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TINA RADCLIFFE'S

# Writer's INSIDE EDITION



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## MAY 2022

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“And by the way, everything in life is writable about if you have the outgoing guts to do it and the imagination to improvise. The worst enemy to creativity is self-doubt.”

— Sylvia Plath

### IN THIS EDITION:

- Publishing
- Contests
- Conferences

- Twitter Pitch
  - Publishers
  - ETC.
  - Workshops & Webinars
  - Writing Organizations
  - Lit Agent Spotlights
  - Social Media Insider News
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  - **Free Handout! [Subscribers only]**
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## PUBLISHING

[Supply Squeeze, Changing Consumer Behavior Challenges Publishers](#)  
(PW)

[Amazon Kindles now support EPUB books \(sort of\), but MOBI and AZW support is ending in 2022](#) (Liliputing)

[How her search for joy amidst pandemic depression led Kennedy Ryan back to traditional publishing](#) (EW)

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## CONTESTS

**Keep an eye on the Faith, Hope, & Love Christian Writers website for the [2022 Touched by Love Contest](#) which opens in June 2022.**

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

[Put Your Heart in a Book](#). Opens June 3. Deadline August 1. (Pub/Unpub)

[Golden Leaf Contest](#). Opens June 3. Deadline August 1. (Pub)

[Fiction from the Heartland](#). Opens August 1. Deadline October 1. (Unpub)

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

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## CONFERENCES (are BAAACK!)

- [Blue Ridge Mountains Christian Writers Conference 2022](#) May 29-June 2, 2022. (NC)
- [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.
- [Kentucky Christian Writers Conference](#). June 16-18. (KY) Virtual & In-person.
- [Romance Slam Jam Virtual Romance Book Con](#). July 14-July 16, 2022
- [RWA 2022](#). July 28-30, 2022. (Washington, D.C.)
- [Killer Nashville](#). August 10-August 23, 2022 (TN)
- [ACFW Conference](#). September 7- 11, 2022. (MO)
- [Colorado Gold Writers Conference](#). September 9-11, 2022. (CO)
- [Florida Christian Writers Conference](#). October 19-23. (FL)
- [Erma Bombeck Writers' Workshop](#). October 20-22 (OH)
- [Moonlight & Magnolias Conference](#). October 20-23 (GA)
- [Emerald City Writer's Conference](#). October 21-23. Virtual.
- [ACFW Virginia Royal Conference](#). November 11-12. Virtual. (Registration opens October 3)
- [Kauai Writers Conference](#). November 11-13. In-person with online events. (HI)
- [Left Coast Crime Conference 2023: Trouble in Tucson](#). March 16-19, 2023. Registration is Open.

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## TWITTER PITCHES

**Note that the world of Twitter Pitches is slowing down.**

**#PBPitch** (Picture Book Pitch) The next #PBPitch Twitter event will be Thursday, June 9th, 2022, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. EST. [More info](#)

[here.](#)

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**#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.](#)

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**#MoodPitch** is Twitter's newest and coolest pitch contest for authors of completed, polished, query-ready manuscripts. We help you connect with agents via a pitch contest that includes... MOODBOARDS! Next pitch is November, 2022. [More info here.](#)

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## **PUBLISHERS**

### **Whitefire Publishing**

#### **[Submission Guidelines](#)**

We are looking for Christian fiction of all genres. Novels should be between 60K and 150K in the word count.

Amazing writing leads the day, and we love stories that take risks. We are open to historicals (exotic settings welcome!), historical romance, biblical fiction, contemporary romance, romantic suspense, women's fiction, suspense, supernatural thrillers, speculative, and are receptive to queries on other genres aimed at adults as well. For juvenile fiction submissions, please see our WhiteSpark page.

#### **Accepts Unagented Submissions**

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### **Love Inspired Suspense**

## **Submission Guidelines**

Contemporary inspirational romantic suspense nove. | Word count of 55,000 to 60,000 words

Riveting romantic suspense stories with a Christian worldview and wholesome values. Stories focused equally on gripping suspense and strong compelling romance. Heroes and heroines who work together to solve the mystery or overcome the shared danger. Stories can be set in small town North America or close knit communities in urban settings. Mandatory faith element that is integral to story and shows rather than tells, avoiding didactic, preachy tone or doctrinal language. Hero and heroine should meet early in book, preferably by end of chapter one. And the suspense element should be introduced in chapter one. Stories should contain both hero and heroine Point of View only. No secondary character POV

### **Accepts Unagented Submissions**

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## **DAW Books**

**An imprint of Penguin. Digital submissions through Submittable**

### **Submission Guidelines**

DAW accepts unsolicited submissions of science fiction and fantasy novels. We cannot consider short stories, short story collections, novellas, or poetry. The average length of the novels we publish varies, but is almost never fewer than 80,000 words. We seek to publish a wide range of voices and stories, because we believe that it is the duty of the science fiction and fantasy genres to be inclusive and representative of as many diverse viewpoints as possible.

