

WRITERS IN THE SKY

Newsletter

Vol. 3 Issue 2

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Whether you are a published author or a writer-wanna-be, this e-zine is for you. Here, you will find articles about all types of writing, publishing, and book marketing; plus we feature articles written by our readers. Our goal is to connect the writing and publishing community through networking that benefits both. Brought to you by Write On! Creative Writing Services.

AUTHOR'S CORNER BY YVONNE PERRY

Happy Valentines Day!

February is the month of love and I am happy to tell my dear subscribers how much I love having you as part of the WITS community. WITS is the acronym for Writers in the Sky newsletter and podcast. As a gift to you, I've written an article about romance that you may post on your blog. Copy it from <http://ezinearticles.com/?Everyday-is-Valentines-Day&id=418035> and paste it on your site with my compliments.

My daughter, "Say-Say" as she is affectionately known by the younger family members, has accomplished a great deal in making the arrangements for her big day this summer. Chocolate orchids, silver-embossed invitations, gourmet delicacies and canopy lighting await her sunset wedding. My 4-year-old granddaughter Keilie is ready to wear a princess dress and throw petals; and my soon to be 6-year-old grandson Sidney wants to know what to do if the rings fall off that little pillow!

Speaking of Sidney, his mother (my daughter-in-law) got some bad news recently. After her lab work showed low hormone levels, her doctor did an ultrasound and discovered that she had a partial molar pregnancy. I had never heard of such, but after researching the topic, I learned that she was carrying a mass of cells that continued to proliferate without creating an embryo. We were all disappointed that there's no baby coming, but very thankful that Amanda is well.

I completed the manuscript of my book *Right to Recover: Winning the Political and Religious Wars over Stem Cell Research in America* but my publisher suggested I conduct my own survey to include in the text. That's where I need your help. If you are willing to give your anonymous opinion about blastocyst (also called embryonic) stem cell research, (regardless of which side of the issue you are on) please go to <http://FreeOnlineSurveys.com/rendersurvey.asp?sid=6f5gednb6ft0j4p259084> and answer five questions. It will only take a moment, but the help you will provide is invaluable.

We have some exciting podcast guests this month:

- **Jim Palmer** is a recovering "born-again, inerrancy-defending, seeker-targeted pastor" of an evangelical megachurch with a new certainty about what it meant to be a Christian. Jim is the author of *Divine Nobodies*—a book about shedding religion to find God. www.divinenobodies.com.
- **Robert Gussin**, the author of *Trash Talk* was published by Oceanview Publishing, which he founded in 2004. Oceanview is committed to establishing a tradition of excellence in independent publishing. www.oceanviewpub.com
- Best-selling author and nationally recognized speaker **Dr. Eric Scott Kaplan** is one of only four people known to have been poisoned by fake Botox injections. *DYING TO BE YOUNG, MY JOURNEY FROM BOTOX TO BOTULISM* deals with the pain, suffering, confusion, and mental flashbacks of his ordeal in an inspirational and progressive manner covering his and his wife's 90-day hospitalization and subsequent rehabilitation. www.dyingtobeyoung.net
- **Pam Lontos** is the owner of PR/PR, a publicity firm that specializes in authors, speakers, and experts. PR/PR represents such people as Brian Tracy, Diane Ladd, Jason Jennings, several medical practitioners, financial planners, best selling authors, and noted speakers. Find out how Pam can help you promote your book, product or business. www.prpr.net.

I'm sure you will want to listen to these podcasts so why not subscribe to the RSS Feed at

<http://feeds.feedburner.com/WritersInTheSky?>

I hope your month is filled with peace and love. May you find the happiness you desire!

Yvonne Perry is a freelance writer and the owner of Write On! Creative Writing Services. She is a graduate of American Institute of Holistic Theology where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Metaphysics. She began her full-time writing career in 2003 and has since written more than twenty books.



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MAKE SURE FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION WITH THESE THREE TIPS

By Suzanne Lieurance

As a writing coach, my job is to help people develop successful freelance writing careers. Often that means helping them change the way they think about themselves, their work, and their ultimate goals.

As I coach clients, I offer them three tips for success. Interestingly enough, these tips can be applied to most anything in life - not just freelance writing.

Three Tips for Success:

1) Know what you really want, not just what you THINK you want. That is, be sure you are dreaming the right dream for yourself.

Here's an example. Many people come to me THINKING they want a career as a successful freelance writer. But, when it gets right down to it, it isn't writing that they love. It's the IDEA of writing. The idea of having their byline on magazine articles and maybe even a book.

But they don't really enjoy sitting alone at a computer, writing something. And they certainly don't enjoy writing and rewriting according to the strict guidelines of editors. In fact, many potential clients tell me, "too many guidelines stifle my creativity."

When I hear that I KNOW they are dreaming the wrong dream for themselves. They might write as a hobby, or publish their own work. But fulltime freelance writing is NOT going to be the dream life they think it will be.

So, first you have to thoroughly examine what it is you THINK you want, to find out if that is what you REALLY want.

2.) Develop a few key goals and stay focused on them. Successful people are not distracted by the newest "bright and shiny object" that comes their way each day. They remain focused on their ultimate goals. In fact, everything they do each day is in alignment with those goals, so each and every day they evaluate their actions and make changes in their behavior if needed. They ask themselves, "Does this have any part in my ultimate goal? Or is this just something I'm doing because I think I should do it?"

