

Become an Insider! Curated links to the best publishing news on the web. Contest listings, conference listings, workshop listings, twitter pitch updates...only the best craft links! Writing opportunities scoured from the web and inside sources. [View in browser](#)

TINA RADCLIFFE'S

Writer's
INSIDE EDITION



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March 2022

“Writers write. Everyone else makes excuses.”

— Jack Bickham

IN THIS EDITION:

- Publishing
- Contests
- Conferences
- Twitter Pitch
- Publishing Opportunities
- ETC.

- Workshops & Webinars
 - Writing Organizations
 - Lit Agent Spotlight
 - **Social Media Insider News [NEW]**
 - Links
 - **Free Download! [Subscribers only]**
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PUBLISHING

[Breaking Down 2021's Bestsellers by Publisher](#) - PW

[Amazon to close its bookstores](#) - Yahoo/USA Today

[Pitch Wars Comes to an End](#) - PW

[Agents Offer Predictions for Christian Publishing](#) - PW

[Authors Guild Expresses Solidarity with Ukraine](#) - Authors Guild

[Atlanta-based Accelerate360 buys Bauer Media Group's U.S. portfolio](#) - Atlanta Business Chronicle

CONTESTS

[National Excellence in Romance Fiction Award \(NERFA\)](#) Deadline March 31. (Pub)

[The Christy Award®](#) Submission period is March 1-31 (Pub)

[Maggie Award for Excellence](#) Deadline March 31 (Pub)

[Book Buyers Best Contest for Published Authors](#) Deadline March 31 (Pub)

[Prepublished Maggie Award](#) Deadline April 17 (Unpub)

[Writer's Digest Annual Writing Competition](#) Deadline May 6. (Pub/Unpub)

[Emma Awards](#) (Multicultural Literary Award) Deadline May 15. (Pub)

[The Leslie Esdaile Banks Aspiring Author Contest](#) Deadline May 15 (Unpub)

[The Saturday Evening Post Great American Fiction Contest.](#) Deadline July 1. (Pub/Unpub)

Concerned about the legitimacy of a contest? [Check SFWA](#) for scam alerts. Or check the ALLi list of contest ratings [here](#).

CONFERENCES

- [Blue Lake Christian Writers Conference.](#) April 6-9, 2022. (AL)
- [Nebraska Writers Guild.](#) April 16- 18, 2022. (NE)
- [Chicago Spring Fling.](#) April 28-30, 2022 (Virtual & In Person)
- [Pikes Peak Writers Conference.](#) April 29-May 1. (Virtual & In-person)
- The Bluegrass Writers Coalition. April 30, 2022 (KY)
- [Mt. Zion Ridge Press Online Writing Conference.](#) May 12-14, 2022.
- [Thrillerfest XVII 2022.](#) May 31-June 4, 2022 (NYC)
- [Writer's Police Academy.](#) June 2-5, 2022. (WI)
- [InkersCon.](#) June 3-5, 2022 (TX) Virtual & In-person)
- [Blue Ridge Mountains Christian Writers Conference 2022](#) May 29-June 2, 2022. (NC)
- [Romance Slam Jam Virtual Romance Book Con.](#) July 14-July 16, 2022
- [Killer Nashville.](#) August 10-August 23, 2022 (TN)
- [ACFW Conference.](#) September 7- 11, 2022. (MO)
- [Colorado Gold Writers Conference.](#) September 9-11, 2022. Registration opens May 1.(CO)
- [Erma Bombeck Writers' Workshop.](#) Oct. 20-22 (OH)
- [Kauai Writers Conference.](#) November 11-13. In-person with online events. (HI)

Phoenix, AZ

**Christian Writer's Conference
of 2022**

Email me for the PDF of this conference handout. It is not held in connection with any organization and I am not affiliated with the event.

PHOENIX IN OCTOBER

CHRISTIAN WRITER'S CONFERENCE OF 2022

FRIDAY EVENING, OCT 14 - SUNDAY MORNING, OCT 16, 2022

Friday - 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm Registration on patio beside hotel pool 5:00 - 5:30. All 5:30 meet in the Palm Lobby if you'd like to eat together in the on-site restaurant/bistro. Snacks in the pool area 5:00 - 6:00.

