ISSUE 02 APRIL 2024

TEXAS AUTHORS

Museum - Publishing - Marketing - Success



Navigating Book Festivals

SALES PITCH

Your Words Set the Tone and Draws in the Readers

Five Suggestions for Writers of Fiction



One Line Summer Program, and more

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BookSpring is a non-profit organization that provides high-quality children's books to low-income families in Texas. We are looking for new ways to foster an appreciation for culture and identity among young readers while promoting literacy and learning.

We are excited to announce that we are seeking submissions of fullly illustrated digital manuscripts from authors/illustrators of original, self-published or unpublished children's books for possible distribution. We are looking for engaging, educational, and culturally authentic stories that reflect the unique traditions, history, and values of the Texas communities we serve.

Our audience is families with children aged 3-12 who have historically had limited access to books reflecting their own cultures and experiences. To reach these families, we will distribute our books free of charge in digital formats without a password or log in required. (You can view our system here: Digital Library (English) - BookSpring) We believe that every child deserves access to high-quality,



culturally relevant books that can help foster a love of reading and learning, and while we will continue to distribute aftermarket print books from traditional publishers, digital books allow us to further expand available options for young readers and their families.

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If you would like more infromation about a special program designed for Texas Authors, please visit their website at: https://bookspring.org/en/family-reading/submissions/



— *Intro*

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Tools & Tips to Help Texas Authors to Succeed.

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— *Issue 3*

Future Articles

What we are working on for our next issue.

Do you possess specialized knowledge in the realm of publishing that you're eager to impart to our readers?

We're actively seeking articles within the realms of Pre-Publishing, Publishing, Marketing, and Author Support. If you have expertise in any of these areas, please submit an article of approximately 1,500 words to TexasAuthors@outlook.com. If your submission aligns with the magazine's themes and is approved, we'll express our gratitude by offering you a ¼ page advertisement in the magazine for two consecutive issues, valued at over $250.

Issue 3

Celebrating Authors

The Power of Audiobooks in Reaching Diverse Audiences

Summer Reading - One Line Promotion

Character Development

Beyond Boundaries: Navigating Diversity and Inclusion in Publishing



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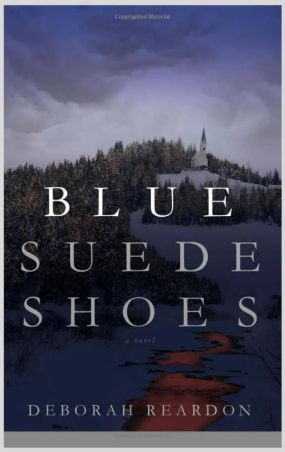
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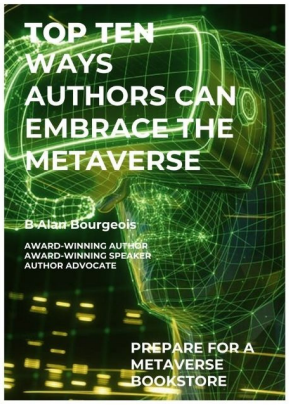


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— *Editoral Notes*

Navigating the Literary Landscape: Insights for Indie Authors

Achieving success as an author is a formidable task that demands years of unwavering commitment, hard work, and persistence. Essential to this journey is the ability to sustain oneself in the literary realm. Indie authors, facing distinct challenges in the publishing industry, bear the weight of self-publishing responsibilities, encompassing editing, cover design, and marketing, without the support of a traditional publishing house. While this undertaking may seem overwhelming, it is also remarkably gratifying.

In this edition, we delve into three focal points: the art of fiction writing, the significance of book festivals, and the reasons authors should contemplate entering short story contests. These topics initiate a broader conversation that will continue in subsequent issues of the Texas Authors magazine.

We welcome your input on subjects and crucial matters that can aid in your growth as an author. If you possess an article you'd like to share with fellow Texas authors, please don't hesitate to send it to us at TexasAuthors@outlook.com. Your contributions enrich the collective experience of our community.

