summit** reserves first publishing rights to winning entries. Judges decisions are final. AABCS staff and employees are not eligible to enter.

Author's Signature

Date