Saturday 9:00 - 9:25 am Welcome in Ballroom 1, Ball Room

9:25 - 9:30 Morning Devotions with Nancy Pearce

10:00 - 11:00 Live Inquest Panel (Speaker Panel) (Erick, Tim James, give 4 top reasons for manuscript rejection. Three authors will address them. Length 60-90 minutes. Please arrive 15-20 min before start & please leave 15-11-12:15 Workshop with Agent Steve Louder - "How to Work With an Agent" and "Insider's Look for Your Book Contract" - Lunch with Agents of Steve's future publisher for individual. Contact Nancy Nacy.

12:30 - 2:00 Luncheon with Keynote Address by Colleen Coble on "How I Made My Writing Dreams Come True - One Step At a Time." Address & moderated panel. Buffet on second level with live Celtic band.

Optional 2:00 - 3:00 - 10-minute pitch sessions w/Steve Louder Sign-up in ballroom. See limited Small fee. Contact Nancy Nacy. See below.

2:15 - 3:15 Workshop with Judy Duarte & Chelly Jenkins. Drawing Your Story Out using Book Deal Drivers, the Setting & Secondary Characters.

3:30 - 4:30 Chat with Kristin Blumenthal & Colleen Coble about the new book in setting. The benefits of good setting, trends & markets, their story.

4:30 - 5:00 Cheers for 14 Book Authors & Recommended Writer Groups **5:00 - 5:45** Break

5:45 - 6:45 Saturday Evening Tack Bar (Spouses \$20, singles/individuals) Open & bar service (ground level) awarded chairs, before, between, during, and after. Seating first, back bar, afterwards & beyond.

7:00 - 7:05 PRE-1980 CHICKEN & Historical Fiction Writing Presentation by Dr. Douglas Hillman (Prof. of Early Christian Church History of Kean University). Find out how The Chosen series is written. See their most controversial scenes. Learn how they research. Ask questions.

7:30-10:30 Chat Rooms - All AGS, All CBA, All Indie & All Pre-Pub

Sunday 7:00 AM - Great the day! Bring your own coffee or tea.

7:15 - 10:15 Morning Church Service with Nancy Pearce

10:30 - 11:15 Current Christian Fiction Market Discussion

11:15 - 11:45 Wrap Up & Plans for Next Year's Conference

REGISTRATION: \$15 - \$175 until August 18, 2022 (plus \$5 if paying with PAYPAL); Aug. 18 - Sep. 15, 2022 registration is \$157 (plus \$5 for PAYPAL). Registration limited to 40. **TO REGISTER:** Email Janet Spangler (janet@christianwriters.com) or Pamela Tracy at PALETTE@CWA.ORG LOCATION: Hilton Phoenix Airport Hotel. Special Room rate \$159 plus tax. Instructions on booking provided after registration. 3424 South 47th St., Phoenix. Free 24-hour airport shuttle. See parking and fee w/s.

TWITTER PITCHES

Note that the world of Twitter Pitches is slowing down.

#FaithPitch is a one-day Twitter Pitch Party hosted specifically for authors looking for representation within the Christian Retail Association (CRA) market, whether with a literary agent or directly with a publishing house. #FaithPitch invites authors to pitch their most complete and best edited fiction AND non-fiction manuscripts directly to industry professionals using #FaithPitch. Keep an eye on their website for the 2022 dates. [Details here.](#)

#PitchDis was created to showcase pitches from the disabled community, which has been historically underrepresented in the publishing industry. The next #PitchDis event will take place June 23, 2022 between 8am and 8pm EDT. [More info here.](#)

#PBPitch (Picture Book Pitch) The next #PBPitch Twitter event will be held in June 2022. [More info here.](#)

Tule Publishing

Submission Guidelines

We are a digital first publisher, we would like to work with authors who have a strong online presence and who are committed to promoting and marketing their work, and we love stories with series potential. We accept both agented and unagented submissions that have not been previously published.

