

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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All the information you need in one place.

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JUNE 2022

“Don't try to figure out what other people want to hear from you; figure out what you have to say. It's the one and only thing you have to offer.”

—Barbara Kingsolver

IN THIS EDITION:

- Publishing
- Contests
- Conferences

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

[Why Are Book Sales Slipping in Big Cities?](#) (PW)

[Publishing Contracts 101: Beware Internal Contradictions](#) (Writer Beware)

[Audiobook Growth Continues](#) (PW)

[They're \(NOT\) Gonna Put you in the Movies: Beware Book-to-Film Scams](#) (Anne R. Allen)

CONTESTS

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

[Touched by Love Award.](#) Deadline August 1. (Unpublished)

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

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

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

[Big Apple Contest.](#) Opens July 1. Deadline August 31. (Pub/Unpub)

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

CONFERENCES

- [Sleuthfest](#). July 7-July 10. (FL)
- [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)
- [NINC Conference](#). September 21-September 25, 2022. (FL)
- [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.

TWITTER PITCH EVENTS

#PBPitch (Picture Book Pitch) Our next #PBPitch Twitter event will be Thursday, October 27th, 2022, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. EST. [More info 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.](#)

#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.](#)

PUBLISHERS

Alcove Press

[Submission Guidelines](#)

Alcove Press (a division of Crooked Lane Books) is dedicated to publishing upmarket book club fiction that explores family, friendship, and community. Our carefully curated list embraces stories with new perspectives on our shared human experience. It focuses on stories of journey, self-discovery, and connection that are accessible, insightful and provocative. Alcove Press highlights the work of debut, established, and bestselling authors alike, providing a home for each that celebrates the stories that bring us together and keep us talking. Historical Fiction/Contemporary Romance/Book Club Fiction

Accepts Unagented Submissions

Scrivenings Press

[Submission Guidelines](#)

Scrivenings Press is a royalty-paying traditional publisher of clean fiction and Christian fiction. We were founded in 2020 after purchasing the Mantle Rock Publishing backlist and contracts. We do not currently offer any advances. Accepted manuscripts will be published in both print (paperback) and digital (eBook) formats. We only accept electronic submissions through the submission form

below or via email (scriveningspress@gmail.com), from legal residents of the United States of America. We are not considering any previously published books, whether they were self-published or published by a traditional or vanity press. At this time, we are not considering any nonfiction proposals. We do not publish children's books, memoirs, or poetry collections.

Accepts Unagented Submissions

Lyrical Press

Submission Guidelines

Kensington is actively looking for submissions for Lyrical Press! Lyrical Press is Kensington's Digital First Imprint.

We are looking for fresh stories in a variety of categories including all romance genres (specifically suspense and historicals with unique settings), compelling psychological suspense fiction, thrillers, women's fiction, new adult, and cozy mysteries. We're hoping to find edgy and daring voices that readers will love. We welcome novellas, serials, and full-length novels as long as they tell a satisfying and well-written story.

Accepts Unagented Submissions

ETC.

- **Join the Contemporary Romance Writers (not affiliated with RWA) and attend their 2022 Virtual Conference, July 9-10, FREE.** Speakers include Jane Friedman, Becca Syme, Priscilla Oliveras, Mary Buckham, Janice Hardy, Malorie Cooper, Zoe York and Penny Sansevieri. Details and [registration here](#).
- **Top Gun: Maverick...a Hero's Journey.** *Spoiler Alert* This will give away the movie plot. Read the entire Hero's Journey breakdown by [WriterSpark HERE](#).