3) Think positively. Successful people don't think about failure. They think about success. They realize there will be problems or obstacles along the way. But they realize this is just part of the road to success.

People who are not as successful tend to see obstacles differently. They view them as reasons or "signs" that they should give up on their dreams. Don't fall into that trap.

Expect to be successful at whatever it is you are attempting to do. Don't say things to yourself and others like, "Gee. I hope I can do this," or "I'm probably not going to be able to live my dreams."

Instead, develop the following mantra or affirmation and repeat it to yourself whenever things get tough:

"Failure is NOT an option!"

I think you'll find that when you no longer give yourself the option of failing, you'll feel much freer, as if something has been lifted from your shoulders. You'll realize that there really is no reason to fail. If something doesn't work, you just try something else until you reach your goal.

Follow these three simple tips consistently and you'll find that you really will be able to live the life of your dreams someday.

Suzanne Lieurance is a fulltime freelance writer and The Working Writer's Coach. She helps people who love to write become "working" freelance writers themselves.

Want more tips for successful freelance writing? Then visit The Working Writer's Coach at <http://www.workingwriterscoach.com> and receive two f.ree ebooks for writers, plus a subscription to The Morning Nudge - a few words to get you motivated to write every weekday morning. Sign up for Writers on Call and receive almost FOUR hours of telecoaching each month.

Article Source: http://EzineArticles.com/?expert=Suzanne_Lieurance

**NEW SUBSCRIBERS WILL RECEIVE A COMPLIMENTARY EBOOK!
BY YVONNE PERRY**

This newsletter is now featured on BestEzines.com. Please fee free to submit a review and write a testimonial comment online at <http://bestezines.com/?id=2471>.



**Please forward this newsletter to fellow writers, literary agents, publishers and friends and ask them to
[Subscribe to Writers in the Sky Now!](#)**

If you have written a review of this newsletter or subscribed to the RSS Feed for [Writers in the Sky Podcast](#) or blog and did not receive my eBook

Tips for Freelance Writing, please let me know that you would like it emailed to you (writer@yvonneperry.net).

BOOK WITH A VIEW: A PLACE TO SHOWCASE A BOOK

February is referred to as the Month of Love, and as most of us know, Valentine's Day is on the 14th. Flowers and candy are a given, but, how about a book that spells romance? This month we have chosen three books for you to check out. We even give you an opportunity to meet the authors through interviews. Happy Reading!

This month *Reader Views* is suggesting:

Dating Rocks! The 21 Smartest Moves Women Make for Love

Steve Nakamoto

Java Books (2006)

ISBN 0967089344

Reviewed by *Kelley Anderson* for Reader Views (1/06)

"Dating Rocks" is a sensible, insightful view into the mind of a man and what he wants out of a relationship. It is appropriate for any female wanting a mature, adult relationship with a man and gives her specific and detailed guidance on how to achieve it. Nakamoto writes in easy to understand language, using the same format for each chapter that makes the information easily accessible. The chapters are broken down into simple steps, making the information manageable. He provides the reader with challenges for each step and thoughtful advice about looks, charm, honesty, loyalty and love.

Read complete review on Reader Views (<http://www.readerviews.com/ReviewNakamotoDatingRocks.html>) or listen to live author interview on Inside Scoop Live (<http://www.insidescooplive.com/author-pages/Nakamoto-Steve-reading-interview.html>)

Forever Sentimental Vol. III: Agape Love

Kenyatta

iUniverse (2006)

ISBN 0595396933

Reviewed by *Paige Lovitt* for Reader Views (10/06)

If I could give "Forever Sentimental" ten stars, I would. I am reading it at a time in my life that I really need it. I think that each person that reads it will feel the same way. For me, the book further confirmed that my relationship is not as it should be. Kenyatta realistically tells you what love should be like and what you should be able to expect. I don't feel that he is suggesting that we expect too much. He just made me realize that I am not getting enough of what I need for a healthy two way

relationship.

Read complete review on Reader Views (<http://www.readerviews.com/ReviewKenyattaForever.html>) or read interview with author on <http://www.readerviews.com/InterviewKenyatta.html>

Torn Between Two Lovers

Carol Ann Culbert Johnson

Lulu (2006)

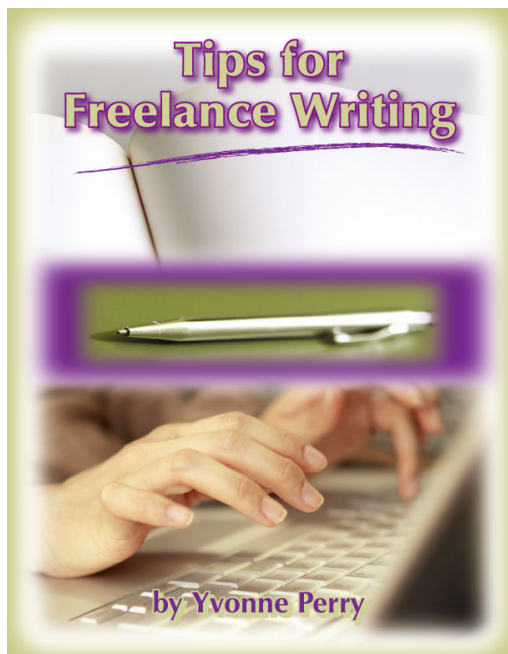
ISBN 9781430300823

Reviewed by *Beverly Pechin* for Reader Views (11/06)

“Torn Between Two Lovers” is a moving story of three black women who share their lives and passions with each other, no matter what the outcome. As the author gives us an inside look at each of the women in the story, we begin to realize the ups and downs of relationships no matter who is involved. The plot is touched with a hint of reality that keeps the story down to earth and realistic, the author combines just enough romantic desire and passion to bring the characters into full light. Women who fit all shapes and sizes meet men of all categories, some to find love and some to find pain.

