



# AUTHORSHIP

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## Editor's Say



It is snowing again and I am not complaining. As a native Coloradan (yes, there are a few of us left.) I am always pleased to have a little snowstorm to give me an excuse to do what I really want to do, which is curl up with a good book and read or write. Recently I've had a few books come across my desk that made me want to remind our members about the essentials of self-publishing. I promise not to rant but will explain a few essentials.

First, Amazon has made it so easy to self-publish that some folks think they don't have to follow the rules. I'm going to tell you "follow the rules." There are a lot of very fine small publishers out there, so try a few before you throw up your hands and decide the book world is against you and you must self-publish. Because they are small, they may have an editor or two that will happily give you some advice on what your manuscript needs. LISTEN! Open your mind and Pay attention. That old false belief that being published is a closed club and once you are published you want to keep everyone out is simply a false belief. I've found most published writers are happy to provide suggestions if you are willing, if you don't argue and just take their suggestions to heart.

When I began writing I met a wonderful lady named Pat Stadley who told me some things I needed to fix in my writing. Granted it was painful, but I did it. I sold one to a Sunday School paper and the other to a big-time equine magazine who paid major bucks. I wouldn't have sold either one without Pat's help or suggestions.

Much like Marcella Meeks, whose article is in this issue, I started with articles for children because they are the most discerning readers. They may not know all the editing information, but because they know what they like.

The bottom line is the writer must know his or her audience. If you self-publish this is even more important than selling your work to a major publishing house.

Whatever you do, read a few books on how to write for your particular audience, and keep learning. It is a great adventure. Read, read, and read some more.

Happy New Year!

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I am a writer and want to write children's picture books and early readers but it hasn't worked out for me. I do write children's stories for *Primary Treasure, Our Little Friend and Guide* (PACIFIC PRESS) on a regular basis but I haven't mastered writing children's books yet.

After a lot of thinking, I made up my mind to schedule a little reading time at the local library for at least an hour a day, Monday through Friday. How can I write children's books if I don't read any?

There were so many books on that shelf that "I hardly knew where to start reading. The helpful librarian showed me the picture book and early readers section and I picked out several and checked them out. Not really knowing which ones to check out, I chose the following selection:

1. *The Three Horrid Little Pigs*, by Liz Pechon;
2. *Stick*, by Irene Dickson;
3. *Two I for Twins*, by Wendy Cheyette Lewison;
4. *Stomp, Stomp! A Dino Romp*, by Bob Kolar.

I just read *THE THREE HORRID LITTLE PIGS* by Liz Pichon, published in 2008. It wasn't my intention to write a full review but only to read it and get an idea how this book was written and different from the original classic. My intention (in all honesty) is to learn how to write books for children myself. Boy, do I have my work cut out for me!

In the beginning I dreaded the thought of reading an old classic by a different author because the one I read as a child was my favorite and it didn't need to be rewritten in any way. The old version was just fine! (My opinion!). It wasn't that I didn't think an author could pull it off (and do it so well). The original classic didn't need to be rewritten or changed. I already did that with my version entitled *THE THREE STINGY LITTLE PIGS* that never got published. Then here comes Liz Pichon with her version which brought a new approach to an old tale, making it more true to life and so much better. I am an adult, and a mother and grandmother, and I could identify the bad little pigs characters as similar to my own children (grands) in a lot of ways.

It was an amazingly good children's book. Ms. Pichon pulled it off with twists and turns that not even a writer like me could ever possibly do so well. The story reminded me so much of my four sons when they were growing up, in some ways. There was also a moral lesson to learn that I grasped when the wolf came calling. The three little pigs were rude, lazy. The wolf was actually very charming and offered to help them, and in the end, offered his hospitality to the three little pigs and the other farm animals (look

at the pictures on the last two pages where they all lived happily ever after.) That was a nice ending and my favorite part. Kids know that not everyone is rude or lazy and that not everyone is mean.

The story was fast-paced to some degree, keeping the reader on their seat to find out what was happening next. At any moment the wolf was expected to turn mean but didn't. Each scene took place on the farm from what I can gather from the illustrations. The wolf in this version is actually the builder. He offers his help instead of wanting to eat the little pigs.

