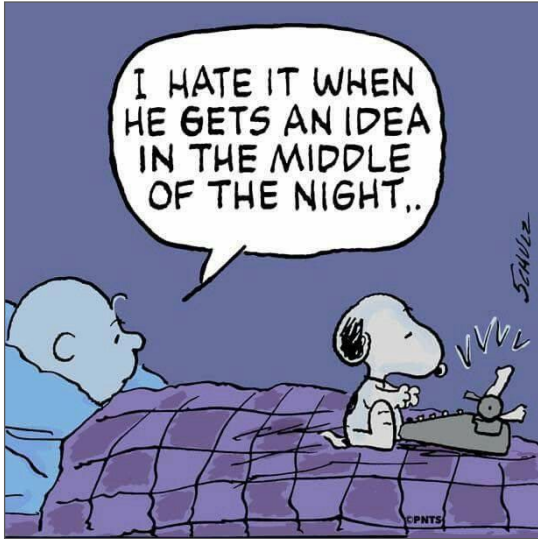


Just Write Newsletter ~ Volume 6, Issue 1 ~ January 2017

Just Write: The At-Large Chapter for the League of Utah Writers



Contents

- **Writing Quotes**
- **New Member**
- **Editorials**
- **Website Review**
- **Conferences, Workshops**
- **Writing Contests**
- **Resources**

Writing Quotes

“We make up horrors to help us cope with the real ones.” – *Stephen King*

“I love writing with thunder rumbling outside. It makes every sentence seem so dramatic.” – *T. G. Davis*

“Lean to be three people at once: writer, character, and reader.” – *Nancy Kress*

“Writing a novel is like walking a cat.” – *Carrie Lynn Lewis*

“Be regular and orderly in your life, so that you may be violent and original in your work.”
– *Gustave Flaubert*

Chapter Officers

President / Newsletter Editor: Ann Gordon – ann@gordoncomputer.com

Vice President: Mechelle Morrison – mechellemorrison@gmail.com

Critique Group

Just Write hosts two Critique/Review sessions a month. Join one of our sessions to see if you find our feedback useful. We think you will! Whether you write stories, novels or poetry, all Just Write members are welcome to participate as often as you like. *Write On!*

New Member

Welcome to our new member, Krissee Dawn Sorensen, who lives in Davis County. She’s a working mom who finds time to write, particularly paranormal romance. She’s been on a hiatus from writing for awhile and is glad to get back. Welcome, Krissee!

Editor Notes: Tighten Up

I write a short story. It has the word count I'm looking for and I think it sounds pretty good. My friends like it. But then I spend weeks, sometimes months, revisiting it over and over to tighten nearly every sentence. It's like I never get my prose tight enough.

What I cut the most were articles, contractions, redundancies, prepositional phrases, unnecessary modifiers... Today I cut a whole paragraph. It nearly broke my heart to kill that darling, but I had to admit: although it flowed well and was grammatically correct, it served no useful purpose. Tightening our sentences even after we think the story is done is a good thing: the editor/agent will like it more and, in the end, the story will give the audience a better reading experience. I definitely believe it is worth the time and effort to tighten and then tighten again, even though we may have to excise some darlings in the process. :-)

Just Write - by James Scott Bell – did he name the book after our chapter?

James Scott Bell, bestselling author of numerous books on the craft of writing, has a new book: *Just Write: Creating Unforgettable Fiction and a Rewarding Writing Life*.

The Just Write chapter has two of these books left. If you want one, let me know and I'll mail it to you.

~ Ann

Website Review: Your Virtual Mentor

I've been impressed with Michael Hyatt. I've attended his webinars and read his articles. His messages are about Success, whether a person is working for a corporation or struggling to augment income with a home-based business. His messages about personal development, productivity, organization and success are relevant to writers, too.

He offers a FREE eBook on shaving 10 hours off your workweek – and his latest article is about creating and using habits to achieve goals. Give his website a look. It offers good information and resources. <https://michaelhyatt.com/habits-achieve-goals.html>

Happy writing,

~ Ann

Conferences, Workshops

- ▶ **LTUE – Sci-Fi & Fantasy Conference:** February 16-18th, 2017. Price: \$55; Students: \$5. Where: Provo Marriott Hotel & Conference Center, 101 W 100 N, Provo. <http://ltue.net/>
- ▶ **LUW – League Spring Conference:** April 8th, 2017 (Saturday). Member price: \$25 (+ 1.62 fee). Time: 11:00am – 6:00pm. Where: SLCC Taylorsville: 4600 S Redwood Road, Taylorsville. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/league-of-utah-writers-spring-conference-2017-tickets-28188634966>
- ▶ **Utah Chapter – Romance Writers of America: Online Workshops** see: <http://www.utahrwa.com/URWAWorkshopRegistration.html>
 - **Author Branding.** February 1-28th, 2017. Member: \$20; Non-member: \$25.
 - **Leaping Over Stumbling Blocks.** March 1-31, 2017. Member: \$20; Non-member: \$25.
 - **Finishing Your Novel.** April 1-28, 2017. Member: \$20; Non-member: \$25.

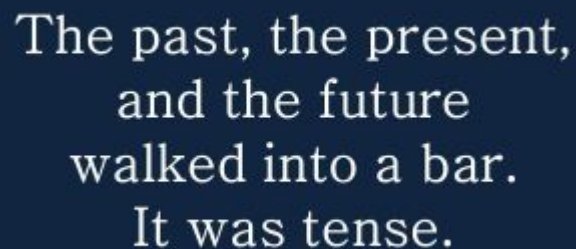
- ▶ **LDS Storymakers Conference:** May 11-13th, 2017. Where: Utah Valley Convention Center. Registration is now open. Schedule: <http://ldstorymakersconference.com/schedule-overview/>

Writing Contests

- ▶ **Writers @ Work (SLC) – Annual Writing Competition.** Deadline: January 31, 2017. Fee: \$20. Fiction or Creative Nonfiction up to 5,000 words; Poetry, up to 6 poems. Cash, publication and/or scholarship awards. http://www.writersatwork.org/wp/?page_id=6
- ▶ **First Chapter Contest: LDS Storymakers.** Fee: \$20. Deadline: February 6, 2017. Only open to official registrants of the conference.
- ▶ **LUW – League Writing Contest:** Our annual contest includes Creative Writing, Nonfiction, and Published Books. Historically the deadline is in June. Specifics aren't on the website yet but many League members are already writing and reviewing what they plan to submit (*especially Cache County*).

Resources

- ▶ **Time to click the Unpublish button?** If you self-published and your book didn't do well at all – it could be time to Unpublish. Interesting article. <http://www.justpublishingadvice.com/the-secret-self-publishing-button-unpublish/>
- ▶ **9 Book Promotion Ideas that Don't Work:** After the author explains the nine promotion ideas that don't work, he explains three simple ones that do. <http://www.justpublishingadvice.com/9-book-promotion-ideas-that-do-not-work-at-all/>
- ▶ **Beginner's Guide to Book Cover Design:** Nice article, worth reading. <http://www.hongkiat.com/blog/designing-book-covers/>



The past, the present,
and the future
walked into a bar.
It was tense.

Happy New Year!

Ann