

Just Write Newsletter ~ Volume 4, Issue 6 ~ June 2015

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

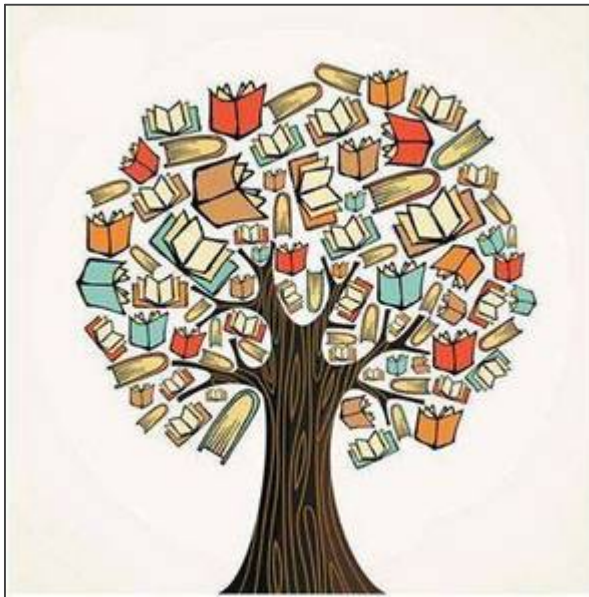


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Writing Quotes

“Growing up is highly overrated. Just be an author.” – Neil Gaiman

“I write to give myself strength. I write to be the characters that I am not. I write to explore all the things I’m afraid of.” – Joss Whedon

“Start writing, no matter what. The water does not flow until the faucet is turned on.” – Louis L’Amour

“Abandon the idea that you are ever going to finish. Lose track of the 400 pages and write just one page for each day, it helps. Then when it gets finished, you are always surprised.” – John Steinbeck

“I’ve lost track of the number of people who want to be writers but never actually write anything. Talking about writing, dreaming about writing, can be very fun, but it won’t get a book written. You’ve got to write.” – Laurell K Hamilton

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Editorials: Submit Like a Man

I want to give special attention to this blog article ... don’t want it to get lost in the list of links. It includes advice from an acquiring editor regarding submission of poems and such to publication editors. I’m so glad I found it. From my experience, this author is right on. I put it on Twitter and found that lots of other writers like it too.

On Twitter the author responded three minutes after posted the Tweet by following me. She's quick! So please check it out, whether you're male or female.

“Submit Like A Man: How Women Writers Can Become More Successful” by @KelliAgodon
<https://medium.com/@kelliagodon/submit-like-a-man-how-women-writers-can-become-more-successful-9031ffc6043a>

SLCC Community Writing Center: Hosting 24-hour Writing Competition

This month the SLCC Community Writing Center will host their 8th annual **Wasatch Iron Pen Writing Competition**. Categories: Fiction, Nonfiction, and Poetry - \$10 for one category or \$25 for all three. No electronic files accepted; must hand deliver to the Center in SLC. I have copies of the Iron Pen Flyer and the Rules & Guidelines PDFs. If you're interested, write me and I'll send them to you.

The competition in a nutshell:

On **June 26th at 5:00 pm** they send the writing prompt to everyone who has registered. This begins the 24-hour writing competition. Submissions must be on paper and turned in to the SLCC Community Writing Center by 5:00 p.m. Saturday (June 27th). Winners will be announced the morning of June 28th and will be invited to read their submissions at the **Utah Arts Festival** Big Mouth Stage. Winners will also receive prize packages from both the Community Writing Center and the Utah Arts festival.

Bonus: Registration includes a one-day ticket to the **Utah Arts Festival**. (This is wonderful.)

To register, see: https://epay.slcc.edu/C20011_ustores/web/store_main.jsp?STOREID=6

Ann

Member Article: Publisher Advice by Edward Massey

Every month I write for my blog on Western Fictioneers (<http://westernfictioneers.blogspot.com>) It's called Plowing, Sewing, and Reaping – a log of my efforts to market my writing. Recently I asked five Western Fictioneers publishers: “What is the main thing you would tell a writer to do to sell his or her books?” I particularly like the advice from the partners of Prairie Rose Publications:

Cheryl Pierson: Before you submit your work, be sure you have had it professionally edited AT LEAST for grammar, tense agreement, and punctuation.

Livia Reasoner (Washburn): Other than writing good books to start with (always the first step), I think the key to selling is to keep writing. Each book's sales builds on the last, and when you have enough work out there, it's easier to run special sales and promotions with the earlier titles. So when you finish a book, it's fine to pat yourself on the back--but then start thinking about the next one!