I don't think there is any part of the story that I would change – the interesting twists throughout the book are inspiring. Children will have so many interesting questions when they read this book. They will probably want to know up front why the little pigs were the way they were and why the big bad wolf wasn't so bad after all. Being an adult, I wanted to know! The book left me with a sense of satisfaction that *all that is well, ends well*.

The illustrations were very good, and young children will appreciate them over and over whether they can read or not.

(continued on page 4)



**W**hen we focus on children's book publishing industry, publishers facing many challenges in the future children's book printing, following are key trends in future 10 years.

With the improvement of people's living level and early education awareness's enhance. More and more parents are taking more attention to choose children's book. When we select the books for our child, we are more tend to be safe, funny, green. So that our child can enjoy reading at a more safe and green space. Thus, the future children's book printing will be focus on children's health and attention.

### 1. Green printing ink

Using traditional ink to print children's books will generate a lot of pollution during the printing process. And will leave toxic gases on the chil-

children's books. Most of the children have bad reading habit, such as biting or tearing the book. When children biting or tearing the book. The toxic chemicals will enter children's respiratory system. If things go on like this, the toxic gases will seriously harm children's health.

Most of the parents, when they choosing children's books for their children. They will more tend to the book printed by green printing ink. Soy ink is made with soybean oil, which is pure plant extract, without any toxic gases. Even children bite or tear the book, it will not harm their health. Since soy ink is a green printing ink. Thus, with green printing ink-soy ink will be a trend in the future children's book printing.

### 2. Sight-friendly printing paper

At present, most of the children's book printing with coated paper. Because coated paper can better restore artwork color. Which makes the book look more bright, colorful and attractive. But here also have a problem. Although the coated paper is more bright and better restore color. But because of the high brightness, when children reading the book, it is easy to make them feel tired. Especially, because of due to light refraction, when the children for a long time read, it will hurt their eyes.

Lightweight paper with the advantage of lower cost, sight-friendly, lightweight. Lightweight paper is not as brightness like coated paper. Use it to print children's books. The color looks more natural and comfortable. Even the children for a long time reading,. It will not cause them visual fatigue and can better protect their eye. Due to lightweight, sight-friendly. More and more publisher are selecting it to use it to print children's books. So it will be a trend in children's book printing.

### 3. Eco-friendly finishing

When we print children's book, to make it more texture and bright or with some functions. We will select some after-printing crafts to fulfill such effect. At present, most of children's book with lamination on the surface, to make it with the function of waterproof, dustproof and more bright. Traditional lamination is the finishing process of laminate the surface of the printed matter. And then with a transparent plastic film by hot pressing. In the laminate process, it will produces pollution and toxic gases. When the children read the book, it will harm their health.

But water lamination finishing is not have such of problem. The water lamination method is to apply a layer of adhesive on the surface of the plastic film.

*(continued on page 4)*

The illustrations were very good, and young children will appreciate them over and over whether they can read or not.

This book actually inspired me to drag out my old manuscript, my version of *The Three Little Pigs* and rewrite it. I have no idea if it will ever be as good as Ms. Pichon's book, but I'd certainly like to try. But instead of my little pigs being stingy, I might change it to something like this: *The Three Little Pigs and The Wolf Go to New York, or ...to Florida*. Maybe they'll be there and a hurricane comes in and threatens their beach home! I can't wait to get started on the new version of this wonderful old tale.

What an inspiration this book has been for me. There is nothing I would change Ms. Pichon's book. I think it would be a wonderful book for reading time with grandparents and their grandchildren. Or anyone, for that matter. Right alongside my own book!

If you want to write children's magazine stories, subscribe to the magazines you might want to write for. *Humpty Dumpty, Jack and Jill, Cricket, Highlights for Children, Ranger Rick, Primary Treasure* (Christian Publication) to name a few. Read as many of these publications as you possibly can every day and get a feel for the stories they publish.

If you want to write children's books, do as I did. Set aside an hour or two a day for reading time at the local library and read as many children's books as you can. Review them if you like. Take special notice to the format, how many words on a page, in the book itself and look closely at the illustrations. Learn the book inside and out, one book at a time.

Don't just read one book. Read as many as you can. My goal is to finish every book on the Picture Book/Early Readers shelf until I know how these books are written. It may take me a month or two, or six; maybe even a year. But by this time next year, I hope to have at least one or two of my children's books on that shelf in our local library and libraries all across the country and beyond.