Read complete review on Reader Views (<http://www.readerviews.com/ReviewJohnsonTorn.html>) or read interview with author on <http://www.readerviews.com/InterviewJohnsonCarolAnn.html>

TIPS FOR FREELANCE WRITING BY YVONNE PERRY



[Writers in the Sky Podcast](#) offers interviews with authors and writers, as well as the latest news about books on the market, publishing methods and marketing techniques. There are more than 30 informational shows already uploaded and a new program is added each week.

Occasionally, a teleclass may be longer, but most of our classes are recorded in 15- to 20-minute segments you may listen to while traveling, cleaning the house, waxing the car, exercising, etc.

Many of the guests on the show also contribute informative articles and announcements to the monthly newsletter offered by [Write On! Creative Writing Services](#). The best part is there is no cost to listen or subscribe and it is a great way to learn more about writing and publishing.

[Subscribe to Writers in the Sky RSS feed](#) and get my new eBook *Tips for Freelance Writing*. You will automatically be sent an email when a new show has been uploaded to the podcast.

Yvonne Perry, Freelance Writer, Author, Public Speaker

www.yvonneperry.net

WRITING WHEN YOUR BODY OBJECTS

By Gigi Miner

Let's face it. We all have days when we do not want to do what we know we should do. In fact, I am a major proponent of goofing off just for the sake of goofing off. However, for some of us, there is more to this whole "I don't want to work" mentality.

As a writer, the main thing that I need to do is to write. Now that may sound easy to some and daunting to others. Still, whatever profession we choose, we need to do the jobs that come with it. I have a condition called Fibromyalgia. Now, anyone with fibro or FMS, as it sometimes is called, knows that this is not a life-threatening illness. I suppose that if I have to have some kind of illness, this one is a better choice by comparison. Fibro might be compared to a cross between Chronic Fatigues Syndrome and Arthritis with a little Alzheimer's thrown in just to make things interesting. This poses continual challenges to someone who is supposed to use her brain to construct the next piece of work destined to change the world. Isn't that how we all like to think of our works? That they will be something meaningful and that they will create the new Utopia because we are that good.

As you may be starting to see, humor is one tool that I use to combat the difficulties presented by my uncooperative body. It is the lifesaver thrown into the waters when I am about to sink. It is the rope that I toss out to others to help them to shore when they are overcome by the difficulties of their own lives. Most appreciate the effort, even if they do not get the jokes. Some reject the rope because I am not presenting them with the serious assistance that they require. Regardless of what anyone else may or may not do, I have to cope with my own illness and still try to do what my heart leads me to do, and that is to write.

I have no doubts that there are others out there with more debilitating illnesses that are motivated to write as well. We all have little tricks that we employ in order to keep moving forward. You know us; we are the ones going two miles per hour while the rest of the world is zooming by at ninety. We wave, we smile, and we seldom explain why it takes us two months to write something that takes others only five days. That does not, however, remove that ember in our souls that keeps us typing away at the keyboard or dictating away to the software. We find ways to do what we must, for we can do nothing other.

One little trick that I use is to make notes. I know from vast experience that the brilliant idea that I have now will be lost forever within five minutes. Thus, I have pens and little notepads scattered around the house to capture the thoughts before they drift off into the nether worlds of my brain. My desk is littered with such notes, reminding me to have this conversation with a particular character in my next novel, or to submit a particular article before a deadline. If anyone other than a similarly challenged individual were to walk into my home, they might turn around and head immediately back out. You see, we who are thusly challenged take little heed to the drudgery of daily chores. We are so enveloped in our next story that we often forget to do the most simple of tasks. In fact, I require lists to do some of the chores that others might not think twice about doing. Yes, it seems that some of us live in our own little world. It is all right for us, because most of those who are here get the jokes.

Regardless of our individual ailments, we each have our own ways of living this writer's life. Some of us have to employ proofreaders to make sure that the comma that we were sure that we moved is still where we put it. They are tricky little buggars, those punctuation marks. Others of us find kind souls to read our works and give us feedback geared to our unique perspectives, such as if the sentence that follows actually makes sense where it is. The fact remains that there are many more of us out here than the average writer may realize. We may not be moving fast enough to be nipping at the "normal" writer's heels, but like that fabled tortoise, we do not easily give up. We will be writing away long after many writers have given up because their patience has run out. We learn patience because there is nothing else for us to do but to live it. Our bodies refuse to allow us to bypass that lesson. So, we take advantage of it and keep moving forward, albeit at a slower pace.

For my fellow tortoises, share your strategies with some of the rest of us. We can always use another way to get things done. We cannot all use the same methods as our situations are unique, but sometimes we manage to share a secret that gives us the leg up on the rest of the world. We have the patience and the senses of humor to carry us forward when others less tested get discouraged. So, perhaps our illnesses are our blessings, just wrapped in some odd packages. That, somehow, seems fitting. I think that we might be bored with the same ol' mediocre wrappings. When all is said and done, we will be those eccentric writers of days gone by, dressed in whatever tickles our fancy, because we just cannot help it...we have to laugh.

