

# Just Write Newsletter ~ Volume 5, Issue 8 ~ August 2016

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



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## Writing Quotes

“There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you.” – *Maya Angelou*

“You never have to change anything you got up in the middle of the night to write.” – *Saul Bellow*

“A short story is a different thing all together. A short story is like a kiss in the dark from a stranger.” – *Stephen King*

“Writing is a socially acceptable form of schizophrenia.” – *E. L. Doctorow*

“We have to continually be jumping off cliffs and developing wings on the way down.”  
– *Kurt Vonnegut*

## Chapter Officers

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## New Member

Welcome to our new member Alissa Holyoak, who lives in Sevier County. She received a BA in English from BYU and is currently a stay-at-home mom who is also a write. During NaNoWriMo last November she wrote a YA novel and she’s now on the second draft. She looks forward to receiving feedback from our critique group.

Welcome, Alissa.

## Critique Group

**We are in the first Critique/Review session for August.** We have a nice cadre of determined authors who provide useful feedback. All of the Just Write members are welcome to participate, so let me know if you have something you'd like to have reviewed.

*Write On!*

## Editorial: Royalty Free Stock Photos

I wrote on this subject last year but I think it bears repeating – plus I have a new link. I cannot begin to tally the days and weeks I've wasted over the past three years searching for affordable, relevant photos I could use in Book Trailers, Websites, Book Covers and Blog Posts.

For over a year I sifted through the mire formerly known as **Dollar Photo**, spending incredible amounts of time looking for one usable photo. The price was right: \$1 apiece. But the search time was tremendous contributors could add any tags they wanted for their photos, no matter how irrelevant. You could search for Lighthouses and get photos of scantily clad females, snow-covered mountains, animals, babies – anything. Their Search feature had become untenable.

**Adobe Stock** has a much better category system but they charge more, mostly through a monthly fee paid whether you need photos that month or not. <https://stock.adobe.com/> They have hundreds of photos I would never use and scant photos that I want.

**Wikimedia Commons** ([https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Main\\_Page](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Main_Page)) boasts a database of over **32 million** freely usable media files but their search engine leaves something to be desired. Many of their photos require attribution and a lot of them cannot be used for commercial purposes.

**Flickr** (<https://www.flickr.com/photos/>) has tons of Creative Commons photos, but most Flickr photos are really old. They have a lot of NASA photos – but NASA Images has them all: <https://www.nasa.gov/multimedia/imagegallery/index.html>

New Sources: With the help of **Verve UK** I have a list of **27** Websites where I can search for usable photos. All of these sites offer **royalty free photos** that we can use not only for personal or educational purposes, but for commercial purposes as well. *How cool is that?* And the vast majority of these photos don't require attribution. You might want to check out the list. <http://www.verveuk.eu/news/27-superb-sites-with-royalty-free-stock-images-for-commercial-use/>

*Keep writing – and searching too!*

*~Ann*

## Member Article: Resubmission by Edward Massey

I just finished the final touches for resubmission of my novel, Fugitive Sheriff, to a publisher. This experience has taught me a lot. J F Kennedy said: "Success has many fathers. Failure is an orphan." My version of his sentiment is that I was the father of the failure of my first and second drafts of this book. In my first failure, beta readers convinced me the draft was not publishable. In my second failure, the story suffered from inept writing. The evaluator made that clear with a resounding rejection along with a three-hundred word explanation of how far I had to go to reach their standards.

Count that tough evaluator as father number one. Then my good friend, John Nesbitt, agreed to read both the evaluation and the draft. I needed help; I couldn't even understand some of the criticisms. And boy, did John help. Count John as father number two.

I set out to rewrite every word based on what I thought I had learned, although I had no grand expectations. Worse, I felt a certain amount of shame for doing such a poor job. Then came John again, Robert McKee, and Western Writers of America in Cheyenne, all of whom encouraged me to resubmit. Fathers number three. And the acquisitions editor at the publishing company generously encouraged me to resubmit. That's father number four. If the book is accepted I will once again thank father number one, the tough evaluator who spared none of my feelings in setting this book on a course toward publication success.

~ Edward

## Writing Conferences and Workshops

### ▶ **Eagle Mountain Arts Alliance 2016 Writer's Workshop: August 6th.**

[NOTE: I realize this date has passed but I thought you might want to keep this in mind for next year.] Held in Eagle Mountain, UT. Classes begin at nine and run until five. \$25 a person.