Now, it's time to read book two!

Before I forget, here's wishing you lots of luck and good vibes. It's time to start reading! And Writing!

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*Children's Book Printing (Con't)*

When the adhesive is not dry, a pressure roller bonds it to the paper print to form a laminated product. Wet lamination with organic solvents it will not harm the environment and children's health.

Except for water lamination, UV glazing and varnish finishing are also the eco-friendly finishing. They as well as will not produce the pollution and are more eco-friendly to our environment. Global warming and increased environmental awareness. Using eco-friendly finishing to print children's book will be the trend.

#### **4. Eco-friendly binding material**

When we binding the children's books, we often select EVA glue. Using such of glue to bind the children's book, after heating, it will produce large amount of toxic gas. And it will interact with ink, releases toxic gases. During the process of reading, it will harm children's health. Some children read the book will fall the book, it is easy to cause pages to fall off. PUR glue can prefect solve such of problems. PUR glue is a new type of eco-friendly and non-toxic glue. Which with the advantage of strong tear resistance, good durability. And after gluing, the book can open flat.

#### **5. Books make children laugh**

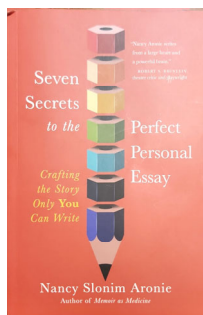
With the development of E-book, the traditional children's book printing also facing many challenges.

A survey by Scholastic showed that nearly 50% of children who have read eBooks prefer to read printed books for fun. In the survey of Scholastic, 63% of children age of 6-17 are tend to the book make them laugh.

Future children's book printing will be a trend of focus on safe, green reading and the books can make children laugh during reading.

*Just for Laughs*





## BOOK REVIEW

### *Seven Secrets to the Perfect Personal Essay: Crafting the Story Only You Can Write*

By Nancy Slonim Aronie

\$18.95

ISBN 978-1-60868-930-9

After several years of conducting classes as the founder of the Chilmark Writer's Workshop on Marthas Vineyard personal essayist, Nancy Slonim Aronie has written a book on writing personal essays. She is a frequent contributor to NPR. She uses the best of her students essays to illustrate her seven secrets.

Some secrets to consider:

1. Start with a compelling sentence
2. Introduce a Dramatic Scene
3. Discover and Reveal a New Insight about yourself
4. Be Vulnerable
5. Use direct quotes

There are several others, but you'll have to read the book for yourself. After reading this book I considered the possibility that I might actually try my hand at the personal essay. Aronie gives the reader the feeling that it might just

Plagued by paranoia, fear, and memory issues, Katie is satisfied with her self-imposed isolation until her calm is broken when two very different men notice her. One is infatuated. One is obsessed.

**Do YOU have a new book that has been released? We would love to share your joy with other NWA Members! Simply e-mail us at: [natlwritersassn@hotmail.com](mailto:natlwritersassn@hotmail.com)**

## FYI

\*\*\*If you're considering working with an agent or a publisher, please contact us for current information. Please contact us on our website at [www.nationalwriters.com](http://www.nationalwriters.com), or email us at [Natlwritersassn@hotmail.com](mailto:Natlwritersassn@hotmail.com)\*\*\*

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

**“SO THE WRITER WHO BREEDS MORE WORDS THAN HE NEEDS, IS MAKING A CHORE FOR THE READER WHO READS. ”**

**-DR. SEUSS**



## NWA BOOKSTORE

### NWA GUIDE TO WRITING FOR BEGINNERS

Basics for every writer by Sandy Whelchel

Rowman and Littlefield publishers \$24.95 + \$2.20 p&h (retail \$25.95)

