

Just Write Newsletter ~ Vol 8, No. 2 ~ March 2019

Just Write: The At-Large, Online Chapter for the LUW



Contents

- Writing Quotes
- New Members
- Conferences / Workshops
- LUW Writing Contest
- Editorial: **Viewpoint**
- Resources: **POV**

Writing Quotes

“A mind needs books as a sword needs a whetstone, if it is to keep its edge.” – *George RR Martin*

“I can shake off everything as I write; my sorrows disappear, my courage is reborn.” – *Anne Frank*

“You can always edit a bad page. You can’t edit a blank page.” – *Jodi Picoult*

“It is by sitting down to write every morning that one becomes a writer.” – *Gerald Brennan*

“You don’t start out writing good stuff. You start out writing crap and thinking it’s good stuff, and then gradually you get better at it. That’s why I say one of the most valuable traits is persistence.”
– *Octavia E. Butler*

“Writing is a delicious agony.” – *Gwendolyn Brooks*

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New Members

A hearty welcome to new members: **Andy Winder**, **Chad Swanson**, **Jane Tallmadge**, and **Alexander Copley**. We’re pleased to have you in Just Write. New members are welcome to join our critique sessions. We hope to meet you in person at a League workshop or conference.

Welcome !!!

Writing Conferences and Workshops

LUW Spring Conference: April 27th, 2019. Held again at SLCC on 4600 So Redwood Road, SLC from 10:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. – registration and check-in from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Cost depends on several factors; check the webpage under Registration. Early Bird pricing ends March 15th.

Spring Conference guests and schedule along with links for registration:

<https://www.leagueofutahwriters.com/spring-conference-2019>

LUW Creative Writing Contest

The League holds two writing contests each year: The **Creative Writing Contest** for stories, poetry, articles, creative nonfiction and first chapters, and the **Published Book Contest** for published books (either self-published or traditional published) of LUW members.

The Creative Writing Contest: Submission deadline is May 31st.

Previously published works do not qualify. Guidelines are here:

<https://www.leagueofutahwriters.com/published-book-contest>

The Creative Writing Contest categories for 2019:

PROSE

Flash Fiction
 First Chapter
 Creative Nonfiction
 Short General Fiction
 Speculative (Sci-Fi, Fantasy)
 Horror
 Romance
 Media Article
 Children's story
 Young Adult Fiction
 Personal essay

POETRY

Narrative poetry
 Light verse
 Prose Poem
 Love/Loss

NEW WRITER (NEW VOICES)

First Chapter
 Creative nonfiction
 Fiction
 Poetry



The Published Book Contest: Submissions accepted until March 25th. Entry fee is \$35 per book. Eligible books are those written by LUW members and published in 2018 or 2019. Submission guidelines are here: <https://www.leagueofutahwriters.com/writing-contest>

Categories for 2019: **Novel, Youth Fiction, Nonfiction, and Collection (anthologies and chapbooks).**

Prizes include the Silver Quill, the Gold Quill, and the Diamond Quill. Categories may also include Recommended Reads.

Why enter a League contest?

Because you receive a written review, because winners may be selected to be in the League's annual anthology, and because it is exciting to attend the **Awards Dinner** at the fall conference (some plan for that all year).

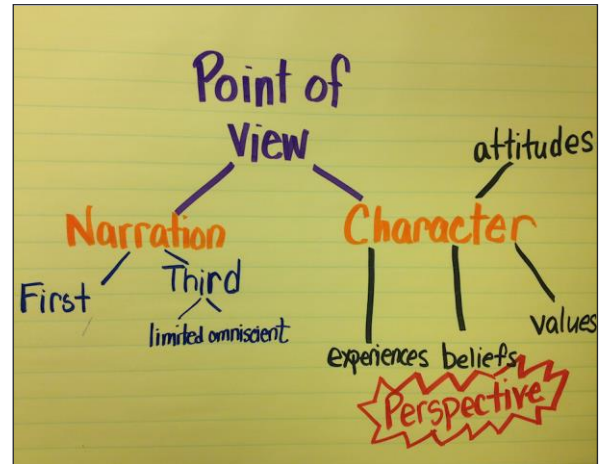
It's a pleasure to be sitting there when your name is called. Everyone claps to acknowledge the winners, who are given certificates. First, Second and Third place winners also receive a check. :-)



Editorial: Viewpoint

The subject of **Viewpoint** comes up in many book and story reviews. POV can be a tough monster to tame. I borrowed the following from some writers in South Africa – edited it for space.