— *Pre-Publication*

Five Suggestions for Writers of Fiction



Award-Winning Author Joe Kilgore

Embarking on the journey of fiction writing requires more than just a pen and paper; it demands a nuanced understanding of the craft. Here, I present five invaluable suggestions tailored for aspiring fiction writers, drawn from the wisdom of seasoned wordsmiths. First and foremost, I delve into the intricate relationship between writers and editors, urging authors to approach editorial feedback with a discerning eye. Tales of conflicting opinions and surprising outcomes serve as cautionary tales, emphasizing the need to trust one's instincts. Moving forward, we explore the essence of authenticity in storytelling, encouraging writers to pen narratives that resonate with their personal reading preferences while navigating the challenges of plot intricacies. The discussion then pivots to the elusive concept of finding one's voice, a paramount aspect of effective writing. From the cadence to the attitude, a writer's voice shapes the narrative, adding layers of depth and authenticity. Furthermore, the counsel extends beyond the living, as we unravel the treasure trove of inspiration found in the works of deceased literary giants like Raymond Chandler, Graham Greene, and Malcolm Lowry. Finally, we challenge the conventional notion of relying solely on bestsellers, urging writers to explore the uncharted territories of lesser-known authors and diverse genres. In summation, these suggestions serve as beacons, guiding aspiring writers through the labyrinth of fiction creation, offering insights gleaned from the collective wisdom of those who have walked the literary path before them.

1) Take editors advice with the proverbial grain of salt.

There’s little to be gained by trying to guess what will please editors. They seem to have an innate ability to smell desperation from afar. I’m not suggesting you ignore every suggestion editors make about your work. I’m simply advising that you take it for what you believe it’s worth. There are as many conflicting opinions about fiction as there are about everything else in life.

I once submitted a short story to a particular publication and received a complimentary note about the style in which the story was written. However the note went on to say that there was no way they would publish the story because it was fundamentally flawed. Didn't I realize that surprise endings are amateurish in the extreme? All good short stories, according to this editor, have their endings ordained from the beginning. Two weeks later I received a note from another editor at another publication to which I had submitted the exact same story. They wanted to publish it and particularly praised the surprise ending. Like all good short stories, they said, the ending was one you never saw coming. Don't believe everyone will hate your work just because someone hates it.

2) Write what you'd like to read—as long as it feels true.

When you have trouble deciding what you really want to write, simply write what you'd like to read. If you enjoy reading a mystery, there's an excellent chance you'll enjoy writing one. Of course you'll find just how damnably hard it is to do. The intricate plotting, the red herrings, the twists and turns that engage us so when we're the reader, often befuddle us when we're the writer. It's not easy to come up with plots that seem original, ingenious, yet imminently believable. Believability is the key. If the reader believes this really could have happened just this way, then the writer had done his job well. The writers whose sentences and paragraphs are alive with believability are the writers who are read and remembered regardless of genre.

3) Find your own voice—or someone else's.

Voice may well be the most important factor in writing. If you like the sound of someone's voice, you're apt to listen to him whether he makes a dime's worth of sense or not. The cadence, the pace, the choice of words—they all become the voice of the writer.

Finding your own voice doesn't mean that everything you write has to sound exactly the same. The point is that the voice has to be right for what you're writing. Or, it has to be so original as to make whatever you're writing feel new and different. The best bet is to start out writing like you speak. Unless of course, you speak terribly. Writing that sounds like actual conversation is generally the voice that readers are attracted to the most. You must be careful, however. A boring conversationalist makes for boring prose. Be sure to sprinkle enough spice into your voice to make it one the reader finds hard to resist. How do you do that? Adopt an attitude.

Attitude helps set the voice of a written piece more than anything else. Does the writing that you're reading sound like it's coming from someone who's bombastic, didactic, charming, acerbic, tentative, haughty, fearful, drug-addled, confident, bored, friendly, detached, irreverent, etc. All voice in prose has attitude. The reader decides for himself what it is. What's the attitude of this piece? You're the judge of that.

4) Learn from the dead. There's a reason they're still with us.

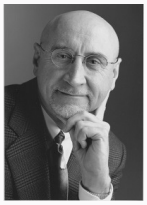
Writers you admire need not be living. Some of the best ones aren't. I admire Raymond Chandler, Graham Greene, and Malcolm Lowry. They are gone but their work lives on due to their own distinctive voices. Chandler elevated the detective novel from potboiler to perfect pitch prose because he wrote, as one admirer said, like a "slumming angel." Graham Greene's sardonic, irony-laced tales literally drip with attitude...often venomous, always filled with regret. Malcolm Lowry's masterpiece, Under The Volcano, erupts from page to page with an alcoholic tsunami of words and phrases and lines that turn into images and scenes and drama that one is unlikely to ever forget. Having such writers renting space in your brain is a good way to keep the fires of inspiration burning.