It is necessary that submissions to our romance imprints have a central romance plot with a happily-ever-after, or at least, a happy-for-now ending. We ask that for all imprints your stories fall within the categorized lengths below:

Short Novel: 45k - 60k words

Long Novel: 60k - 90k words

Please note that we are currently only accepting a limited number of romantic suspense and women's fiction titles.

Accepts Unagented Submissions

Mt. Zion Ridge Press

Submission Guidelines

We are a traditional publisher and publish print, eBooks, and sometimes audio books that fit the following criteria:

All genres of Christian fiction featuring intriguing characters with grit and determination, facing real-life challenges head-on, through faith and conviction.

Mt. Zion Ridge Press, "books off the beaten path," has opened their doors for submissions. Our standard submission process is to accept queries first.

Accepts Unagented Submissions

Beyond the Page Publishing

Submission Guidelines

Beyond the Page provides comprehensive publishing services for established authors, hybrid authors, and emerging, independent authors to help them achieve their publishing goals. With a focus on long-term planning and career building, we draw on decades of experience in traditional and ebook publishing to support authors through every stage of self-publishing, from manuscript editing through publication, promotion, and beyond.

Beyond the Page specializes in commercial fiction for both the adult and young adult audiences, with an emphasis on mystery and suspense.

Accepts Unagented Submissions

ETC.

- **Arizona Mystery Writers Jim Martin Memorial Story Contest.** Open to Adults 18 Years and Over. Submission Deadline: August 1, 2022. Email submissions ONLY. No exceptions.
- Writer must be a Southwestern state resident (Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah, California, Colorado). Total word count—2500 words or less. Cash prizes.
- **2022 Bethlehem Writers Short Story Award.** \$15 ENTRY FEE. Deadline March 31, 2022. Theme: An Element of Mystery: Sweet, Funny, and Strange Tales of Intrigue. We are seeking never-published short stories of 2,000 words or fewer. Cash prizes.
- **The Al Blanchard Award** honors the best crime short story by a New England writer or with a New England setting. Story must be a crime story by a New England author or have a New England setting if the author is not from New England. Story must be previously unpublished (in print or electronically). Story must not be more than 5,000 words in length. Story may include the following genres: mystery, thriller, suspense, caper, and horror. (No torture/killing of children or animals.) Deadline for submission is midnight, April 30, 2022.
- **Check out Free Advice Friday's** Replay from New Shelves and Hot Topics for March 4th here. <https://bitly.co/BIjU>
- **New video on how to write a query letter!** From Nathan Bransford

- **Harlequin Adds New Scholarships to Diverse Voices Scholarship Program. Funding available to student writers at Emerson College and North Carolina A&T State University beginning Fall 2022. [More information here.](#)**
 - Amazon just announced that they have expanded their ad program to include traditionally published authors. Now authors can run Amazon ads for any book they have claimed on their Author Central profile. -New Shelves Books - <https://ytube.io/3QgJ>
 - Pitching Your Novel at #RomanceIncludesYou on March 30th. Diverse voices. Diverse stories. Pitch Event March 30th, 2022, 9 am -5 pm EST. Details here <https://bityl.co/BLvd>
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WORKSHOPS & WEBINARS

***Time Sensitive* Bryan Cohen & Best Page Forward present...“Free Webinar: [The LIVE Book Marketing Makeover to Help You Sell More Books with an Optimized Sales Page](#)”**
Thursday, March 17, 3pm New York, 12pm LA.

Save the Date! Gail Carriger is coming to Golden State Romance Writers in April. GSRW are not affiliated with RWA. Gail Carriger: The Heroine's Journey. Saturday, April 23, 2022. 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM- PST. Business meeting is held prior to the 10:30 Zoom Webinar. Non-Member registration is \$25. Details here <https://bityl.co/BJ5u>

The Story Cube: Rethinking Story From the Ground Up with Steven James. Tuesday, April 19, 2022, 7:00 pm ET, Zoom Webinar. Special Two Hour Webinar presented by FHLCW. \$25 Non-Members. Details and registration here: <https://fhl-cw.com/fhl-programs/>

Tax Tips for Authors 2022/The Authors Guild. [Watch the Recording here.](#) Join us for a Q&A with Robert Pesce, the treasurer of the Authors Guild Foundation and a partner at the accounting firm Marcum Group LLP.

