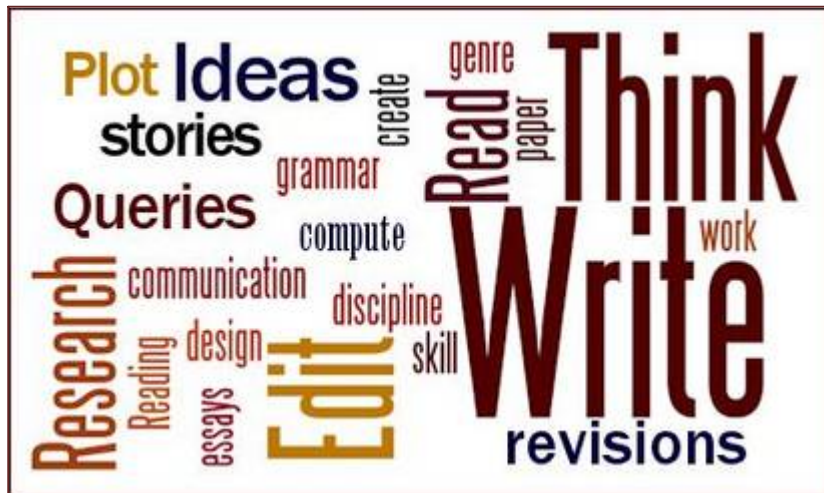


# Just Write Newsletter ~ Volume 4, Issue 2 ~ February 2015

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



## **Table of Contents**

- Writing Quotes
- Editorial
- Critique Group
- Conferences, Workshops
- Writing Contests
- Freelance Markets
- Online Resources
- Publishing News

## **Writing Quotes**

“I’m not a great writer. I’m a great rewriter.” – Paddy Chayefsky

“The best style is the style you don’t notice.” – Somerset Maugham

“Make your characters want something right away—even if it’s only a glass of water.”  
– Kurt Vonnegut

“Key to a first draft: Write! Get the words down. Worry about word count, adverbs, and agents later.”  
– Nat Russo

“Give me the benefit of your convictions, if you have any, but keep your doubts to yourself, for I have enough of my own.” – Goethe

“Even if you’re on the right track, you’ll get run over if you just sit there.” – Will Rogers

## **Chapter Officers**

President / Newsletter Editor: ..... Ann Gordon – [gordoncomputer@yahoo.com](mailto:gordoncomputer@yahoo.com)

Vice President: ..... Mechelle Morrison – [mchellemorrison@gmail.com](mailto:mchellemorrison@gmail.com)

## **Editorial: Self Publishing Websites**

I’ve run into quite a few sites that tout their “helpfulness” to those of us who have or want to self-publish. However, I haven’t found most of the sites all that helpful. Either they just wrote out the same tired information I’ve already read over the past three years or they mostly want to sell me more books that I don’t have time to read.

If you are a self-published author or plan to be, you might be interested in checking out this website: **Self Publisher's Showcase**. <http://selfpublishersshowcase.com/> The site offers articles and writing by gung-ho authors along with author resources, interviews, reviews – you name it. I was pleasantly surprised when I found it. Come to think of it, I don't know how I found this site, but I'm glad I did.

### **Critique Group**

**Report:** over the past few weeks six of us participated in the first critique group of 2015 for Just Write. As usual, an equal number of guys and gals submitted some of their writing for the critique session. I hope more of you join us later this month when we start another session!