To me, this advice is like a mantra: write well, have professionals check on you, and keep writing.

Edward

Writing Conferences and Workshops

- ▶ **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 conference has options for one or two days of the conference. Information about the 2014 and 2015 conferences on the website: <http://www.indieauthorhub.com/> Early bird registration open.
- ▶ **League of Utah Writers Fall Conference: August 28-29. Please mark your calendars.** This year the 2015 Utah Writers Fall Conference will be held at the Riverwoods Conference Center in Logan. Currently some of the Presenter bios and photos have been posted on the website, but the schedule is still being finalized. When it's ready for prime time, Amanda will have it posted on the website. She's been working double-time on this conference, which promises to be both educational and great fun. <http://www.luwriters.org/roundup.html>

Writing Contests

- ▶ **Glimmer Train, Submission calendar for 2015:** <http://www.glimmertrain.com/writguid1.html>
- ▶ **Book of the Year Award, Independent Author Network:** Deadline: June 30, 2015 – Entry fee: \$39 for one, \$69 for two. Eighteen fiction & nonfiction categories. Prizes exceed \$10,000. Winners posted on Facebook, Twitter, and [Independent Author Network](http://www.IndependentAuthorNetwork.com) website. For competition parameters and guidelines, visit: www.IndependentAuthorNetwork.com/book-of-the-year.html
- ▶ **The Masters Review – Short Story Award for New Writers:** Deadline: July 15, 2015 – Entry fee \$20. Cash prizes and possible publication. 6000 word limit. Authors must not have published a novel by the time of submission. <https://mastersreview.com/>
- ▶ **The Golden Quill Awards:** Deadline: July 15, 2015 – Entry fee \$15 to \$20. Flash fiction, short fiction and poetry. Cash prizes. Theme: Transformation. <http://www.thegoldenquillawards.com/>
- ▶ **Dream Quest One Writing Contest:** Deadline: July 31, 2015 – Entry fee \$10. Open to anyone with a story worth telling. Fiction, nonfiction or creative nonfiction. Cash prizes and publication. <http://www.freelancewriting.com/writingcontests/073115-dream-quest-one-writing-contest.php>
- ▶ **Gival Press Short Story Award:** Deadline: August 8, 2015 – Entry fee \$25. Submit unpublished original short story in English, 5,000 to 15,000 words. Prize is \$1,000 plus online publication. <http://www.freelancewriting.com/writingcontests/080815-gival-press-short-story-award.php>
- ▶ **Amygdala Short Story Contest:** Deadline: August 12, 2015 – Entry fee: \$35. This contest for a cash prize and inclusion in a short-story collection is sponsored by a Utah-based company. This is the contest announcement page: <http://www.dwighthurst.com/contest>

Online Resources for Writers

Posts with Writing Rules from successful authors.

- ▶ **Tolkien's 5 Tips for Creating Complex Heroes:** <http://writingishardwork.com/2012/05/14/tolkiens-5-tips-for-writing-complex-heroes/>
- ▶ **Tolkien's 10 Tips for Writers:** <http://writingishardwork.com/2012/04/29/tolkiens-10-tips-for-writers/>
- ▶ **Margaret Atwood's 10 Rules of Writing:** <http://www.brainpickings.org/index.php/2012/10/05/margaret-atwood-10-rules-of-writing/>
- ▶ **Janet Fitch's 10 Rules for Writers:** <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/jacketcopy/2010/07/janet-fitchs-10-rules-for-writers.html>
- ▶ **Heinlein's Writing Rules:** <http://www.sfwriter.com/ow05.htm>

- ▶ **Mark Twain's 18 Rules of Writing:** <http://www.mamohanraj.com/Writing/twain.html>
- ▶ **Kurt Vonnegut's 8 Rules for Writing:** <https://thoughtcapital.wordpress.com/2007/04/13/kurt-vonneguts-8-rules-for-writing/>
- ▶ **Hilary Mantel's Rules for Writers:** <http://www.theguardian.com/books/2010/feb/22/hilary-mantel-rules-for-writers>

Posts about character description.

- ▶ **How to Write a Liar Who is Telling a Lie - Body Language:** <http://thrillwriting.blogspot.com/2013/06/how-to-write-liar-telling-lie-body.html>
- ▶ **Is your Character Depressed? Psych 101 for Writers:** <http://thrillwriting.blogspot.com/2013/10/do-you-think-your-character-might-be.html>

Self Publishers

Marketing your book.