Gigi Miner

The Fallen - An erotic Aesop's Fable - available now at:

<http://www.lulu.com/content/491768>

www.geocities.com/gigi_miner

Five Steps to Freedom - A Part of the Self-Empowerment Series

Card Shark - a mixture of murder, suspense, and tarot - Now available at online bookstores or by visiting:

www.lulu.com/ladyfogg

www.minerbooks.info

THE HOW/WHEN/WHY/COSTS WHEN HIRING AN EDITOR

By Mindy Reed, MA, MLIS

Think of yourself, the author as a racecar driver and your book as the high performance machine. You are in control of the vehicle's destiny, guiding it through every hairpin turn. No matter how accomplished the driver or how excellent the car, a driver would never put the car onto the race until a mechanic checked it out.

An editor is your mechanic; the professional who “gets under the hood,” delves into every nuance and gives you the green flag. Regardless of how many times your spouse has read the manuscript, your critique group has given you feedback and your aunt, the English teacher, has proofread it, do not submit it to an agent, editor or contest until an editor has reviewed it.

The editor should be someone totally objective. You want someone who will give you the honest feedback and guidance provided by publishing house editors. You may be wondering, “if a publisher is going to assign me an editor, why should I hire someone now?”

Over the past decade, publishing houses have been consolidating and downsizing. They are no longer willing to shepherd new writers through the process. Nowadays, publishers and university presses are requiring authors to submit faultless manuscripts. And, as more writers follow the example of musicians and produce their own works, they need to be aware that POD (print on demand) publishers print what you submit. It is folly to be pennywise and pound foolish after you have spent ten years or more on your book.

The editor should be completely impartial but professional, someone with skills, training and an established client list. Rates vary depending upon geographic region and depth of edit (proofreading versus full content editing). Fees may be structured hourly or per page and some folks may request a deposit. Every book is different; some can be edited on a chapter-by-chapter basis, but always have the completed book reviewed. If you want to make sure the editor is a good fit for you and your book, ask them to do a two to three page sample edit.

Remember that with freelance editors you are in the driver's seat and have the final say on what gets added, deleted or changed in your manuscript. The editor you hire should share your vision and be committed to helping you achieve it not mold you to their own writing style or perspective.

Let agents, editors and publishers know in your query letter that you have had your manuscript professionally edited. It shows them you are committed to providing quality work.

In 1995, Mindy Reed, a professional editor, librarian and researcher, founded her company The Authors' Assistant, through which she has helped scores of authors polish their manuscripts for publication. www.authorsassistant.com

HOW PERSUASIVE ARE YOU?

by Marlene Caroselli

Whether you are trying to convince an editor to read your query, a publisher to send you a book contract, or a reader to believe what you are saying, you need to be persuasive. Take this simple quiz to learn how potent your persuasive powers really are.

1. TO CONVINCe OTHERS YOU ARE CREDIBLE AND TRUSTWORTHY:

- A. Cite statistics
- B. Share an anecdote
- C. Use a combination of statistics and anecdote

2. LEE IACocca HAS BEEN NAMED THE SALESPERSON OF THE CENTURY. CAN YOU IDENTIFY WHICH OF

THESE SENTENCES BELONGS TO THIS PERSUASION-MEISTER:

- A. " It is imperative for us to unite, to grit our teeth, to aspire to new heights."
 - B. "For in the dew of little things, the heart finds its morning and is refreshed."
 - C. "It's a leader's job to bring the bad news, to get people to believe things they don't want to believe, and then to go out and do things they don't want to do."
3. AN EXPRESSION SUCH AS "OUR CHILDREN ARE OUR FUTURE":
- A. Has lost its effectiveness due to overuse
 - B. Appeals to a broad spectrum of listeners/readers
 - C. Reminds us of purpose
4. YOU'LL FIND EFFECTIVE PERSUADERS:
- A. Using little words
 - B. Relying on current buzzwords
 - C. Teaching their followers via "sesquipedalian" words (literally: one and a half feet long), which demonstrate the writer's erudition
5. PARALLELISM (THE DELIBERATE REPETITION OF WORDS OR PHRASES):
- A. Is annoying to listeners/readers
 - B. Creates a monotonous impression
 - C. Is an effective persuasion-tool

Answers:

- 1. **B.** Research by J. Martin and M. Powers found the anecdote by itself was most effective in establishing credibility.
 - 2. **C.** The gutsy, direct, feisty style of this super-salesman is shown in this sentence. Note how many monosyllabic words he used.
 - 3. **A.** Sentences that are overused, obvious truisms lose their power via the sheer force of repetition. To restore power to such a thought, add an original spin. For example, "To protect our future, we must protect our children."
 - 4. **A.** Winston Churchill may have said it best: "Big [wo]men use little words."
- Check out the words of others who have exerted great influence: Reverend Martin Luther King ("I have a dream."); JFK ("Ask not what your country can do for you."); Mother Teresa ("We can do no great things--only small things with great love.").
- 5. **C.** One of the best expressions of the post-September 11 era came from the President, when he stood at Ground Zero and responded to a firefighter who couldn't hear everything the President was saying: "But I can hear you. The whole world can hear you. And very soon, those who destroyed these buildings will hear from all of us."