- **Check out Baen Books monthly contest.** What is your cat's Treecat name? Tell us in a short paragraph (100 words or fewer) for a chance to win a copy of A New Clan, signed by David Weber and Jane Lindskold. Send your entry in the body of an email to contest@baen.com by June 20!
- **Woman's World has cut their freelancer fees again.** Here are the new rates for fiction. Romance fee reduced to \$500 and the mystery fee reduced to \$400. For more information, see the [Facebook Woman's World Writers group here.](#)
- **The Reacher Prize. Join Lee Child on the set for Amazon's Reacher Season Two.** You could appear as an extra on the show. Each year the Writers' Police Academy hosts a raffle and auction with proceeds helping to offset the whopping expenses of producing the event. This jackpot opportunity, the REACHER PRIZE, is available by sealed bid. To submit your bid by email, please enter REACHER BID in the subject line. In the body of the email please include your bid (in U.S. dollar amount), your name, address, and phone number. Then send the email to Lee Lofland at lofland32@msn.com **Bidding ends on June 19, 2022, at midnight EST. The winner of the REACHER Prize will be notified on June 21, 2022.**
- **Who's Taking Pitches at the 2022 ACFW Conference in St. Louis, MO?** [Check out the list of agents here.](#) [Check out the list of editors here.](#)
- **Cruising Writers is BACK.** April 1-8, 2023, we will be sailing out of Galveston, Texas on the Carnival Vista to Grand Cayman! Speakers include Becca Syme and Kirsten Oliphant. Ports of call are Cozumel, Mexico; Falmouth, Jamaica; and Georgetown, Grand Cayman. Spots are limited to 30 and we do expect this retreat to sell out! [Registration and more info here.](#)
- If you are on the self-publishing journey (or traditional publishing journey), you absolutely should be following David Gaughran. He tackles every marketing issue there is, from newsletters to ads. Material sent in his weekly (Friday) newsletter, is not found on his blog. [Sign up for his newsletter here.](#) [His YouTube channel is beyond valuable.](#) Right now, Let's Get Digital eBook is free for Kindle, btw. [Here's the not-an-affiliate link.](#)

WORKSHOPS & WEBINARS

- **Write dialogue that POPS! Free Webinar hosted by Mary Kole and Kristen Overman of Good Story, on Thursday, June 23, 8pm CDT.** Will include Live dialogue editing. This webinar is geared to writers of all categories, genres, and age groups. It will last approximately one hour. All submissions are confidential unless chosen, in which case your scene will be shared during the webinar. If you can't make the webinar date and time, don't worry. Live attendance isn't required, nor is it required if you want to submit a scene to workshop. You will receive a reply link to watch the presentation on demand, with no expiration date. [Registration and more info here.](#)
- **Finding High Quality Reviewers and Building Your Mailing List. Thursday, June 23, 2022, 1pm EST.** Free webinar courtesy of Women in Publishing Summit. In this free webinar, discover how to: Leverage the power of community to build your audience-Find and use newsletter swaps to grow your mailing list through cross-promotions-Vet potential reviewers-Write a welcome email sequence-All about StoryOrigin! Presenter Bio: Evan Gow is the indie developer of StoryOrigin, a marketing tool and community of authors that work together to find reviewers, build mailing lists, increase sales, and stay on top of deadlines. [Register here.](#)
- **June 23, 1-2:30 P.M. EDT: Why Is My Book Getting Rejected? with Allison K Williams.** Most rejections stem from the same three problems: the story isn't compelling, there's no clear audience, or the writing isn't ready yet. But how can you identify and solve these problems? This online class will cover what your query ought to include and show you the key elements of great first pages. Then, a live-editing demonstration will show you how to establish your voice, intention, purpose, and story from the very first sentence. [Register now \(\\$25\) Live or watch recording.](#) Closed captions by Otter; transcript provided with recording.
- **SinC Free Webinar. Can I Hook You on My Book? Tips for Writing Effective Query Letters to Agents.** Tuesday, June 28, 2022. 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm ET. \$\$Free (sign in required) The workshop, "Can I Hook You on My Book? Tips for Writing Effective Query Letters to Agents" draws on industry research and interviews with agents to provide current advice about the query letter, which is really a genre all its own. [Registration here.](#)
- Did you miss **The Author's Guild webinar amazon Ads for Traditionally Published Authors?** [View the replay here.](#)