### THE FREELANCE WRITER'S BIBLE

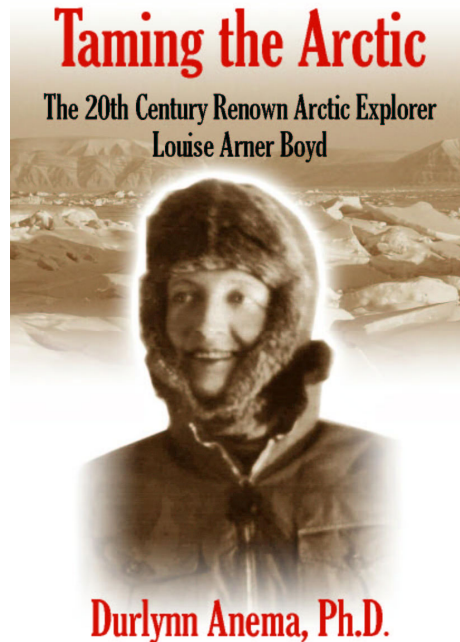
by Dave Trottier

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***ALL THE ABOVE BOOKS MAY BE ORDERED THROUGH NWA.***

## Foundation News

We are still accepting scholarship applications, so if you know an outstanding young writer please have them apply. Applications are available on the NWA website under the 'Contests' link.



Taming the Arctic  
HARDBACK  
By Durlynn Anema  
\$24.95  
ISBN: 978-0-88100-184-8

Louise Arner Boyd inherited millions of dollars when her parents died. Totally alone in the world, she wondered at thirty-two years old what she would do with her life. Travel abroad, community volunteering, social prestige -- these beckoned to her -- leading her first to try a socialite life of parties, events and travel abroad. She quickly was bored. Then, when she traveled to the far north Atlantic Ocean, she discovered her life goal. This frozen wilderness intrigued her. She found a purpose, deciding to explore the many facets of the Arctic. Her millions would be spent to increase knowledge of the Arctic through four expeditions. She planned each expedition, hired crew and scientists and became world renown for her contributions. As a gifted photographer she took thousands of photographs of the Eastern Greenland Coast in the 1930's.

Boyd, flamboyant yet practical, never was afraid to speak her mind, or get what she wanted. Her many awards from Scandinavian nations and her status as the Arctic expert for the U. S. military during World War II demonstrated her success. Explore her determination to succeed through this biography which takes the reader from the gold fields of Bodie, California to the frozen shores of Eastern and Western Greenland to the society pages of San Francisco. Boyd always was up for adventure -- as will be the reader traveling to a little-known place in the world.

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Be sure to ask about Penny Wise's special Welcome Kit offer—\$75.00 worth of office supplies for \$24.99.





**NWA NOVEL CONTEST**

OPENS December annually

**PURPOSE OF THE CONTEST:**

The purpose of the National Writers Assn. Novel Contest is to encourage the development of creative skills, recognize and reward outstanding ability in the area of novel writing.

**CONTEST RULES:**

Any genre or category of novel manuscript may be entered. All entries must be postmarked by April 1. Only unpublished works may be submitted. All manuscripts must be typed, double-spaced, in the English language. Maximum length is 100,000 words. Those unsure of proper manuscript format should request Research Report #35.

The entry must be accompanied by entry form (photocopies are acceptable), entry fee of \$35 per submission, and return SASE if you wish the material and rating sheets returned. **SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE RETURNED WITHOUT SASE.** The U.S. Postal Service will not allow us to use your metered postage unless it is undated. Receipt of entry will not be acknowledged without a return postcard. Author's name and address must appear on the first page. Entries remain the property of the author and may be submitted during the contest as long as they are not published before the final announcement of winners.

**JUDGING AND PRIZES**

Judging will be based on originality, marketability, research, and reader interest. Copies of the judges evaluation sheets will be sent to entrants furnishing an SASE with their entry. First through fifth place awards will be presented at the annual NWA Conference. 1st Prize -- \$500 and possible representation; 2nd Prize -- \$250; 3rd Prize -- \$150; 4th through 10th places will receive a book of the winner's choice. Honorable Mentions receive a certificate.

**ENTRY FEE AND CRITIQUES**

The entry fee per submission is \$35. If you wish to have your submission critiqued, please request this on the entry form. Entry fees are used to pay judges and prize money.

NWA NOVEL CONTEST FORM  
To: NWA NOVEL Contest  
National Writers Assn.  
10940 S. Parker Rd. #508  
Parker, CO 80134

Entry # _____ Date _____ Amt _____ RP _____ Y _____ N _____	<i>For completion by NWA Staff—leave empty</i>
--	--

Please enter the enclosed entry (title) \_\_\_\_\_ in the NWA Novel Contest.