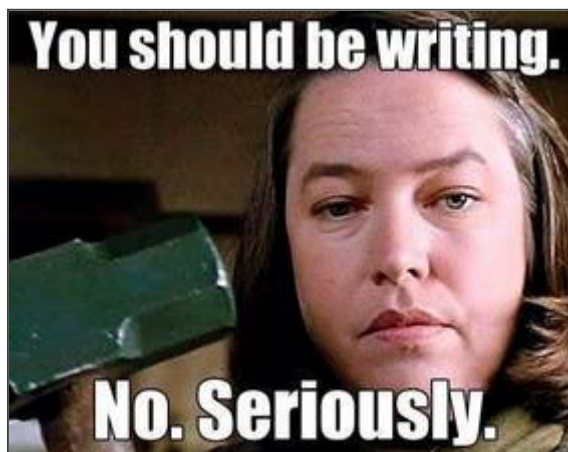
- ▶ **How to Promote your Self-Published Book on the Cheap:** <http://bookmarketingtools.com/blog/how-to-promote-your-self-published-book-on-the-cheap/>
- ▶ **IndieReader In-Store:** [Note: They promote self-published eBooks for a fee. Beware you don't pay more for a service than you'll make from the book.] <http://indiereader.com/authorservices/indiereader-in-store/>
- ▶ **Do Free Kindle eBook Promotions Work?** By Derek Haines: <http://www.derekhaines.ch/vandal/2012/07/do-free-ebook-promotions-increase-sales/>
- ▶ **Derek's Conclusion (about free Kindle eBook promotions):** <http://www.derekhaines.ch/justpublishing/do-free-ebook-promotions-work-my-conclusion/>
- ▶ **The 4 Most Effective Book Marketing Strategies That Work:** <http://badredheadmedia.com/2015/01/03/4-effective-book-marketing-strategies-work/>
- ▶ **How Can Pinterest Help Authors Sell More Books?** [http://writeonpurpose.com/4577/book-marketing-coach/pinterest-for-authors-how-can-pinterest-help-authors-sell-more-books?ct=t\(pinterest for authors to sell more books7 10 2014\)](http://writeonpurpose.com/4577/book-marketing-coach/pinterest-for-authors-how-can-pinterest-help-authors-sell-more-books?ct=t(pinterest+for+authors+to+sell+more+books7+10+2014))
- ▶ **The Author Hangout: Marketing Tips for Indie & Self-Published Authors,** podcast with interviews: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/author-hangout-book-marketing/id836834702>

Publishing Opportunities

- ▶ **Allegory magazine** (speculative fiction): Deadline June 30, 2015 – Entry fee: \$15. Sci-fi, fantasy, horror and spec fiction with humor. 5,000 words. <http://www.allegoryezine.com/submissions.htm>
- ▶ **Unfinished Chapters (Anthology):** Deadline July 1, 2015 – Entry fee: \$5. Seeking short essays about love, loss, relationships and wishful do-overs. Top three prizes \$200, \$100, and \$75. <https://unfinishedchaptersanthology.wordpress.com>

- ▶ **'The Emby Bestiary' Anthology:** Deadline: July 1, 2015. No Fee. They're looking for Monster stories for kids. Check out the submission guidelines, this sounds like fun. Pays \$25 a story. <https://embypress.submittable.com/submit/39052>
- ▶ **The Wide Shore: Journal of Global Women's Poetry:** Deadline: July 15, 2015. No Fee. Enter up to 5 poems, 8 pages maximum. <http://thewideshore.org/>
- ▶ **Chicken Soup for the Soul: Random Acts of Kindness:** Deadline: July 31, 2015. No Fee. Pays \$200 plus copies. First-person nonfiction stories about kind things done for others or that others have done for you, up to 1200 words. <http://www.chickensoup.com/story-submissions/story-guidelines>
- ▶ **The Emby Press – Dark Fiction (monster slaying):** Deadline: August 1, 2015. No fee. Pays \$25, plus a copy. Seeks submissions for **slaypunk** anthology. Stories will include mechanisms, devices, contraptions, and methods used in an attempt to “capture, dispatch or otherwise combat monsters.” <https://embypress.submittable.com/submit/39050>
- ▶ **'Gothic Blue Book' Anthology (horror):** Deadline: August 15, 2015. No fee. Pays \$25, plus copies. Supernatural horror stories reminiscent of 18th-19th century gothic tales; 3500 words. <http://burialday.com/submit/horror-anthology-submission>
- ▶ **Futuristica Vol. 1 Anthology:** Deadline: August 31, 2015. No fee. Pays 6 cents/word. Compendium of short stories that explore science fiction, scientific fantasy, space opera, etc. set on Earth or near Earth, in near future settings. <http://metasagas.com/submissions/>

Scary scene from the movie *Misery* – with message for writers.



Happy writing!

~ Ann