- **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.**
 - **Creating Your Hero's Fatal Flaw.** An email class for fiction writers on Creating Your Hero's (or other character's) Fatal (or not-so-fatal) Flaw. Includes daily lectures and instructor comments on always-optional homework. Taught by Laurie Schnebly Campbell from August 8-19, 2022. For registration email Laurie at FatalFlaw+owner@groups.io for the (\$40) PayPal address or (\$35) check mailing address.
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WRITING ORGANIZATIONS → NEW

Contemporary Romance Writers (Not Affiliated with RWA) A Special Interest Online Writing Organization. Our mission: To educate contemporary romantic fiction writers at all stages of their careers - offering valuable resources, craft, business, and industry advice, and timely industry news. To promote Contemporary Romance as a genre inclusive of authors - and characters - of all races, ethnicities, nationalities, ages, body sizes, physical appearances, disabilities, neurodiversities, gender identities and expressions, sexual orientations, religions, and other categories. To provide professional networking opportunities for all members - published or not. To provide social and moral support to those who choose to write contemporary romantic fiction.

The Children's Writer's Guild. is a community of writers, illustrators and educators promoting excellence in children's media. Through a diverse collection of voices, our online magazine aims to jumpstart a thought-provoking and fun conversation about these special art forms. CWG Online features articles by artists and

educators at all levels of experience covering every aspect and element of children's media and their creative processes—personal narratives, advice, book reviews and commentary on the craft are welcome!

Word Weavers International. The mission of Word Weavers International is to help members find their unique voice, strive for the exceptional and not settle for the mundane, and to raise the quality of our members' writing to a publishable level. We endeavor to fulfill our mission and vision by: Actively praying for one another's successes- Holding regularly-scheduled critique sessions- Offering annual conferences for in-depth learning and networking- Providing scholarship funds to conferences to our members- Sharing information about writing opportunities, conferences, and contests through our newsletter, The Loom- Offering smaller, genre-specific critique groups in addition to the general critique sessions when possible- Helping connect members with editors, agents, and other publishing professionals- Providing guest speakers at meetings, retreats, and workshops.

→ LIT AGENT SPOTLIGHTS

What Agents Are Looking for. Check out these recent Tweets from [MS Wish List](#)

And do check out Manuscript Wish List [Comprehensive Search + Query Guide Here.](#)

Kristy Hunter [@KristySHunter](#) #amquerying [The Knight Agency](#) I'm very excited that after being closed to queries for over a year, I'll be opening back up tomorrow! I'm particular eager to grow the adult side of my list. MSWL is here:

<https://www.manuscriptwishlist.com/mswl-post/kristy-hunter/>

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

Adria Goetz [@adriangoetz](#) #MSWL psliterary.com/submissions/

“I would love to see mermaid stories swim into my inbox! Send me all of your mermaids!”

SOCIAL MEDIA INSIDER NEWS - NEW!

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

[New Tools Coming to Facebook and Instagram Reels](#) (Meta for Creators)

[What is Social Media Cross-Posting and Should You Do It?](#) (Planoly)

[Facebook Ads For Authors 2022 - Detailed Ad Creation Tutorial](#) [YouTube] (David Gaughran)

CRAFT LINKS

[What writers and editors want each other to know about rejection](#) (The Writer)

[Weaving a Life—The Three Levels of Dramatic Action](#) (Writer Unboxed)

[Writing Believable Driveway Crime: Carjacking & Kidnapping](#) (WITS)

[Avoid Aimless Stage Direction](#) (Nathan Bransford)

[Third-Person Omniscient Point of View: Explained & Defined](#) (The Art of Narrative)

MARKETING LINKS

[Infographic: Street Teams vs. Superfans and Boosting Your Book Publicity](#) (AME)

[Build Your Email List With Reader Magnets With Tammi Labrecque](#) (The Creative Penn)

[Top Digital Marketing Takeaways from U.S. Book Show 2022](#) (BookBub Partners Blog)

[How To Get Your Self-Published Book Into Libraries](#) (The Creative Pen)

FREE HANDOUT!

[Top Ten Self-Editing Tips](#) is now available on my website as a PDF handout for a limited time. It's from a 2021 workshop. Enjoy!

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