5) Look beyond the best seller bin to find originality.

Try to read as many authors that you've never heard of as those you're already acquainted with. Finding new voices, and exploring an array of genres and subject matter is the best way to keep a well-furnished mind. Nothing will help your writing more than having a head full of sources, styles, and stories to draw from.

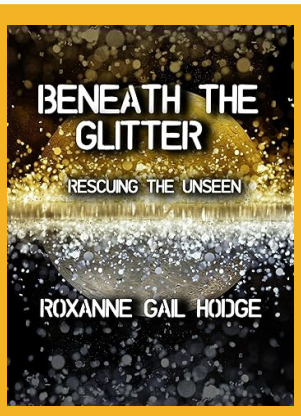
In summation.

There are all sorts of tips in all sorts of books about writing. I believe you'll learn more about writing well by reading well-written fiction and occasionally by listening to the advice of good writers who are willing to share what they've learned. One of the things I learned from an excellent writer named David Ogilvy, who wrote advertising, books about advertising, and books about his life and times, is that you don't have to say a lot to say a lot. David often illustrated this point by reminding people that the most emotional sentence in the English language contains only two words. Jesus wept. I've taken 939 more words than that to write about writing. My bad. But perhaps some of the words I've chosen will be helpful to you in some way.



Joe Kilgore is a multi award-winning author of Mystery Thrillers. You can learn more about Joe Kilgore here: https://texasauthors.institute/index.php/author-listing/j/more-authors/joe-kilgore





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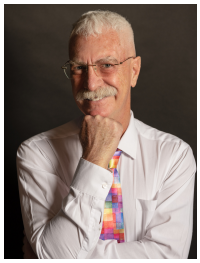
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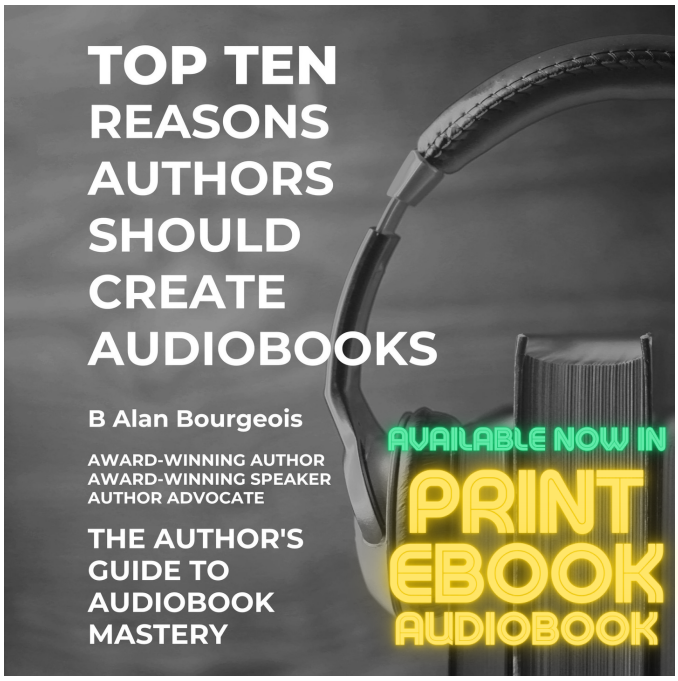
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— *Marketing*

Navigating Book Festivals: A Guide for Authors of All Type



Top Ten Points

Diverse Author Types, Diverse Audiences: Book festivals attract a wide range of authors, from introverted poets to extroverted storytellers. Regardless of your personality type, these events offer a unique opportunity to connect with diverse audiences, ensuring that your work reaches readers who resonate with your distinct style.

Example: A poetry-loving introvert might connect with an audience at a poetry-themed book festival, while an extroverted fantasy author engages with fans at a genre-specific event, showcasing the diverse range of authors and their respective audiences

I**ntroverts Find Their Tribe**: For introverted authors, book festivals can be a haven where they connect with like-minded individuals who share a passion for literature. These events provide a supportive environment for introverts to break out of their shells gradually and engage with readers and fellow authors on their terms.

Example: An introverted author, initially hesitant about book festivals, discovers a small, quiet corner at the event where intimate book discussions take place. Here, surrounded by fellow introverts, they feel at ease and form connections over shared literary interests.

