Cory Griffith, September 2016

Title of Journal: Young Adult Review Network (YARN)

Editors: Editor in Chief and Poetry Editor- Kip Wilson Rechea, Fiction Editor- Laura Williams McCaffrey, Founder and Essay Editor- Kerri Majors

Web Address: http://yareview.net/

What They Publish: They publish short fiction, poetry and essays for “young adult” readers. They publish returning writers and new, emerging writers, including teenagers.

Submission Guidelines: This journal wants work that can be read by the young adult, aged fourteen and up. Fiction submissions have a 6,000 word limit, and essays have a 3,000 word limit. They make it clear they encourage simultaneous submissions.

Description of Publication: Young Adult Review Network is a completely online journal, and they publish a yearly spring/summer issue. Their reading period is year round, and they reopen submissions for the next issue in late September.

Prose Per Issue/Amount Published Annually: The spring/summer issue this past year published twenty one stories. Most were fiction and poetry, with a few nonfiction and essays as well. They released these stories from March until August.

Patterns: These stories focus on teenagers and the hardships that come during the teenage years, including finding yourself and learning to think for yourself. Writers can be high school students or adults.

Prose Reviews: “Peter” is a short story by Morgan Bennet. It is about a girl who is staying in a foster home. There, she meets this mysterious boy named Peter. On the night of the duo’s escape, Peter lights a match and sets the house on fire. Peter admits that the foster parents are actually his real parents, and he came for revenge. He is sentenced to two life sentences, and the girl never sees him again. This is a little bit of a mature piece, as it deals with sexual abuse from the girl’s uncle in the beginning and sexual innuendos.

 “The Driver” is a story by Frankie Bolt. It tells the story of a girl who waits almost every night for a guy to come pick her up in his Escape. This boy has a girlfriend, but whenever they fight, he goes to her for comfort. After they drive around together, they kiss for the first time, the girl describing it as not what she expected from this guy she’s loved for four years. This piece can easily connect with a lot of teenage readers.

Rating Two: Eight. The editors really know what the young adult reader is looking for in stories. Emerging young adult writers are really encouraged by this journal to submit their best work because their editors love to read writers who are new to them.