Dr. Marlene Caroselli, author of 58 business books, is an international keynote speaker and corporate trainer for Fortune 100 companies, government agencies, educational institutions, and professional organizations. She contributes frequently to a number of well-known publications (among them Stephen Covey's Excellence publications and the National Business Employment Weekly). Her first book, *The Language of Leadership*, was chosen a main selection by Newbridge's Executive Development Book Club. A more recent title, *Principled Persuasion*, was named a Director's Choice by Doubleday Book Club. One of her latest books, *50 Activities for Promoting Ethics in the Organization*, has been co-released by HRD Press and the American Management Association. *500 Creative Classroom Techniques for Teachers and Trainers* is now available from HRD Press.

**WRITERS IN THE SKY IS A SPECIAL NEWSLETTER - ITS DIFFERENCE
REALLY MAKES A DIFFERENCE**

By Zubli Zainordin

Writers in the Sky, is truly a special newsletter. People who view it are information seeking readers, contributing writers, as well as renowned publishers.

It is especially interesting to note as a reader viewing Writers in the Sky, that its brand name in short form spells "wits". Another interesting feature is its focus on integrating the subjects of writing, publishing and marketing – a total package. Both writers and publishers respect its high standard of writing by published authors and writers-wanna-be.

At the center is Yvonne Perry, who makes this newsletter happen month after month. As a leader, she offers services the publishers want; as a publisher, she fulfills what readers want; as an accomplished writer herself, she is able to identify with writers' needs. She is an authority in a vocation she has passionately chosen. More than these, she has an organized way of connecting writers and publishers while increasing readership.

She is surrounded by a professional team - Barbara Sharp, Rosi Stewart, Taryn Simpson, David Teems, Al Desetta, Kate Garvey, Linda Woods, Gordon Randall, and Jessica Dockter. Each member is an expert in her or his own rights. Rather than competing, all have chosen cooperation, and this harmony makes *Writers in the Sky* evermore special to readers, writers, and publishers.

I urge the readers of this newsletter to be proactive to extend and expand the reach of *Writers in the Sky*. Here are a few ways you can help:

- Vote WITS as the best monthly newsletter at <http://bestezines.com/?Writers-in-the-Sky-Newsletter&id=2471>.
- Submit items that have enlightening and educational content with practical tools to help others
- Forward WITS to your friends and colleagues and ask them to subscribe at <http://www.yvonneperry.net/Writers-in-the-Sky-Newsletter.html>.

Writers in the Sky from Nashville, Tennessee is beautifully designed for citizens from all over the world to enjoy. It continues to make a difference in the newsletter publication and distribution arena within this border-less industry.

To all who are directly or indirectly involved in positioning *Writers in the Sky* as special as it is, I put up a V-sign, and with the highest acknowledgment and say, "Viva la Victoria!"

By Kate Garvey

There are many perks for freelance writers—the opportunity to do what you love, establish friendships with people who are creative and talented, work from home, make a decent living, and create work that is meaningful. Last month I was featured as a guest columnist in the Wisconsin State Journal. The article, "Madison needs an Animal Museum", highlighted the atrocities humanity commits on sentient beings; animal experimentation, an annual death toll of 4 to 10 million pets due to overpopulation, abuse, neglect and the horrors of factory farming. As the daughter of a small town Veterinarian, preventing animal abuse has been a core issue throughout my life. Before I began work as a freelance writer I had many dreams about how I could have an impact on the world, but my circle of influence was very small. As a freelance writer, I have the opportunity to touch the world regarding issues of concern.

A second unexpected perk is the joy of working with people though out the world. Whether I'm ghost writing a book, documenting software modifications or working on a one page business bio, I love getting to know my clients. I've had the pleasure of working with people throughout the United States, Europe and China. My list of clients includes entertainers, business entrepreneurs, civic clubs, Harvard graduates, and "regular" people with fascinating stories. I am continually inspired by the lives of others and feel privileged to connect with so many people who have created their own small business, survived adversity, or succeeded by taking a risk. For a brief period of time, it's as if I get to see someone's soul. It's truly an honor and a perk I never expected when I began my career.

First published at the age of 17, Kate Garvey has a diverse background in writing. As an information and telecommunication professional, she authored numerous manuals and booklets designed for end-users. She has also contributed to online help text for software development companies both in California and Tennessee. As president of the Real Estate Investors of Nashville, Kate regularly contributed a motivational column to the REIN Newsletter. Her first book, *The Low Risk Guide to Real Estate Investment*, was published in 2005. Her newest release, *Loving and Leaving*, is from her forth coming *People with Pets* series.

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Writers in the Sky Podcast



In our Podcast you will receive information about the craft and business of writing. We offer interviews with authors and writers, as well as news about books, publishing and marketing.

Occasionally, a teleclass may be longer, but most of the classes are recorded in 15-minute segments which may be downloaded to your computer, iPod or mp3 player and used as an educational tool for busy people on the go.

New shows weekly! Check the schedule at <http://www.yvonneperry.net/WritersintheSkyPodcast.htm>. If you would like to be a guest on this show, let Yvonne know!

POETRY CORNER

Cityscape

Hustled and bustled,
Still, hands only put to heart,
Beings, only art.