Extroverts Shine in the Spotlight: Extroverted authors thrive in the lively atmosphere of book festivals. Whether participating in panel discussions, leading workshops, or interacting with attendees during book signings, extroverts can leverage their social energy to make a memorable impact, creating lasting connections and leaving a positive impression.

Example: An extroverted author takes center stage at a book festival, leading an animated workshop on storytelling techniques. Their dynamic presence captivates the audience, leaving a lasting impression and drawing readers to their booth for signed copies of their latest work.

Reader Engagement for All: Book festivals provide unique opportunities for both introverted and extroverted authors to engage with readers directly. Introverts may prefer one-on-one interactions during book signings, while extroverts can relish the chance to captivate larger audiences through dynamic presentations and discussions.

Example: An introverted author excels during one-on-one book signings, engaging readers in meaningful conversations about their writing process. Simultaneously, an extroverted author thrives on the main stage, entertaining a large crowd with humorous anecdotes and insights into their storytelling journey.

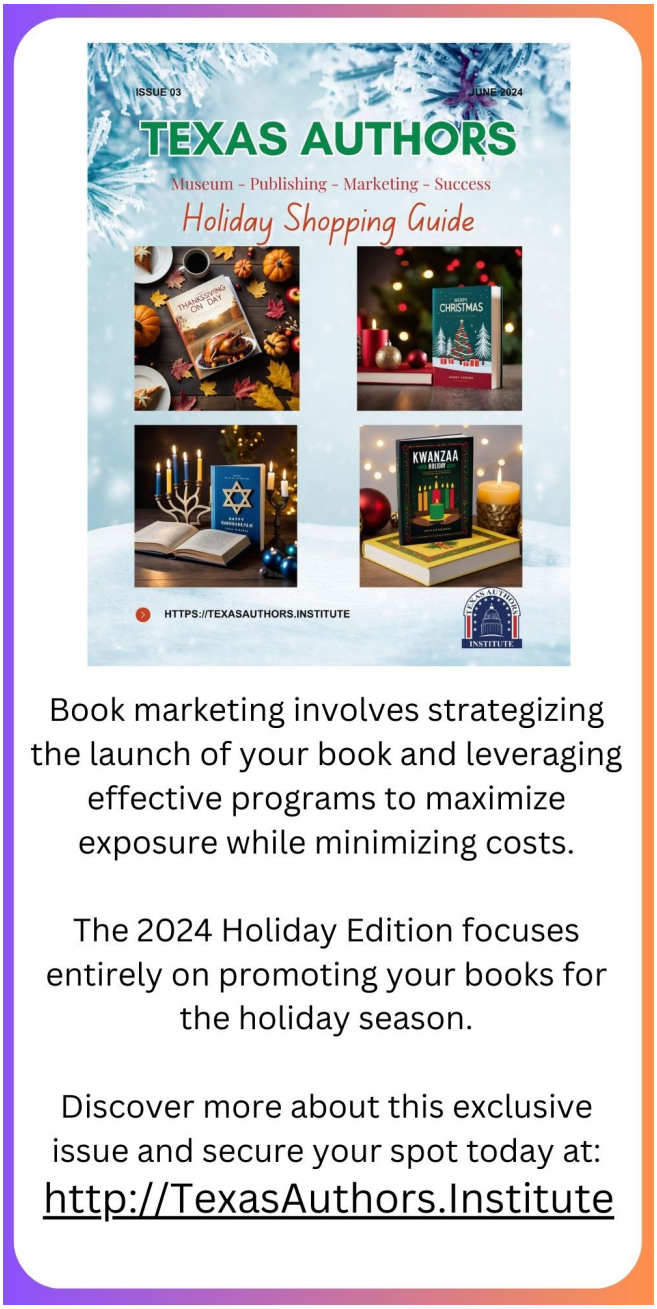
Recouping Costs Through Book Sales: While attending book festivals involves some expenses, authors can recoup these costs through increased book sales. The direct interaction with readers often leads to more significant sales, especially when coupled with personalized signings and the chance for attendees to connect with the author on a personal level.

Example: Despite initial investment in festival participation, an author witnesses a surge in book sales during and after the event. The personalized signings and connections made with readers lead to a direct return on investment, making the festival financially worthwhile.