### **Accepts Unagented Submissions**

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## **ETC.**

- [Arizona Mystery Writers Jim Martin Memorial Story](#). Contest Deadline August 1. For Unpublished Manuscripts. Writer must be a Southwestern state resident (Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah, California, Colorado).

- **Scrivenings Press Third Annual #GetPubbed contest.**  
We're looking for great, unpublished novels! That's why Scrivenings Press launched our annual Get Pubbed contest. We know there are great manuscripts out there — just waiting to be discovered. And we want to see them! Details and entry form: <https://scrivenings.link/getpubbed> Submissions are NOW OPEN! Entry deadline is 11:59 PM on July 15, 2022.
  - **Scrivenings Press Third Annual #NovelStarts contest!** If you've started a novel and want professional feedback, here's a great opportunity! Novel Starts is the perfect contest for writers who've started a work of fiction but aren't yet finished. Get professional feedback. Win prizes! Maybe even beat the slush pile! Details and entry form: <https://scrivenings.link/novelstarts> Submissions are NOW OPEN! Entry deadline is 11:59 PM on July 15, 2022.
  - **The WritersWeekly.com Summer 24-Hour Short Story Contest** registration is now open. Start time is Saturday, July 16th, 2022, at 12:00 p.m. (noon) central time, but you MUST be registered before the contest begins. Held quarterly and limited to 500 entrants. Don't miss out on the ultimate source for creative stress...and tons of fun! More than 80 prizes! [Get the details here.](#)
  - **The 2022 Rehoboth Beach Reads Short Story Contest** is now open! The theme is "Beach Holidays." Deadline July 1, 2022. [Details here.](#)
  - **Worth a second look.** [Genre Guide: Women's Fiction, Upmarket, Romance, Literary...?](#) By Lidija Hilje
  - **Wanted: Funny Stories.** Chicken Soup for the Soul is working on a new title containing funny stories that will be released in 2023. "It's obvious that people really do love stories that make them laugh and feel good," the editors say. All stories and poems need to be true. Contributors receive \$200 and 10 copies of the book. Deadline: June 30. [Submit here.](#) -Info provided by Erma Bombeck Writer's Workshop
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## WORKSHOPS & WEBINARS

- Golden State Romance Writers Present: **Denny Bryce: 2022 Book Marketing: The Power is in the Plan for Social Media.** Saturday, May 21, 2022. 9:30 AM 12:30 PM, PDT.

Monthly meetings cost: members \$15 / non-members \$25. [More information and registration.](#)

- SinC Presents: **Can I Hook You on My Book? Tips for Writing Effective Query Letters to Agents.** Tuesday, May 24, 2022. 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm ET. \$\$Free (sign in required)  
Description: This workshop draws on industry research and interviews with agents to provide current advice about the query letter, which is really a genre all its own. Members are required to sign in to register for the webinar. Non-members are invited to register for the webinar; however, you must establish a Guest Non-member account on our site so that you can sign in to register. Creating your account is a one-time process, and you can sign in with the same credentials for all future webinars. [Registration for this Zoom webinar is here.](#)
  - Emerald City Romance Writers Present: All Day Workshop with NYT Bestselling Author Skye Warren. June 4, 10:30-3:00 PM PDT Online. **A two-part event on the Anatomy of a Bestselling Book Launch and Effective Zero-Dollar Marketing.** Registration is required for this event. It is free for members, but you still need to register. It is \$25 for non-members. [Registration and more information here.](#)
  - **New conference!** ♥♥ Charleston's first "Romancecon," **Lust in the Lowcountry**, June 10th and 11th, 2022, is a two-day event is for aspiring romance writers and authors, romance novel fans, and anyone with an interest in learning about the romance industry. <http://LitLowcountry.com>
  - **Spotlight on Love Inspired with Shana Asaro, Editor, Tuesday, July 19, 2022, 7:00 pm ET, Zoom Webinar.** FHLCRW Zoom Webinar. Shana Asaro is an Editor for Love Inspired, Harlequin's inspirational romance series imprint, which publishes contemporary romance and romantic suspense. The Love Inspired franchise currently publishes twelve books of category-length (55,000 words) fiction every month and is always seeking new voices. We've also launched a trade paperback inspirational fiction program called Love Inspired Trade, which features the best in Romantic Suspense, Historical Fiction and Historical Romance, Women's Fiction and Amish Fiction (80,000-100,000 words). Non-member registration (\$15 fee). Questions or for information on how to register see the [program webpage](#). **BTW, for \$25, you can join the organization and attend workshops for free.**
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# WRITING ORGANIZATIONS → NEW

