

Just Write Newsletter ~ Volume 6, Issue 5 ~ May 2017

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



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Writing Quotes

“Everything that I need to know about the novel could be put down in, oh, a page and a half of bullet-points. That includes the beginning, the end, the major turning points, a little bit about the characters, timeframe, setting, voice, length, some secondary characters. Once I have that, I let the rest of the story fill itself in from there.” – *Nicholas Sparks*

“Good writing is rewriting.” – *Truman Capote*

“Outlining, researching, talking to people about what you’re doing, none of that is writing. Writing is writing.” – *E. L. Doctorow*

“The most important things to remember about back story are that (a) everyone has a history and (b) most of it isn’t very interesting.” – *Stephen King*

Chapter Officers

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

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Critique Group

Just Write hosts two Critique/Review sessions a month. All Just Write members are welcome to join one of our critique sessions. I believe you’ll find the feedback useful whether you write stories, novels, essays or poetry. *Write On!*

New Member

Welcome to our new member Katya Pilkington who lives in the Salt Lake valley.

YouTube Reviews -- John Gilstrap Channel

First, I recommend a YouTube channel where the author shares his knowledge about the business of writing and publishing without trying to sell you anything. Talk about “Paying it Forward.”

John Gilstrap is the author of a series of thrillers. I became acquainted with his YouTube videos through LinkedIn. He talks about writing conferences, movie deals, handling rejection and protecting your intellectual property. I suggest you take a look, maybe subscribe. He hasn't posted many videos yet, but he does a good job with them – and they aren't too long. Nice. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC51IaU8gG8fqH9zewW4cFKA>



Top 10 Female Fantasy Authors

This is a nice presentation, well done, makes me wish I could be this productive and have this many published books under my wing. The list does not include J K Rowling (no dystopian or paranormal works included).

What's also interesting about this video are the comments below it. Most comment sections on the Web are crummy, but not this one – at least not as far as I read. One viewer wrote:

“So, Cassandra Clare ranks above Mercedes Lackey and Susan Cooper. Meanwhile, Anne McCaffrey and Tamora Pierce only get honorable mentions, and Madeleine L'engle isn't even mentioned? Sorry, Ms. Mojo. You are doing well, but didn't quite get there.”

Naturally no one can please all the people all the time, but I think this video is still worth a look.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4CAh1uK3DeI>

Keep writing,

~ Ann

Conferences, Workshops

- ▶ **LUW Advanced Workshop:** June 3rd. Where: West Jordan City Hall, Community Rm. Workshop highlights an advanced part of the writing craft. I don't know the registration fee; that hasn't been posted yet. <https://www.leagueofutahwriters.com/events>
- ▶ **Fyrecon – Refining Your Creative Fyre:** June 8th - 10th, Weber State University – Davis Campus, 2750 University Park Blvd, Layton. This Science Fiction & Fantasy conference offers Master Classes by David Farland and Michael Collings (I love their work), Workshops, Teen classes, and an Editing Workshop with free editing of 1 to 3 pages. The fee for the three-day conference is \$40. Visit: <http://www.fyrecon.com/> Registration: <http://www.fyrecon.com/registration/>
- ▶ **LUW Advanced Workshop:** July 29th. Where: West Jordan City Hall, Community Rm. Workshop highlights an advanced part of the writing craft. I don't know the registration fee; that hasn't been posted yet. <https://www.leagueofutahwriters.com/events>
- ▶ **Colorado Gold Conference (hosted by Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers):** September 8-10, 2017 in Denver. Keynote speakers listed on the website, along with an impressive list of acquiring agents and editors. The conference is rather pricey, but worth it. <http://rmfw.org/conference/>
- ▶ **LUW Fall Conference:** October 6th-7th, 2017. Where: West Jordan City Hall, Community Room. Save the dates. I'll post the details when they become available. They will also be posted here: <https://www.leagueofutahwriters.com/events>