Leaf

A raindrop forms
In love's eye.
Joy, sadness, let go.

YOU CAN

Talk the talk, walk the walk, and even
Be the be, but, if you don't vote the vote, You won't ever be livin' in a democracy!

So

You, a joyous lake.
Me, a mountain underground,
Which, you fill and
Holds you always.
Within and without us,
Is this love.

James M. Nordlund is a mental health counseling supervisor by profession, into poetic revelation and workshop as individual and group therapeutic milieu. He is involved with A.A.P., I.A.W.A., A.P.R., Teacher's and Writer's Collaborative, I.W.W.G., Univ. of the Sts., LummoX, Nomad's Choir, Poet's House, St. Mark's Poetry Project, Beans About It, P.E.N. Friend, NAFPT.

James is featured on his multi-art show, "Matutinally Watered Poetree" on Manh, cable, and other T.V. and radio shows. He has been a co-editor, assistant editor, written columns and published over 400 works and is currently a regional editor for Poet To Poet, out of N.Y. C.. Submission, twigs of poetree. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/firstpoetry/>

Ghostwriter

Graciously trading acclaim for reward, they
Honor their gift by allowing others to
Own and profit from their creations.
Seeking to practice their craft,
The Ghostwriter achieves fulfillment while collaborating
With others to construct noteworthy results.
Rarely receiving the recognition earned, their
Ideas and concepts are claimed by others and their
Talents sometimes professed as those of their employer.
Even while relinquishing title to their work, they are
Recognized and well respected in the publishing community.

Ken is a native Middle Tennessean, growing up in Nashville. A graduate of MTSU and resident of Murfreesboro, Ken has been a distribution manager for over 25 years. An avid reader of novels as well as business articles and books, he has admired writers and their work for years and desires to experience the joy of creating literary work of his own.

Love

Love Speaks A Different Language
It Has No Country Of Origin
No Dictionary Filled With Symbols
It Is Not Black Or White Or Controlled By Polarity Poles
Or Waves of Electromagnetism
It Rides Freely In The Flow Of Consciousness
Always Present Ready and Able To Be What I Am
Following Me And Leading Me
Shaking Me But Never Breaking Me
Surrounding Me Protecting Me
Understanding What Is Making Me Forget The Basic Part Of Me
That Is Universality
It's Form Is Free A Star A Tree All Are Me
Put Inside Dimensionality

Hal Manogue. From the *2008 Collection of Short Sleeves A Book For Friends*. Available in September 2007

HURRY! HURRY! SIGN RIGHT UP!



You don't want to miss the introductory offer of \$9.99 per month for Writers on Call—a subscription-based weekly group teleclass for freelance writers.

Writers on Call teleclasses take place every Thursday night at 7:00 (Central Time) and last for 55 minutes. Freelance writing coach Suzanne Lieurance facilitates the calls twice a month. Freelance writer and "Networking Queen" Yvonne Perry takes

over for the other two Thursday calls each month. All of the teleclasses are recorded, so even if subscribers can't attend the live calls they are given access to a link for the recorded call the next day and never have to miss a single teleclass.

Subscriptions to *Writers on Call* are available [HERE!](#)

Writers on Call offers writers and writer wannabes the chance to ask questions and receive coaching for:

- Promoting a freelance writing business
- Writing press releases and articles
- Finding lucrative writing opportunities
- Operating a successful freelance writing business
- Writing books, query letters, and publisher proposals

But, you must hurry to take advantage of the introductory offer!

If you **enroll by midnight on January 31, 2007** your monthly price of \$9.99 will be locked in for one year. Those who enroll after that date must pay \$37 per month.

Writers on Call CDs Program is offered for only \$67 per month. With this program, subscribers receive access to the teleconferences, class handouts, a perma-link to the audios, and a snail-mailed CD containing the mp3 files of each month's calls.



Suzanne Lieurance, The Working Writer's Coach, is the author of 12 published books and numerous articles for magazines, newsletters, and newspapers. She was an instructor for the Institute of Children's Literature for over five years and has been a master teacher at www.universityofmasters.com. She is the author of two free eBooks: *Get Your Freelance Writing Career Off the Ground* and *Tricks of the Trade: Learn to Write for Children* which are available at <http://www.workingwriterscoach.com/>. Each weekday morning she publishes The Morning Nudge—a few words to inspire and motivate writers to get a little writing done each day.

Yvonne Perry is the owner of [Write On! Creative Writing Services](#) based in Nashville, Tennessee.

She and her team of writers provide ghostwriting for articles, press releases, books, brochures, resumes, and much more. Perry is the host for [Writers in the Sky Podcasts](#), the publisher of a newsletter about writing and publishing, and the author of several books. Her latest book titled *Right to Recover: Winning the Political and Religious Wars over Stem Cell Research in America* is set to be released in mid 2007 by Nightengale Press. For more information, visit her website at <http://www.yvonneperry.net/writeroncall.htm>

[Subscribe to Writers on Call Teleclasses or Writers on Call CD Program](#) and take your writing career to the next level!

*****NETWORK WITH US*****

Add your announcement or brag about your writing accomplishment. Tell us about your book or business. Share information and ideas or send articles or advertorial for the next issue to writer@yvonneperry.net. Remember, you may post a comment on my blog <http://yvonneperry.typepad.com/ghostwriters/> anytime.