Strategic Marketing and Branding: Authors can use book festivals as strategic marketing opportunities to enhance their brand. Well-planned promotional materials, engaging booth displays, and memorable interactions contribute to increased visibility, attracting more readers and potentially leading to long-term sales.









Example: A meticulous author invests in eye-catching booth displays, distributing well-designed promotional materials, and orchestrating engaging book-related activities. This strategic approach not only boosts immediate sales but also leaves a lasting impression, contributing to long-term brand recognition.

Utilizing Social Media and Online Platforms: Authors, both introverted and extroverted, can maximize the impact of book festivals by leveraging social media and online platforms. Live-tweeting events, sharing behind-the-scenes glimpses, and connecting with readers virtually can extend the reach of the festival experience, creating a lasting online presence.

Example: Whether an introvert or extrovert, authors leverage social media during the festival, live-tweeting panel discussions, sharing photos of enthusiastic readers, and connecting with fans virtually. This online engagement extends the festival experience, creating an enduring presence in the digital realm.

Securing Speaking Engagements: Book festivals often include opportunities for authors to participate in panel discussions, workshops, and speaking engagements. Securing such opportunities not only enhances an author's credibility but also provides an additional income stream through honorariums or speaker fees.

Example: An author secures a coveted speaking slot at a prestigious book festival, delivering a thought-provoking talk on their writing journey. This not only establishes them as an authority in their genre but also brings in additional income through honorariums and increased book sales.

Collaborations and Cross-Promotion: Authors attending book festivals can explore collaborations with fellow writers. Cross-promotional efforts, joint book signings, or themed panel discussions can amplify visibility for all involved, attracting a broader audience and potentially leading to increased book sales.

Example: Two authors, one introverted and one extroverted, join forces at a book festival. They host a joint panel discussion, cross-promoting each other's works and attracting a diverse audience interested in both their unique perspectives, leading to increased book sales for both authors.

Building a Sustainable Festival Strategy: Authors should approach book festivals strategically, considering their strengths and preferences. Developing a sustainable festival strategy involves careful planning, budgeting, and choosing events that align with an author's target audience, ensuring a positive return on investment over time.

Example: A thoughtful author meticulously plans their festival calendar, selecting events aligned with their genre and target audience. By budgeting wisely, prioritizing meaningful engagements, and participating strategically, they ensure a positive return on investment and lay the foundation for a sustainable festival strategy over time.

Book festivals cater to authors of all types, providing opportunities for introverts and extroverts alike to connect with readers, enhance their brand, and recoup costs through increased book sales. By approaching these events strategically and embracing the unique advantages they offer, authors can turn book festivals into valuable milestones in their literary careers.

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Short Story Contest - Adults

Authors may choose to enter short story contests for several reasons, each offering potential benefits and opportunities. Here are some compelling reasons why an author might consider participating in a short story contest:

1- **Exposure and Recognition:** Winning or even being a finalist in a contest can bring attention to an author's work. Many contests are sponsored by reputable organizations or publications, providing exposure to a wider audience and potentially catching the eye of literary agents, publishers, or other professionals in the industry.

2-**Publication Opportunities:** Some short story contests offer publication as part of the prize. Having a story published in a contest anthology, literary magazine, or other platforms can help build an author's portfolio and increase visibility.

3-**Feedback and Critique:** Many contests involve evaluation by experienced judges or professionals in the field. Even if an author doesn't win, they may receive valuable feedback on their work, helping them refine their writing skills and understand their strengths and weaknesses.

4-**Motivation and Deadline Pressure:** Contests often come with deadlines, providing authors with a sense of urgency and a concrete goal. This can serve as motivation to complete and submit a polished piece within a specified timeframe, helping authors develop discipline and meet deadlines.

5. **Networking Opportunities:** Some contests offer opportunities for authors to connect with other writers, industry professionals, or even fellow participants. Networking can lead to collaborations, mentorship opportunities, or valuable connections within the literary community.

6. **Prizes and Awards:** Many contests offer attractive prizes, ranging from cash awards to writing retreats, publication deals, or other valuable opportunities. Winning or being recognized can enhance an author's credibility and provide financial support for their writing endeavors.

