

Just Write Newsletter ~ Volume 5, Issue 9 ~ September 2016

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

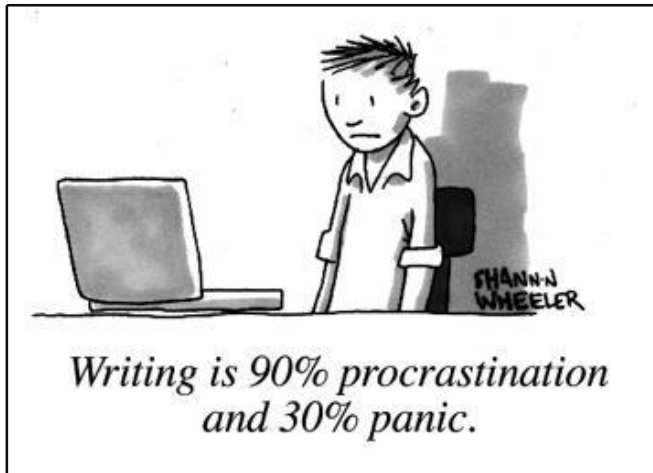


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Writing Quotes

“Writing a book isn’t an easy process nor is it always enjoyable, but it is one of life’s most satisfying achievements.” – *Guy Kawasaki*

“A professional writer is an amateur who didn’t quit.” – *Richard Bach*

“Writing is easy. All you have to do is cross out the wrong words.” – *Mark Twain*

“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.” – *Jess Whedon*

“The secret of becoming a writer is to write, write, and keep on writing.” – *Ken MacLeod*

“A writer who waits for ideal conditions under which to work will die without putting a word on paper.” – *E. B. White*

Chapter Officers

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Critique Group

Just Write hosts two Critique/Review sessions a month. We have a nice cadre of determined authors who provide useful feedback for your story or novel chapter. All Just Write members are welcome to participate.

Write On!

New Members

Welcome to our new members, Krysti and Jennifer.

Krysti Meyer currently lives in Davis County. Her short fiction has appeared in various publications, including *Bards and Sages Quarterly*, *Luna Station Quarterly*, *Beyond Centauri*, and others. She has worked as a journalist and creative writer for *Mugglenet*, the world's #1 Harry Potter fan site. She is currently working on her first full-length novel, which she plans to share with the critique group. Welcome, Krysti.

Jennifer Cook lives in Davis County with her husband and two children. She is a consultant for a government pharmacy cost-saving program; she acknowledges this sounds like an oxymoron. Although she has written and published articles and blog posts through her work, she dreams of penning and publishing short stories. She's excited to be a member of Just Write and looks forward to joining the critique group. Welcome, Jennifer.

Editor Note: *In a Perfect World*

In a perfect world I would be able to write my stories the old-fashioned way, with pen and paper, then pay a nearby typist to enter them on my computer. For each revision I would mark my changes on a hard copy; the stalwart typist would decipher my scribbles to create a new version. This would repeat for all my revisions, which could become costly. For my story *Selene's Replacement*, I generated seventeen versions before sending it to the publisher. In my perfect world I wouldn't need to stare at a screen to type my handwritten pages. Like Barbara Cartland I'd have assistants doing that for me.



Ah, but in my utopian world I wouldn't contract a debilitating eye infection that made computing nearly impossible. Now that it's difficult for me to look at a computer screen I have piles of untyped notes on my desk, all waiting for my eye to heal. At least I'm still writing ...

This would be an ideal time for me to practice composing stories with a digital recorder, the way Roger does in *Roger and the Alien*. Kevin Anderson does this. He sends the audio file to a virtual assistant who transcribes the story and sends him a computer file. Sounds like something I should try. 8-}

Keep writing and editing!
~ Ann

Website Review: *The Flogometer*

The full title of this website is "**Flogging the Quill**: Pursuing the art and craft of compelling storytelling." This is Ray's challenge: Can we craft a novel's first page that compels him (and others) to turn to the next page?

Currently the site's home page begins with Ray discussing a workshop he held in Portland. Below that you can see examples of the Flogometer in action, starting with **Flog a BookBubber 42: Silk White**. <http://floggingthequill.com/> Someone sends their opening page to Ray, who pastes it on his website, where he and other writers read the page and vote on it. Click "View Results" to see how readers judged the first page of Silk White. You can also vote if you think this writer should have had an editor.

Ray often edits the page to illustrate how he would edit it, including deleting wordiness and irrelevant sentences. You also might want to read the page that explains how to avoid the adverb "very." http://www.floggingthequill.com/flogging_the_quill/2016/09/how-to-avoid-weak-very-phrases.html

~ Ann



Writing Conferences, Workshops and Events

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

This year the League conference is held in **Provo** at the Provo Marriott. Details are posted on the website

<http://www.leagueofutahwriters.org/fall-conference.html>

▶ **National Punctuation Day: September 24th.**

<http://www.nationalpunctuationday.com/>

Writing Contests

- ▶ **The Larry Brown Short Story Competition:** Deadline: October 31, 2016. Fee: \$10. *Pithead* announces the first annual Larry Brown Short Story Award. The winning author will receive \$250 and publication in the January 2017 issue of *Pithead Chapel*. Honorable Mentions may also be published. Limit: 4,000 words. <https://pitheadchapel.com/the-larry-brown-short-story-award/>
- ▶ **Boulevard Short Fiction for Emerging Writers:** Deadline: December 31, 2016. Entry fee: \$16 includes a subscription. All entries will be considered for publication and for payment at our regular rates. Limit: 8,000 words. <http://www.boulevardmagazine.org/short-fiction-contest/>

Publishing

- ▶ **KT Literary Agency:** <http://ktliterary.com/submissions/>
Four literary agents seeking new clients with great writing for middle grade, young adult, and adult.
- ▶ **HSG Agency:** About the agency: <http://www.hsgagency.com/the-agency.html>
About the agents: <http://www.hsgagency.com/the-agents.html>
- ▶ **LPA - Lori Perkins Agency:** Founded in 1987. <http://www.lperkinsagency.com/#theagents>
Six agents representing both fiction and nonfiction.
- ▶ **Inklings Literary Agency:** http://www.inklingsliterary.com/Michelle_Johnson.html
Michelle is now open to queries. In adult, NA, and YA, she looks for Contemporary, Suspense, Thriller, Mystery, Romance, Horror, Fantasy, and light Sci-Fi.
- ▶ **Jennifer De Chiara Literary Agency:** <http://www.jdlit.com/about>
The agency represents children's literature for all ages – picture books and middle-grade and young adult novels. She also represents illustrators and screenwriters.

Resources

- ▶ **The 7 Critical Elements of a Great Book** – from *Writers Write*: <http://writerswrite.co.za/the-7-critical-elements-of-a-great-book>
- ▶ **10 Ways to Develop the Writing Habit** – by Daphne Grey-Grant [I love this common sense article – her first step is “start small”]: <http://www.publicationcoach.com/writing-habit/>
- ▶ **Why you should go easier on yourself** – by Daphne Grey-Grant: <http://www.publicationcoach.com/self-compassion/>

- ▶ **Turn Your Story into a Captivating Bestseller:** <http://positivewriter.com/your-story-bestseller/>
This author asks the writer to ask themselves some good questions.
- ▶ **9 Ways to Market a Book After the New Release Buzz Dies Down:**
<https://insights.bookbub.com/ways-to-market-a-book-after-the-new-release-buzz-dies-down/>



Happy Writing,

Ann