These are the E-nouncements from our readers this month:

Cherie Burbach's recent essay on the "This I Believe" database is the 2nd most popular out of over 20,000 essays! In the essay she shared her thoughts on growing up with an alcoholic father to ultimately reach a place of peace and contentment in her life. She shares her story in the hopes of inspiring others. Her essay has been downloaded over 5,000 times in the last month alone. Check it out here : http://thisibelieve.org/dsp_Top25Essays.php as the second most popular entry. Or catch up with Cherie at her website: www.thedifferencenow.com.



Dr. Eric Kaplan's book *Dying to be Young: My Journey from Botox to Botulism* will be released by Nightengale Press this

month. Read more about the book on his website www.dyingtobeyoung.net or listen to his interview with Yvonne Perry on her podcast blog at [Writers in the Sky](#) dated February 16, 2007.

“How I Met My Sweetheart” Anthology will be released February 1, 2007. This is a collection of eighteen short inspirational love stories featuring multicultural authors from across the United States. For more information please visit www.AmaniPublishing.net

Barbara Joe-Williams, Amani Publishing

Blog: www.Barbarajoe.blogspot.com

Website: www.AmaniPublishing.net

Will Write for Success: New Challenge for Writers Launches Next Month

Make a name for yourself as a freelance writer in 2007 by accepting the first quarterly Lieurance-King Article Challenge, which starts on February 1, 2007.

Each writer who accepts the first-quarter challenge, the New Year's Article Challenge, will attempt to write and submit 30 articles to article directories between February 1 and March 31.

Before the challenge begins, participants can register for a free e-course, Tips for Effective Article Marketing from freelance writers (and hosts of the challenge) Suzanne Lieurance (known as The Working Writer's Coach) and Kristen King (whose blog was named one of the Top 10 Blogs for Writers in 2006).

Look for more information about the Lieurance-King Article Challenge at <http://www.the-working-writers-coach.blogspot.com> and <http://www.inkthinker.blogspot.com> - and rev up your computers for this exciting opportunity to build your platform all year long!

BBS Radio invites you personally to host your own radio show on the #1 worldwide Internet talk radio network! You can host a show every week, bi-weekly (fortnightly) or monthly. Each show broadcasts for a total of 55 minutes (unless you opt to host a two-hour show).

It doesn't matter if you've ever done radio before or not. It doesn't matter who you are or where you live or work; you can be a radio host promoting your information, products, services, as well as your guests on live radio with no equipment needing to be purchased. The entire show is done via telephone (LAN) and we cover all costs — including ringing the host and guest so you incur no long distance charges. There is a reasonable slot fee for each show, which covers everything.

Full Details can be found here: http://www.bbsradio.com/advertising/why_host.php

New York writer Linda Della Donna has several bits of good news: [Click here](#) and read her new parenting blog at NYMetroparents.com. Then read Della Donna's new article - The Secret of My Success: an Interview with children's writer and illustrator Kevin Scott Collier [HERE](#).

You'll also enjoy her new articles at www.ezinearticles.com:

[Not For Widows Only: What to Say/What Not to Say to the Nearly Newly Widowed](#)

[For Widows Only: 2 Tips to Help You Cope](#)

[For the Newly Widowed: 4 Tips to Guide You Through the Grief Process](#)

Take an online survey about stem cell research here: <http://FreeOnlineSurveys.com/rendersurvey.asp?sid=6f5gednb6ft0j4p259084>. Your email will remain anonymous.

Janet Grace Riehl, author of “Sightlines: A Poet’s Diary” www.sightlinesbook.com wants to let our writing community know about **Northern California Comedy Variety Show Seeks Scripts for GREED!**

Comedy on Tilt, an old-fashioned comedy variety review show based in Lake County, California, seeks scripts, stories, poems, and songs on the theme of greed for their 2007 show at the Lower Lake Schoolhouse Museum for four evening shows August 17, 18, 24, and 25.

Artistic Director Daniel Holland will work with writers who submit scripts selected to be staged for the 2007 show in August. Skits last between 5-20 minutes (between 450 to 3,500 words).

“We are looking for witty and perceptive comic commentary on how greed shows up in daily life,” says Holland, “not greed as a subject for political satire. What happens when we want more than our fair share and muscle in to get it? We believe that the big problems coming from greediness begin from these ordinary human situations.”

Holland will choose up to five scripts, based on length. Skit authors are credited in the Comedy on Tilt show program and the Riehl Life blog. Both video and digital photography documentation will be available for the skit author’s portfolio. Submit your skit scripts, stories, poems, and songs (and song suggestions) to holland@pacific.net. Call (707) 279-1559 for more information.

Word of Month

Having an extensive vocabulary is important to writers. In each issue of Writers in the Sky, I will introduce and define a word that we use don’t often use. The word this month is:

Telecommute (TEL-ih-kuh-myoot)

To work at home by the use of an electronic link up with a central office

Example sentence:

Many freelance writers telecommute with their clients.

A WRITING LIFE

A REGULAR WITS COLUMN BY JJ MURPHY

Ten Tips for Dealing with Procrastination

I know something's up when I'd rather do laundry than write or when I conduct endless research, but never write a rough draft.