<http://eaglemountainarts.org/2016/05/2016-writers-workshop/>

### ▶ **Salt Lake Comic Con: September 1-3.**

The SL Comic Con convention will be held at the Salt Palace Convention Center. It runs from 2 pm Thursday to 7 pm Saturday. If purchased in advance the Multipass costs \$60. Daily passes are less.

<http://saltlakecomiccon.com/>

### ▶ **Colorado Gold Conference – Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers: September 9-11, 2016.** Denver, Colorado. This is a big conference. They always have a dozen agents and acquisition editors from publishing houses, so it's a good place to pitch your book. This Conference will be held at the Renaissance Hotel, Denver. <http://rmfw.org/conference/>

### ▶ **LUW Fall Conference: September 23-24.**

This year the conference will be in **Provo** at the Provo Marriott. Details on the League website.

<http://luwriters.org/> Saturday night LUW contest winners are announced and awards given.

## Contests

### ▶ **Tom Howard / Margaret Reid Poetry Contest – 14th Annual:** Deadline: September 30, 2016.

Fee: \$10 a poem. Cash prizes plus publication for the top 12 entries.

<https://winningwriters.com/our-contests/tom-howard-margaret-reid-poetry-contest>

### ▶ **Pockets Annual Fiction Contest:** Deadline: August 15, 2016. NO Fee and No Theme. Stories between 750 – 1000 words. <http://pockets.upperroom.org/write-for-us/annual-fiction-contest/>

### ▶ **Rotting Post Humor Competition:** Deadline: August 31, 2016. NO Fee. Must be 1000 words or less. Visit website to read examples of what they are looking for. <https://rottingpost.com/contest/>

## Publishing

### ▶ **Sweet & Sassy Anthologies – Call for Submissions:** Due October 30th. The Romance novella must take place in Europe and needs to be CLEAN. <http://www.iwritenetwork.com/p/sweet-sassy-anthologies.html>

- ▶ **Chicken Soup for the Soul – Random Acts of Kindness:** Deadline: September 15, 2016.  
<http://www.chickensoup.com/story-submissions/possible-book-topics>
- ▶ **Kraken Press – Open to Submissions;** Accepting novels, novellas and short story collections up to 120,000 words. Only interested in horror, dark fantasy and weird fiction.  
<https://kraken.submittable.com/submit/23341>
- ▶ **Booker Albert Literary Agency – Four agents and what they accept:**  
<http://www.thebookeralbertagency.com/about-us.html>
- ▶ **Marsal Lyon Literary Agency – They represent many genres and categories:**  
<http://www.marsallyonliteraryagency.com/submissions/submission-info/>
- ▶ **All You Need to Know about Publishing in Online Lit Mags:** This is a comprehensive article.  
<http://www.thereviewreview.net/publishing-tips/all-you-need-know-about-publishing-online-li>

## Writing Resources

- ▶ **Former troops building second careers in military Science Fiction:**  
<http://www.stripes.com/former-troops-building-second-careers-in-military-science-fiction-1.417224>  
This is a great way for former soldiers to augment their income or to make a living by writing.
- ▶ **95 Synonyms for DIFFICULT – Synonyms + Definitions:**  
<http://writingexplained.org/synonyms-for-difficult-list>
- ▶ **9 Grammatical Mistakes You Need to Stop Making before I Throw Live Scorpions at You:**  
<http://nonprofitwithballs.com/2016/07/9-grammatical-mistakes-you-need-to-stop-making-before-i-throw-live-scorpions-at-you/>
- ▶ **7 Things to Fix in Your First Self-Edit – Writing and Editing Fiction: An oldie but a goodie from Joanna Penn** <http://www.thecreativepenn.com/2015/10/22/self-editing/>
- ▶ **4 Ways to verify Your Story Concept is Strong Enough (by K. M. Weiland):**  
<http://www.helpingwritersbecomeauthors.com/story-concept-2/>
- ▶ **Character Drive vs Plot Driven Writing: What's the Difference?** Posted on the Dorrance Publishing website: <http://www.dorrancepublishing.com/blog/character-driven-v-plot-driven-writing-whats-difference/#.V6pD2KRTGM8>



*Happy Writing,  
Ann*