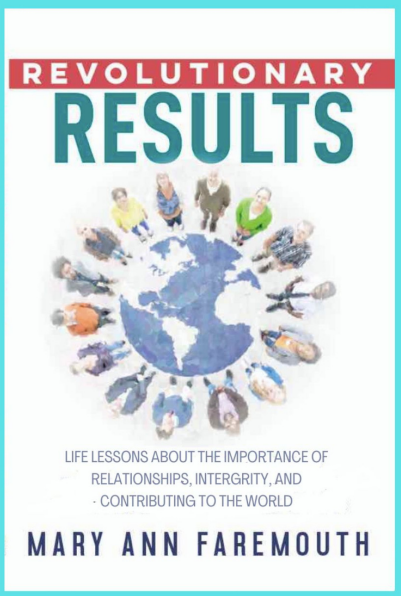
7. **Skill Development:** Crafting a short story for a contest often involves careful consideration of theme, word count limitations, and other specific guidelines. This can challenge authors to refine their storytelling abilities, experiment with new styles, and enhance their overall writing skills.

8. **Building Confidence:** Successfully entering and participating in a contest, regardless of the outcome, can boost an author's confidence. It validates their work and encourages them to continue pursuing their passion for writing.

In summary, entering a short story contest can be a strategic and rewarding decision for authors looking to gain exposure, improve their craft, and explore opportunities within the literary world.

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— Marketing



Year of the Author

Make the Year Great

Here are the top 12 things authors can do year-round to be actively involved and successful in the 2024 Year of the Indie Authors.

By participating in the Year of the Indie Author program and utilizing these strategies, indie authors can gain more exposure, attract new readers, and ultimately achieve greater success in their writing careers.

For the purposes of this article and for the event, here is a definition of what an Indie Author is: An indie author is typically defined as a self-published author who has chosen to forego traditional publishing methods in favor of taking full control of the publishing process, from writing to editing, formatting, cover design, and distribution. Indie authors may use online publishing platforms, such as Amazon's Kindle Direct Publishing or Barnes & Noble's Nook Press, to release their books in electronic



and/or print formats. They are responsible for all aspects of their book's success, including marketing and promotion, and may rely on their own networks and social media platforms to build their audience. The term "indie" is short for "independent," reflecting the author's decision to work outside the traditional publishing industry.

We further define an Indie Author to be an author that is published by a traditional style publishing house that publishes less than 12 books per year. These publishers are considered to be small publisher, and also known as indie publishers.

Here are 12 things an author can do to be successful and profitable in participating with the 2024 Year of the Indie Authors:

1. Define your brand: Create a strong brand that defines your writing style and target audience. This will help you

stand out and attract the right readers. maximize your success and profitability as an indie author.

2. Know your target audience: Understand who your ideal reader is and what they're looking for in a book.

3. Build an email list: Build an email list of interested readers and keep them updated on your new releases, promotions, and events.

4. Offer pre-orders: Offer pre-orders of your books to build buzz and generate sales before the book is even released.

5. Price your books strategically: Price your books competitively to maximize sales while still earning a profit.

6. Use social media: Use social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to connect with readers and promote your books.

7. Attend book fairs and festivals: Attend book fairs and festivals to connect with readers, other authors, and industry professionals.

8. Collaborate with other authors: Collaborate with other indie authors to cross-promote your books and reach new readers.

9. Use paid advertising: Consider using paid advertising platforms like Amazon Ads and Facebook Ads to increase visibility and sales.

10. Offer reader incentives: Offer incentives like bonus content or exclusive access to connect with and engage your readers.

11. Focus on building your author brand: Building your author brand will help you build a loyal readership and long-term success.

12. Stay motivated and persistent: Success as an indie author takes time and persistence. Stay motivated and keep working towards your goals.

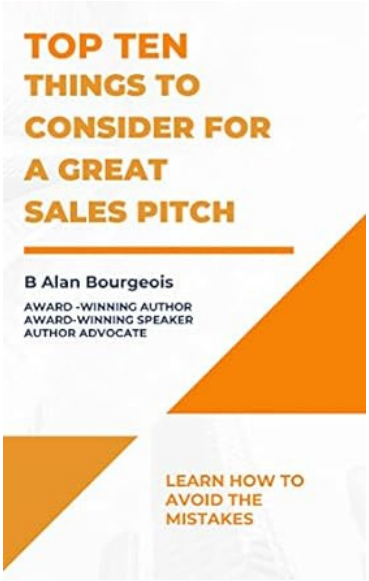
Remember, participating in the 2024 Year of the Indie Authors can be a great opportunity for indie authors to gain visibility and grow their readership. By focusing on building your author brand, connecting with readers, and utilizing effective marketing strategies, you can be successful and make it a great year.