\_\_\_\_\_ My entry fee \$35 is enclosed.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please charge my \_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ Visa # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date \_\_\_\_\_

NAME (PLEASE PRINT) \_\_\_\_\_ CITY, ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ You may retain my submission for a critique after judging. I am enclosing an additional \$1 per page for a critique.

*National Writers Association Foundation  
10940 South Parker Road, Box 508  
Parker, CO 80134  
Website: [www.nationalwriters.com](http://www.nationalwriters.com)*

## **SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA AND APPLICATION**

### **MISSION STATEMENT:**

The National Writers Association Foundation exists to enhance the future of writers by fostering continuing education through awarding scholarships, and providing low or no cost workshops and seminars. A non-profit organization, we provide education and an ethical resource for writers at all levels of experience.

### **SELECTION CRITERIA:**

Scholarships will be awarded on a merit basis regardless of age, location, or any other bias. Applicants interested in pursuing further education in one of the writing disciplines are given preference. Please state on the application which type of award you are applying to receive.

The following awards are currently available to applicants: 2 fully paid scholarships to the National Writers Association Foundation Conference, held annually the second weekend in June -- approximate value \$250 per scholarship; 1 Tuition free Scholarship to the National Writers School (value approx. \$400); 1 Cash award scholarship of \$1,000 no use restriction.

An internship at the National Writers Association headquarters is also available to interested students enrolled in a qualified college, high school HERO, or vocational education program. To apply for this internship, please complete the attached form and state you are applying for the internship rather than a scholarship.

**NO MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL WRITERS ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS, THE NATIONAL WRITERS ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS, OR NWAF/NWA STAFF MEMBERS OR THEIR FAMILIES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR ANY OF THE ABOVE AWARDS.**

### **APPLICATION REVIEW:**

Scholarship applications will be reviewed from October 1 to December 31 annually. Scholarship recipients will be notified by May 15 annually.

**NATIONAL WRITERS ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**  
(all interested writers are eligible to apply)

Please type or print legibly.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security # (necessary for reporting on IRS 1099) \_\_\_\_\_

State the scholarship you are applying for: \_\_\_\_\_

What area of writing interests you most? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What is your ultimate writing goal? (Novel writing, nonfiction writing, editing, book publishing related career) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If you receive this award, how do you intend to utilize it to make an advancement toward your ultimate goal? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Attach to this form, an example of your best work. (Please do not exceed 20 double-spaced pages. Single spaced pages will not be considered.) This may be a short story, screenplay, article, essay, or several pages of a novella or novel.

If you are currently a student, please attach a copy of your most recent grade transcript. Scholarships will not be awarded on basis of academic standing, however grades in English-related subjects will be a mitigating factor in the event of otherwise equally qualified applicants.

Deadline for application submissions is December 31 annually. No exceptions can be made for this deadline due to the time necessary for the committee to make a decision.

## **AUTHORSHIP GUIDELINES**

**PURPOSE:** Authorship magazine is the “in-house” publication for the National Writers Assn. It is read by thousands of members on a quarterly basis. Currently the magazine is a 10 to 241 page publication with a four color cover.

**SCOPE:** Articles submitted for consideration to Authorship should have a writing slant. Material should deal with writing “how-to’s” or current market trends. We are overstocked on inspirational “How I became a successful writer...” type material and will not be interested in any of these articles. Articles slanted toward aspects of fiction—creating characters, setting scenes, etc. are of interest and will be our primary interest. Humor is a plus — writing is serious enough without a totally serious article.

We do not accept fiction. Poetry is published in our winter issue, if it has a writing theme.

**SUBMISSIONS:** All submissions should be in standard manuscript format, approximately 1,250 to 1,500 words, accompanied by an SASE if the material is to be returned. Authorship uses AP style with the exception of state abbreviations. If the author is not aware of proper manuscript format, they should request NWA RR#35 prior to submitting. Manuscripts accepted for publication will be requested via e-mail in Microsoft Word format in text files with line breaks. NO tabs, fancy fonts, bullets, charts, or tables. If charts or tables are necessary, submit them like art work. Electronic files will be given preferred treatment as this prevents typos in final copy.

Sharp clear photos of article authors will be requested if material is accepted.

**PAYMENT:** We are currently paying \$10 honorarium per article or a \$10 reduction on membership dues.