1. Does the author's POV suit the story? Most genre novels & stories are written in third person past tense, like: 'He cradled the baby as Sheila fainted.' Memoirs are often written in first person present tense to make the writing feel authentic and immediate, like: 'I cradle the baby as Sheila faints.'
2. Has the author chosen the right character to tell the story? When we choose to tell the story through the eyes of the protagonist's friend, this often makes the story sound forced. The friend cannot know what the character is truly feeling or thinking. This distances the most important character from the reader and results in more telling than showing.
3. Has the author stayed in the viewpoint character's head? Many beginning writers head-hop between the different characters in a scene, which confuses readers. As a rule, you should only use one viewpoint per scene.
4. Has the character revealed something he or she could not have known? Storytelling should have consistency and a sense of continuity.
5. If the author chooses a first-person narrator, is the character strong enough to bear the weight of a 360-page book? This might seem like common sense, but it's a tough chore for one character to be interesting enough not to bore a reader in that many pages. The character could be compromised, which is fine if you are considering using an unreliable narrator.
6. Is the author using an omniscient narrator? This style so old-fashioned that it takes a truly exceptional writer to make it work. Modern readers prefer to be closer to the characters in the stories they read.

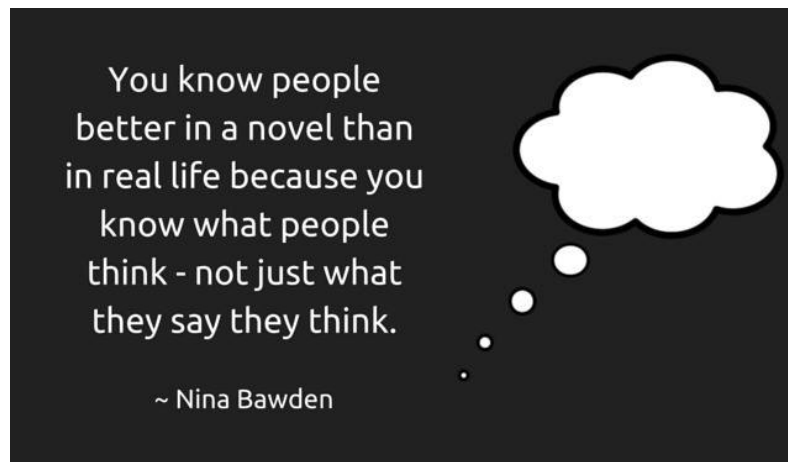


Resources: POV

- **7 Methods for Handling Point-of-View Changes:** I love, love this article. This is one of those pieces I read and think: *Now why didn't I write that?* <https://jamigold.com/2013/07/7-methods-for-handling-point-of-view/>
- **4 Types of Viewpoint to Consider in Short Stories:** Short stories are easier to experiment with than a whole book. <https://writerswrite.co.za/4-types-viewpoint-consider-short-stories/>
- **Point of View: Which One Should You Use?** Article on the NY Book Editors website. <https://nybookeditors.com/2016/01/all-about-point-of-view-which-one-should-you-use/>
- **6 Simple Ways to Handle Viewpoint Changes:** <https://writerswrite.co.za/viewpoint-changes/>

Just Write Website

The first draft of our chapter's **website** is done. Now I need to get it hosted and uploaded. It's a draft because I want input on the Mission statement plus I'm asking members to give me some writing bio information, a photo or avatar, and a link to your blog or author page. I'll let everyone know when it's ready for review and input.



Wishing you all a happy and productive Spring
(if it ever gets here...)

~~Ann