### **Writing Conferences and Workshops**

- ▶ **Life, the Universe and Everything, 2015:** February 12-14 in Provo at the Provo Marriott Hotel & Conference Center. This year the Guest of Honor will be Toni Weiskopf, publisher of Baen Books. This conference always lasts three full days. <http://ltue.net/> LUW members get a discount.
- ▶ **Writing Workshop about Crowd Funding, sponsored by the Salt City Scribes of LUW:** February 24<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 to 7:30 pm, City Library (210 East 400 South), SLC. Given by Devin Thorpe, a nationally recognized expert on the process known as 'crowdfunding' ([www.devinthorpe.com](http://www.devinthorpe.com)). Workshop is **free** for LUW members, but limited to 50 seats. Register through Eventbrite.com: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/workshop-for-utah-writers-crowdfunding-the-secret-to-financing-your-career-tickets-15585452508>  
If you have questions, contact Marta Nadeau at [marta.nadeau@gmail.com](mailto:marta.nadeau@gmail.com).
- ▶ **LUW Spring Workshop:** March 14<sup>th</sup> at the Larry H Miller SL Community College Campus in Sandy, where it was held last year (9750 S 300 W). The workshop will be held on Saturday from 1:00 to 6:00 pm. Dan Wells is a confirmed guest (yay!) along with representatives from Eschler Editing who will hold mock pitch sessions (I signed up for one). Authors can come with their query or pitch and do a dry run to receive instant feedback without the pressure of an actual pitch session. Can't wait! Information on the LUW website: <http://luwriters.org/spring-conference.html>
- ▶ **Writing for Charity, 2015:** March 21<sup>st</sup> at the Provo Library at Academy Square in downtown Provo. This is always a great conference, well worth the fee (which is donated to charity). Besides the workshops, writers get to put their manuscript in front of an agent or editor! Check it out: <http://writingforcharity.blogspot.com/>
- ▶ **Write Here in Ephraim:** April 17-18 at Snow College (250 East 100 North). This is the 5<sup>th</sup> year for this writing conference. You can pre-register now at: <http://writehereinephraim.com/> Friday night is a Writer's Camp while Saturday offers classes and workshops all day. The website contains the tentative schedule; more details will be added as they become available.
- ▶ **LDStorymakers Conference 2015:** May 15-16 at the Utah Valley Convention Center in Provo. Registration closes May 6<sup>th</sup>. For information: <http://storymakersconference.myshopify.com/> See the 2015 workshop schedule: <http://ldstorymakers.com/2015-conference-workshop-schedule/>
- ▶ **Writing and Illustrating for Young Readers:** June 15-19 at The Waterford School (1480 East 9400 South), Sandy. The conference offers detailed workshops where the writers really do work. Get information here: <https://www.wifyr.com/blog/2015-conference/> You might want to check out their blog too: <https://www.wifyr.com/blog/blog/>

- ▶ **IndieAuthorHub:** June 19-20 at the Marriott Hotel, downtown Provo (101 West 100 North). This writing and publishing conference offers various package options for either one or two days of the conference. Information about both the 2014 and 2015 conferences are on the website: <http://www.indieauthorhub.com/> Early bird registration is open now.
- ▶ **League of Utah Writers Fall Conference:** August 28-29 in Logan. Please mark your calendars. 2015 conference information isn't on the website yet, but we'll let you know when it's available. Amanda has been working double-time on this conference and I firmly believe it will be both fun and educational. <http://www.luwriters.org/>

### Writing Contests

- ▶ **Glimmer Train, Submission calendar for 2015:** <http://www.glimmertrain.com/writguid1.html>
- ▶ **Big Brick Review Essay Contest:** Deadline: February 17, 2015 - \$15 Entry Fee. Cash prizes. This year the contest theme is based on the concept of building. Essays must be narrative non-fiction (that is, they must explore a truth of a human experience as interpreted/experienced by the author) and not exceed 2,000 words. <http://www.bigbrickreview.com/contest.html>
- ▶ **The Great American Sentence by Easy Street Magazine:** Deadline: February 28, 2015 – **No** Entry Fee. Submit a sentence. It can be the first sentence of your book, or just a stand-alone. In fact, you can submit up to five sentences. The judges will publish the best ones and pay the winner \$5 a word. <http://www.easystreetmag.com/great-american-sentence/>
- ▶ **Dash Poetry Contest:** Deadline: March 1, 2015 - \$10 Entry Fee. \$1000 for best poem. See <http://www.dashliteraryjournal.com/submit.php>
- ▶ **The Ghost Story Supernatural Fiction Award:** Deadline: April 30, 2015 - \$20 Entry Fee per story. Length between 1,000 and 10,000 words. They allow multiple submissions, but do not accept stories that have been published previously. <http://www.theghoststory.com/tgs-fiction-award>
- ▶ **Dragon Knight Chronicles Semi-Annual Fantasy Writing Competition:** Deadline: May 31, 2015 - \$5 Entry Fee for first story, \$2.50 per additional story. They want Fantasy, Paranormal, or Dark Fantasy. <https://dkchronicles2013.wordpress.com/2015/01/02/semi-annual-fantasy-writing-competition/>
- ▶ **Dragon Knight e-Magazine Writing Competition:** Deadline: January 15, 2016. Dragon Knight is looking for stories for a new e-Magazine. Formatting, submission guidelines, and word count are listed here: <https://dkchronicles2013.wordpress.com/annual-e-magazine-writing-competition/>

### Some Freelance Markets

- ▶ **Apex Magazine:**  
This is an online prose and poetry magazine of science fiction, fantasy, horror and a mixture of the three. Maximum word length is 5,000 words. Payment for original fiction is 6 cents a word. <http://www.apex-magazine.com/submission-guidelines/>

▶ **CHICKEN SOUP: Think Possible**

Theme: Using a positive attitude to improve your life. They're looking for true stories of no more than 1,200 words about how you changed your life, solved a problem, or overcame a challenge because you used positive thinking. Pays \$200 and ten copies of the book. Deadline April 30, 2015. <http://www.chickensoup.com>

▶ **North of 50 Lifestyle Newsmagazine:**

They welcome well-written, unsolicited articles and queries. Readers are grown-ups, baby boomers, empty nesters and young seniors. They like history and lifestyle pieces, regional personality and business profiles. Pays up to \$100 per article. <http://www.northof50.com/writers-guidelines.html>

