

## Words with Wings Content Policy: 2022-2023

The *Words with Wings* staff, with guidance from the LitMag Advisor and High School Administrator, will use the following three evaluation categories to determine if a piece that contains questionable content is acceptable or unacceptable for inclusion in the LitMag.

Note: A piece must be considered “Acceptable” in all three evaluation categories to be published in the LitMag.

Evaluation Category 1: <b>Purpose</b>	What is the author's purpose in including the questionable content?	Acceptable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The author uses the questionable content to achieve a praiseworthy goal (to condemn evil, to develop a character, to create conflict, to contrast good and evil, to build a fantasy world, to build suspense, etc.).</li></ul> Unacceptable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The author uses the questionable content to achieve a goal that is not praiseworthy (to stoke the desires of the flesh, to make the piece feel more "mature," to pique the reader's interest, etc.).</li></ul>
Evaluation Category 2: <b>Explicitness</b>	How explicit/vivid is the questionable content?	Unacceptable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The questionable content is more explicit/vivid than the purpose warrants.</li><li>The questionable content is more explicit/vivid than is appropriate for a nondenominational Christian high school/middle school audience.</li></ul>
Evaluation Category 3: <b>Moral Tone</b>	What seems to be the author's attitude towards the questionable content?	Acceptable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The overall tone of the piece seems to condemn any sinful/ungodly aspects of the questionable content.</li></ul> Unacceptable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The overall tone of the piece seems to affirm or accept the sinful/ungodly aspects of the questionable content.</li></ul>

Here are some common examples of questionable content in literary pieces:

- Graphic violence
- Sexuality/sensuality/romance
- Unwholesome language
- Hinting at or endorsing a worldview/belief system different from what is described in Christian scripture

Also, to help us avoid controversy, please refrain from submitting pieces of art and writing that pertain to current political hot topics.

Rationale
The Bible itself contains content that would be considered “questionable” based on the list above. However, every instance of questionable content in scripture would also be considered “Acceptable” based on our three evaluation categories.

*Source: This policy was developed using principles from the article “A Biblical Approach to Questionable Elements in Christian Education” by BJU Press.*