These 12 points are found in the book ***Top Twelve Things to Make the Year of the Indie Authors Great*** by B Alan Bourgeois



B Alan Bourgeois is a multi-award-winning author that created 30 books designed to help authors to succeed. He has been helping authors since 2006. You can learn more about this book at BourgeoisMedia.com, or at your favorite book store in print, eBook or Audiobook.





Setting the Right Tone Hooks Readers

B Alan Bourgeois, Multi-Award-Winning Author and winner of the 2024 Texas Authors Best Non-Fiction Series “Top Ten Author Series of 30 Books”

Embarking on the journey of promoting your book requires more than just words on a page; it demands the mastery of a compelling sales pitch. Just as a captivating book opening sets the tone for a riveting story, an artfully crafted pitch creates a lasting impression, hooking the audience from the start. It goes beyond mere promotion; it's about engaging the audience, making them curious and eager to delve deeper into the world you've meticulously crafted. Through clarity, you communicate your book's essence effectively, offering a heartwarming tale, a challenging mystery, or an emotional rollercoaster tailored to resonate with your target audience. In a crowded market, memorability becomes paramount, with a memorable pitch distinguishing your book from the rest. Highlighting unique selling points, forging an emotional connection, and building a consistent author brand contribute to the success of your pitch. Adapting it to different platforms, from social media to detailed book descriptions, ensures maximum impact. Ultimately, the well-structured pitch serves a higher purpose – encouraging action. It prompts readers to explore further, offering a glimpse into your world and enticing them to embark on an unforgettable journey through your words. The art of a compelling sales pitch transcends selling a book; it's an invitation for readers to immerse themselves in a world you've created, sparking their curiosity to explore further.

1.First Impressions Matter
A compelling sales pitch creates a lasting impression. Just like a captivating book opening, a well-crafted pitch hooks the audience from the start. Example: "In a world where magic intertwines with reality, embark on a journey of wonder and suspense with my latest fantasy novel..."

2.Audience Engagement
A successful pitch engages the audience, making them curious and eager to learn more. Example: "Have you ever wondered what would happen if history took a different turn? My alternate history thriller takes you on a gripping ride through time."

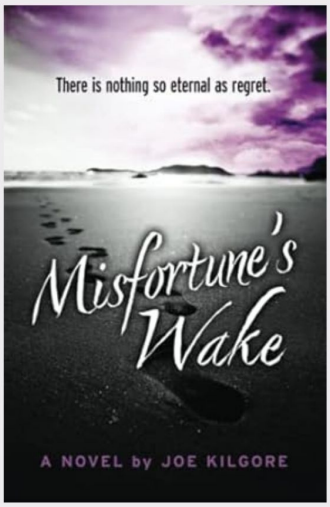
3.Clarity Sells
A clear and concise pitch communicates your book's essence effectively. Example: "A heartwarming tale of friendship and resilience set against the backdrop of a small town. Join the characters on a journey of self-discovery in my latest novel."

4.Targeting the Right Audience
Tailor your pitch to resonate with your target audience, ensuring it speaks directly to their interests and needs. Example: "For mystery enthusiasts who love solving puzzles, my new detective novel challenges your sleuthing skills with unexpected twists and turns."

5.Memorability
A memorable pitch makes your book stand out in a crowded market. Example: "Dive into a world where dreams become reality, and reality is but a dream. Uncover the extraordinary in the ordinary with my thought-provoking science fiction novel."

6.Highlighting Unique Selling Points (USPs)
Identify and emphasize what sets your book apart. Example: "Unlike traditional vampire tales, my paranormal romance explores the uncharted territory of love between a vampire and a shape-shifter, adding a fresh twist to the genre."

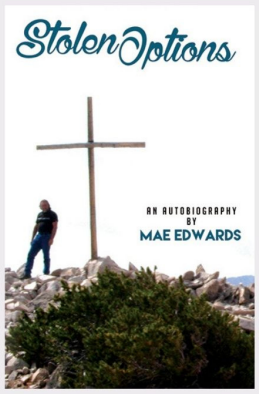
7.Creating Emotional Connection
A compelling pitch evokes emotions, forging a connection between the reader and your story. Example: "Embark on an emotional rollercoaster as my characters navigate love, loss, and redemption against the backdrop of war-torn landscapes."