▶ **Steampunk Horror Anthology by Eldritch Press:**

They want novella length stories. Deadline has been extended until the anthology is filled, but the book is to be published early next year. Title: "The Lost Worlds" Looking for well-written,, character driven Steampunk Horror with a post-apocalyptic theme. <http://www.eldritchpress.com/the-lost-worlds.html>

▶ **T. Gene Davis' Speculative Fiction Blog:**

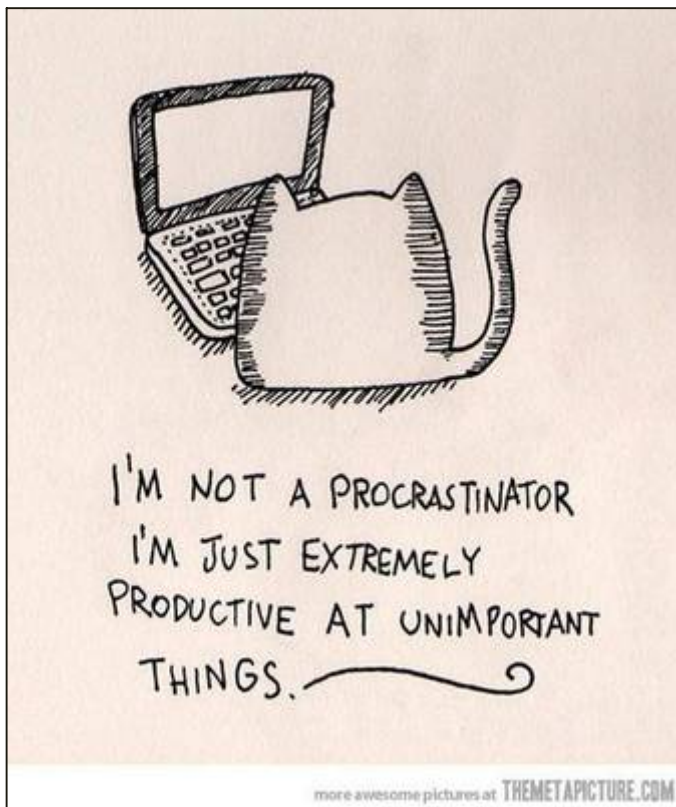
Author T. Gene Davis publishes a new speculative fiction story every week to her blog subscribers. She invites unsolicited submissions of horror, sci-fi, fantasy and other spec fiction genres from talented writers. Payment is \$75 per story, word count: 250 to 6000 words. <http://tgenedavis.com/submission-guidelines/>

### **Online Resources for Writers**

- ▶ **Building Killer Protagonists:** <https://emagnette.wordpress.com/2015/01/20/writing-building-killer-antagonists-for-mysteries/>
- ▶ **Some Thoughts on Writing and Fear:** <http://avajae.blogspot.com/2015/01/some-thoughts-on-writing-and-fear.html>
- ▶ **Active vs Passive Voice - How to Use Both:** <http://www.helpingwritersbecomeauthors.com/2009/05/tensing-up-active-vs-passive-tense.html>
- ▶ **How to Blog a Book (probably only works with non-fiction):** <http://howtoblogabook.com/how-blogging-a-book-provides-you-with-a-continuous-flow-of-blog-posts/>
- ▶ **Two Things You MUST Get Right: Categories and Keywords:** <http://www.ninichammon.com/9e-blog-for-writers/two-things-you-must-get-right-categories-and-keywords/2622>
- ▶ **8 Tips from Literary Agents about How to Get Published:** <http://thewritepractice.com/literary-agent-tips/>
- ▶ **Tips for Writing about PTSD in your Character:** <http://thrillwriting.blogspot.com/2014/05/post-traumatic-stress-disorder-in-your.html>

## Some Publishing News

- ▶ **Prep Your eBook for Maximum Success:** <http://www.savvybookwriters.com/how-to-prepare-your-e-book-for-maximum-success/>
- ▶ **eBook Marketing: Getting the Word Out on a Budget:** <http://spiritauthors.com/news/ebook-marketing-getting-the-word-out-on-a-budget/>
- ▶ **Tax Tips for Writers Who Hate Math:** <http://www.thebookdesigner.com/2015/01/tax-tips-for-writers-who-hate-math/>
- ▶ **2014 eBook Cover Design Award Winners:** <http://www.thebookdesigner.com/2015/01/2014-e-book-cover-design-award-winners/>
- ▶ **About Bundling – 3 Reasons to Bundle the Early Books in Your Series.** NOTE: This is a nice long article, worth reading if you don't know much about bundling or why you should consider it. <http://www.lindsayburoker.com/tips-and-tricks/why-bundle-your-series/>



Happy writing!

~ Ann