Resources

- ▶ **How to Correctly Punctuate Dialogue for Novels – from Writers After Dark:** <https://writersafterdark.net/2017/02/27/how-to-correctly-punctuate-dialogue-for-novels/>
- ▶ **Writing a Novel – 7 Tips from Bestselling Authors:** <http://www.nownovel.com/blog/writing-a-novel-bestselling-authors/>
- ▶ **How to Write a Bestselling Novel – 7 Tips by Dean Koontz:** <http://www.beliefnet.com/entertainment/galleries/koontz-7-bestseller-tips.aspx>
- ▶ **The 21 Key Traits of Best-Selling Fiction:** <http://www.writersdigest.com/wp7-migration-books/the-21-key-traits-of-best-selling-fiction>
- ▶ **The Secret Code to Writing a Bestseller – from BBC:** <http://www.bbc.com/culture/story/20160812-the-secret-code-to-writing-a-bestseller>
- ▶ **Writing Beyond Good: Creating Emotional Resonance – from The Missouri Review:** <http://www.missourireview.com/tmr-blog/2014/02/writing-beyond-good-creating-emotional-resonance/>

Writing Contests

- ▶ **LUW – League Writing Contest:** Deadline: June 16. The League's annual creative writing contest categories include Fiction, Nonfiction and Poetry.

New Writers: This is a brand new category that the League added this year. It allows new writers who haven't been paid for their work yet to compete with each other without having to compete with those who are published.

Contest Winners: Winners not only get awards and cash, but a chance for publication in the League's anthology. <https://www.leagueofutahwriters.com/2017-luw-writing-competition>

- ▶ **Utah Original Writing Competition 2017:** Deadline: June 23 at 5 p.m. Open to Utah residents only. Categories include books, stories, poetry and essays. Info about the competition is here: <https://heritage.utah.gov/dha/dha-featured/ops-competition-original-writing-competition> and the competition guidelines are here: <https://heritage.utah.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017-OWC-Guidelines.pdf?x15791>
- ▶ **Winning Writers: Tom Howard/Margaret Reid Poetry Contest:** Fee: \$12 per poem. Deadline: September 30, 2017. Up to 250 lines. Cash prizes and publication for winners. <http://winningwriters.com/our-contests/tom-howard-margaret-reid-poetry-contest>
- ▶ **Sequestum – Literature & Art, New Writer Awards:** Deadline: October 15. Fee: \$15. Cash prizes and publication. For writers who have not published a book-length manuscript. Read the guidelines: <https://www.sequestum.org/new-writer-awards-fiction-nonfiction>
- ▶ **Sweet Flash Fiction Contest:** Deadline: June 26. Fee: \$10. 500 to 1,000 words. The Flash Essay Contest winner will receive \$500, publication and 20 bound copies of their essay. All entries will be considered for regular publication in Sweet. <http://sweetlit.submittable.com/submit>



Publishing Opportunities

- ▶ **Golden Walkman Magazine:** A literary magazine in the form of a podcast aimed at giving the written word a voice. I've provided voiceovers for training courses so I'm totally interested, even though it doesn't pay. <http://www.goldwalkmag.com/> Most info on the Submissions page.
- ▶ **Chicken Soup for the Soul:** The remaining book deadlines for this year:
 1. Christmas and Holiday Collection / October 31, 2017
 2. My Crazy Family! / June 30, 2017
 3. Stories of Redemption / August 31st, 2017Example: Stories of Redemption pays \$200 for an accepted story plus ten copies of the book. Story length: Up to 1200 words. <http://www.freedomwithwriting.com/freedom/uncategorized/chicken-soup-for-the-soul-several-deadlines-approaching-11-books/>
- ▶ **Anthology of Food-Related Romance "The Way to My Heart":** Kelly Ann Jacobson is looking for romance stories or nonfiction pieces up to 3000 words or three poems. Food/drink should play a vital role in all submissions, but stories and poems should center around a human romantic relationship. <http://www.kellyannjacobson.com/anthologies/the-way-to-my-heart>
- ▶ **Profane Journal:** Open for submissions of essays, stories and poetry until July 31st. Please read past issues of the journal before submitting. Past issues are free on the website. <http://www.profanejournal.com/submissions.html> Besides accepting submissions they also have contests. To discover submission parameters and word counts, go to the Submittable page and click MORE for the desired category. <https://profane.submittable.com/submit>

Happy writing!
Ann



"If you wait to write, you're not a writer,
you're a waiter." Dan Poynter