WRITING ORGANIZATIONS

League of Romance Writers. (Not affiliated with RWA) League of Romance Writers was established in 1981. It is a non-profit organization. Although romance focused, the League of Romance Writes was created for the purpose of promoting excellence in all genres of fiction writing. Located in Houston, Texas, the League of Romance Writers is group that welcomes all inclusive, diverse authors and members. Home of “*The Emily Contest.*”

Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers. Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers (RMFW) is a non-profit, volunteer-run corporation dedicated to supporting, encouraging, and educating writers seeking publication in commercial fiction. To that end, the organization strives to:

- Provide an environment of support and encouragement among members and the Rocky Mountain writing community
- Stimulate interest in and appreciation for the art of writing in the community at large
- Act as a dissemination point for information to members and the public concerning commercial fiction writing
- Bring together authors, editors, agents, writing-related professionals and readers for the benefit of all.

The Authors Guild. Our mission is to support working writers. We advocate for the rights of writers by supporting free speech, fair contracts, and copyright. We create community and we fight for a living wage. The Authors Guild is the nation’s oldest and largest professional organization of writers. Since our founding, we have served as the collective voice of American authors, and have long supported the rich and diverse literary culture of our country. Our members include novelists in all genres and categories, nonfiction writers, journalists, historians, poets, and translators. The Guild welcomes traditionally published authors as well as self-published, independent authors.

LIT AGENT SPOTLIGHT

This week in Manuscript Wish List

#mswl

Rachelle Gardner @RachelleGardner · 1d

Querying authors, we're looking for Christian [#YA](#) / [#YAFantasy](#), including fairytale retellings w/ a unique approach. Must be tailored for the Christian market and you need a strong platform. No DMs. See submission guidelines: rachellegardner.com/submissions [#MSWL](#) [#InspyBooks](#) [#amwriting](#)

[P.S. Literary Agency @PSLiterary](#) · 1d

“Psychological thrillers with new twists on classic tropes: unstable (or unhinged) narrators, missing memories or time, seemingly decent people with dark pasts, stalking, gaslighting in any form.”

[@claire_m_harris](#) psliterary.com/submissions/ [#MSWL](#)

[Laura Stone, Agent at Blue Ridge Literary Agency](#)

[@BRLALaura](#) · 1d

[#MSWL](#) Would love to see some [#cozymystery](#) submissions with unique hooks. Can't wait to see what comes in.

SOCIAL MEDIA INSIDER NEWS [NEW]

[Instagram Launches Updated Creator Tags to Provide More Credit for Content Contributors](#) (SMT)

[Meta's Testing a New Layout in the Desktop Version of Facebook](#) (SMT)

[Is Goodreads a Good Thing?](#) (BookRiot)

[Hashtags For Writers: Free Generator Tool](#) (Kindlepreneur)

Need Instagram Help? [Check out Elise Darma on YouTube](#)

LINKS

[Will New MailerLite Impact Pricing?](#) (Author Company)

[Writing Spies: Who and What is Listening, and Why?](#) (WITS) * I never miss an article by Bayard & Holmes*

[A Close Reading of the Best Opening Paragraph of All Time](#) (Lit Hub)

[How to Write a Book Description: The Ultimate Guide to a Best-Selling Book Blurb](#) (Kindlepreneur)

[NFTs For Authors: Creativity, Collaboration, Community, and Cash](#) (The Creative Penn)

[Backstory as Behavior: Pathological Maneuvers and Persistent Virtues](#) (Writer Unboxed)

[How to Promote Any Book with BookBub Ads](#) (BookBub Partners Blog)

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