[Emerald City Romance Writers](#) (Not Affiliated with RWA) ECRW is a not-for-profit 501 (c) 6 organization. Located in the Seattle/Puget Sound area of Washington state, Emerald City Romance Writers is dedicated to promoting excellence in romantic fiction by helping writers become published in the romance genre and providing a place where writers — both published and unpublished — can come for growth, support, inspiration and education. We are proud of our authors and the fact that the Northwest continues to be a hotbed of talent.

[Realm Makers](#) Are you a creative person who loves science fiction and fantasy, but also makes your spiritual growth a high priority? Have you found that you're a little too weird for the usual church crowd, but don't exactly fit in with the sci-fi convention set either? Well, now there's a place for you to learn, share your talents, and commune with people a lot like yourself. [Find your tribe at Realm Makers.](#)

[Insecure Writer's Support Group.](#) The Insecure Writer's Support Group is a website media business with affiliates to enhance our service to visitors. We are a home for writers in all stages, from unpublished to bestsellers. Our goal is to offer assistance and guidance. We want to help writers overcome their insecurities, and by offering encouragement we are creating a community of support. The group has expanded beyond blogging into other forms. We have a Facebook Group with 4900+ members, an Instagram group with 1200+ followers, and a Twitter account with 11,100 followers. Our free monthly newsletter, which has featured industry experts like Jane Friedman and Sandra Beckwith, has 600+ subscribers. And we have a Book Club as well.

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## → LIT AGENT SPOTLIGHTS

**What Agents Are Looking for. Check out these recent Tweets from Manuscript Wish List**

[Eric Smith @PSLiterary](#) "Joyful novels and powerful memoirs about the adoptee experience, written by adoptees. I can't stress that enough." [@ericsmithrocks #MSWL](#)



[Victoria Marini @LitAgentMarini · #mswl](#) I'd love some YA, MG, and or Adult Adventure ... heists, treasures, puzzles, rom-venture! Think Heist Society, Inheritance Game, Lost City, Indiana Jones, etc.

[Ali Herring @Ali Herring · #MSWL](#). I'd love something that comps to Carl Sagan's CONTACT, but more concrete and realistic in outcome. Love the idea of earth receiving radio transmission from aliens & go from there.

[Jessica Faust @BookEndsJessica](#) · I love friendship stories, mother/child, complicated relationships and partnerships, In all of this I want more marginalized authors. There are just too many voices and stories not being heard and told. [#MSWL](#)

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## **SOCIAL MEDIA INSIDER NEWS - NEW!**

[Musk Says Twitter Deal 'On Hold' Pending More Data on the Actual Number of Fake Accounts in the App](#) (SMT)

[Video Lighting 101: Making Sure Your Videos Are Lit](#) (Planoly)

[Building an Instagram Content Strategy That Lasts](#) (Social Media Examiner)

[BookTok is the 'last wholesome place' on the internet. Can it stay that way?](#) (Mashable)

[TikTok for Authors: The Ultimate Guide](#) (Kindlepreneur)

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## **CRAFT LINKS**

[5 Secret Ingredients for Writing a Killer Teen Novel](#) (WITS)

[Stay Thirsty, My Friends: On Freeing Writing From the Weight of Perfection](#) (WD)

[The Seven Deadly Sins of Speculative Fiction \(and How to Fix Them\)](#) (DIY MFA)

[Bad Words in Your Book](#) (InkersCon)

[7 Figure Fiction](#) (The Creative Penn)

## **MARKETING LINKS**

[How to Revive Dead Book Sales: Managing Your Backlist](#)

(Kindlepreneur)

[How We Boosted Our Anthology's Retailer Ranking to #1](#) (BookBub

Partners Blog)

[9 Ways Authors Use Crowdfunding Platforms to Reward Readers](#)

(BookBub Partners Blog)

[The Top 5 Strategies for Promoting a Book on Social Media](#) (Author

Marketing Experts)

[How to Research Your Market: An Author's Guide](#) [Checklist]

(Reedsy)

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## **FREE HANDOUT!**

[Literary Devices to Make Your Writing Shine](#) is available on my website as a PDF handout for a limited time. It's from a 2021 workshop. Enjoy!

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**Thanks for being an Insider!**

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Newsletter Services: Christian Author Assistant

**Tina Radcliffe**

382 W Butterfield Rd #130  
Chino Valley, AZ 86323

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