

It's Not What to Write, But How To Write That Matters Most

By Val Waldeck



When new authors decide to write the book that's been rattling around in their mind for a long time, they usually just start writing... filling up pages instead of taking their time researching and organizing their topic. Most new authors are victims to the dream of just writing a book and immediately selling it for lots of money. Nice dream, but not likely to get published.

Fictional novels have a huge amount of competition from well-known authors and the mind-set of publishers who have their favourites when it comes to publishing another fictional novel. The simple truth is that only established authors have a good chance of getting published. It's all about money. The publishers spend a lot of time and money promoting established authors and are not thrilled with unknown authors.

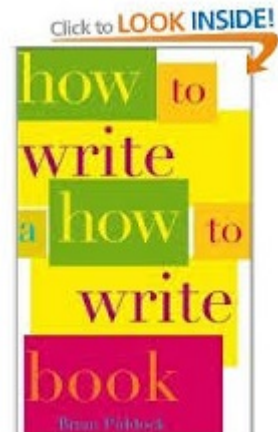
Your other choice is to self-publish, which is an excellent way of becoming a published author, but you have to strive for excellence in order to be successful. Many self-published authors have reached the New York Times Bestseller list and you can too.

With that said, let's think a little bit about what you should write as your first step into big-time authorship. As lightly discussed above, fiction is a tough market and not easily cracked by a new author. You might be working in a better format with non-fiction choices for your first books. Cookbooks, how-to books, biographies of interesting people and motivational books are a lot easier to sell and cover a wide range of interests. For example, you could consider resurrecting your grandmother's favourite recipes that are stuffed in an old cigar box in a closet and putting them together in a recipe book with a nice cover.

After you make a decision about what you want to write, it is time to spend some hours or days deciding how you will write. That's very important when you are starting out as a new author.

It is easy to slip back into your everyday jargon and ignore common rules of punctuation and common English. You can get in a writing hole you can't climb out of if you use common jargon that's used at your office or mimic what your kids are using for the English language. If you are slipping some humour into your writing, make sure it is commonly understood and well-placed.

Use clear graphic descriptions when you are writing. Don't use fuzzy terms like teenage jargon when you are describing something simple or commonly understood. Once you lose your audience, they will be reading someone else's book. Regardless of your age, your memory isn't what it used to be. Get a small notebook and carry it with you so you can jot down those quick flashes of brilliance that might make your book perfect. If you are in your car when your mind starts generating ideas, get off the road and start taking notes. Don't make the mistake of thinking you can remember those great ideas when you get home. The normal job stresses, traffic and shopping for the evening's meal will erase any good idea you



had in a few minutes. Take your notebook with you when you go to bed and jot down those midnight bursts of brilliance.

Spend some time every day on your writing, either making notes or testing out a title or list of ideas that you'd like to use in your book. A good idea that many, if not most, successful authors use is to spend a few hours every day on creating ideas or chapters for your book. If you have a tight daily schedule, get up an hour early or stay up an hour longer at night.

You can do this!

Val Waldeck
Author and Book Consultant

<http://valwaldeck.com> - Reaching Our Generation One Book at a Time

<http://bookmentoring.com> - Global Publishing Course

Visit my website for a complimentary copy of my special eBook, "When The Storms Come" and information about my Kindle Publishing Made Easy eGuide & Video Tutorial.

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

* * * * *

Improve Your Writing with a FREE WritersReign Email Course

Free to readers of this article! And to be perfectly frank, free to any Tom, Dick or Harriet that would like to sign up!

Click on the links for further details:

Creative Writing Course: <http://writersreign.co.uk/goto/creative.html>

Article Writing Course: <http://writersreign.co.uk/goto/article.html>