But what can I do about it? Here's what helps me negotiate this rough terrain in my writing life:

- 1. Define your most productive times.** I write best first thing in the morning, before anything happens to distract me. This is when I write, proofread or review what I wrote several days ago. I also write well when I'm hiking, foraging or relaxing in the woods.
- 2. Assess your writing environment.** I need natural light. At night I need correctly placed light. Shadows or glare are distracting obstacles that contribute to procrastination.
- 3. Remove distractions.** I have a place where I can sit and write regardless of the weather. I like being outside better, but when I need research and support materials, my library and the Internet are important. If music is playing, it can't be intrusive. Turn off the TV - even the Weather Channel. The difference is amazing. If you do not have a room, office or a space all your own, dedicate a corner of a room or a quiet place in the library where you do nothing but write.
- 4. Write everything down.** Freewriting, brainstorming, lists, outlines, organic notes (those diagrams with spokes) - whatever floats into your head - write it down. Organize it later. The idea is to fill up the page with words. If you have to start with "I hate this, it's dumb, I can't think of where to begin..." - do that. The more words you put on the page, the greater the chance that some of them get to the heart of what you want to say. Some writers choose to talk into their voicemail or use voice recognition software.

5. Take baby steps. I set a goal to publish a weekly writing-related article. I then defined the baby steps. I made a list of topics that I can add to when I get an idea. If an idea engages me, I'll write down my feelings, thoughts, learning or insights. I may have written about this topic before. Eventually I will have enough notes to begin the freewrite, which ultimately leads to a rough draft. These steps carry my momentum through the rest of the writing process.

6. Write the easiest parts first. If I am stuck for a beginning, I write a middle. If I have a conclusion or strong opinion, I write that first. Sometimes this is enough to set the process motion.

7. Reward your small victories. If I have been writing for 15 minutes to an hour, I take a well-deserved break. It soothes my eyes to shift from staring at a screen or notebook to looking out at the horizon. I may just stretch or get a cup of tea or I may use that time to break for a hike or some other treat. Taking breaks helps avoid burn-out.

8. Be prepared for setbacks. Even with these guidelines, setbacks happen. If I focus on being stuck, I stay stuck. Instead I look for ways to move on. Sometimes I write about the topic from an opposing point of view. I might write a dialogue between me and the procrastination monster, or I switch from writing nonfiction to fiction. The important thing is not to substitute washing the kitchen floor for writing.

9. Have a plan. Recognize the symptoms of procrastination and commit to changing the pattern. For me, procrastination can set in when my hiking is curtailed by bad weather. Walking or any rhythmic movement is essential to my writing. Weather is a fact of life; I will get stuck indoors. I have my tips list, an idea file, magnetic poetry and a whole range of ways to get words on a page. I don't need a final product. I just need to get my hands or my voice moving.

10. Accountability. Whether you write or not is entirely in your power. I cannot blame the weather, a sprained finger or anything else for my decision to write or not to write. If I want to provide my clients with work on or before a deadline, I have to write. If I want meaningful content for my readers, I have to write. I enjoy writing, but if it ever becomes a chore or a daily burden, I'll look for something else to do.

Freelance writer JJ Murphy helps companies, small businesses and individuals express the benefits of their green products and services.

She earned her MA from the William Allen White School of Journalism, University of Kansas and her BA from the University of Connecticut. JJ's client list includes writers, business consultants, motivational speakers, psychologists, financial planners, educators, and politicians.

Visit her website www.WriterByNature.com for writing samples, articles, wild food recipes and more information, including JJ's favorite places for gear and supplies.

This newsletter relies on subscribers like you to send in articles, tips and resources. Therefore, the more subscribers we have, the more information we have to share and the more your message gets in front of others. Tell your writing and publishing colleagues about Writers in the Sky Newsletter or forward it to others you know who may be interested.

Past Issues of Writers in the Sky Newsletter

To view past issues of **Writers in the Sky Newsletter** in Adobe Acrobat (PDF) Format, please click on a publication date below. You will need to have Acrobat Reader installed in order to view them. Acrobat Reader is free and [you can download it here](#).



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- [October 2006](#) • [November 2006](#) • [December 2006](#) • [January 2007](#)

If you wish to contribute an article, advertorial, blurb, announcement about writing, publishing or book marketing, please review these guidelines and submit your item to writer@yvonneperry.net

- Limit articles to 750 words or less.
- The piece must be about the craft or business of writing and publishing.
- Include a short bio with your submission so I may give proper credit.
- Use Times New Roman 11 point font.
- MS Word docs are okay, but txt files are preferred.
- Promotion of your own material is accepted if it is written in an advertorial (article) style.
- No colored text box (jpg, bmp, etc.) ads. The article must be content rich.
- Book reviews are accepted as long as they highlight the book and its author in a positive manner.
- Poetry is accepted. I will publish three short works (less than 25 lines) in each issue. Do not double space between lines.
- Announcements of upcoming events, personal accomplishments, special offers, etc. are accepted. Try to keep these less than 250 words.
- Each submitting writer retains the copyright to his or her own piece of literature and may use it elsewhere.
- Since I do not charge a fee for the newsletter, I am unable to pay for submittals. However, the networking opportunity is worth a lot.
- The newsletter will be sent on the first of each month. I need all submittals in by the 25th day of the month prior.

This newsletter is coming to you because you either signed up for it on Yvonne Perry's Web site www.yvonneperry.net or because someone thought you wanted to learn more about freelance writing and book publishing. If you didn't subscribe and do not wish to be on the distribution list, you may unsubscribe below.

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