A young American, seeking escape from a tragic event, takes a job with an international conservation organization in the foreign port of Retiro de Santos. There, he becomes romantically involved with a local artist, and platonically involved with a young girl pursuing a better life. Soon his environmental group is sabotaged, his coworker dies mysteriously, and his young friend is shanghaied.

Multi-Award-Winning Author
Joe Kilgore

Available at Your Favorite Bookstore





Author
Mae Edwards

Mae Edwards grew up in Houston, Texas. She was number six of seven children. Her faith sustained her through many hardships that would have caused many others to give up. She never met a stranger or let negativity around her keep her down. Her family was split up at age three. This is the story of how her faith helped her to cope with what life dealt her: a series of nightmarish events that would have kept an otherwise weak person down. It is also a story of true love for Christ as well as her husband and family.

Available on Amazon

8.Building Author Brand

Your pitch contributes to your author brand. Consistency in messaging across pitches establishes a recognizable brand. Example: "Known for crafting suspenseful narratives, I invite you to experience another gripping thriller that will keep you on the edge of your seat."

9.Adapting to Different Platforms

Tailor your pitch for various platforms, adapting it to fit the character limits of social media or the more detailed requirements of a book description. Example: "On Twitter - "Unravel mysteries, forge alliances, and face ancient evils in my new fantasy saga. #BookMagic✨"

10.Encouraging Action

The ultimate goal is to prompt the audience to take action. A well-structured pitch encourages readers to explore further, leading to potential sales. Example: "Discover a world of intrigue – read the first chapter for free on my website. Are you ready to embark on an unforgettable journey?"

Mastering the art of a compelling sales pitch is not just about selling a book; it's about inviting readers into a world you've created and sparking their curiosity to explore it further.



B Alan Bourgeois is a multi-award-winning author that created 30 books designed to help authors to succeed. He has been helping authors since 2006. You can learn more about this book at BourgeoisMedia.com, or at your favorite book store in print, eBook or Audiobook.



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https://TexasAuthors.Institute





Author

Juan M Perez

"What is really in your tamales? Brace yourself for this Mexican-American graphic novel, LA SANTA MADRE TAMALERA, a horror, barrio story-in-verse written by Juan Manuel Perez and illustrated by Paul Kortjohn, now available thru Gnashing Teeth Publishing, an independent press.

"A guilty treat."--- Raul Martinez, Jr, Former Librarian, South Texas

Available Exclusively at: https://buff.ly/49Y7afx

Texas Authors Book Contest 2025

Celebrate the outstanding achievements of this year's Best of Texas Authors Book Award Winners! As we step into another thrilling year filled with exceptional literary works by Texas Authors, it's disheartening to see too many of these gems overlooked by the press, the public, and the eager readers who would undoubtedly cherish them.
Don't let your book go unnoticed!

The Texas Authors Institute of History boasts a remarkable legacy of enlisting Texas librarians as esteemed judges for our annual book contest, ensuring unparalleled exposure for the selected winners. Securing a spot for your book in a library opens the door to discovery, providing an exceptional chance for readers to not only find your work but also become loyal fans who eagerly anticipate your future releases.

Here's the electrifying news: Any book published by a Texas Author from December 1, 2023, to November 30, 2024, is eligible for entry into this year's prestigious book contest. Seize this golden opportunity and kickstart the process by visiting our dedicated page: Best of Texas Book Awards Information (texasauthors.institute).

But wait, there's more! In an unprecedented move, the entry fee for this year's contest is a mere $50. Yes, you read that right – only $50 to have a knowledgeable librarian delve into the pages of your book, potentially catapulting you into the winner's circle!

Don't miss out on this incredible chance to elevate your book's visibility, connect with a broader audience, and vie for the prestigious title of a Best of Texas Authors Book Award Winner. Act now, as time is of the essence, and your literary masterpiece deserves to be in the spotlight!





This initiative is available to ALL Texas Authors Institute of History, Inc. members.

We're thrilled to introduce a unique promotional opportunity exclusively designed for our esteemed Texas Authors. To enhance the visibility of your books and drive sales, we invite you to contribute a compelling and impactful single line from your work to be featured in our Summer Reading Program.

Consider this your chance to spotlight a line that captures the essence of your story, one that is frequently quoted, or a gem deserving of a lasting place in your readers' minds. Much like the memorable line, "Look Daddy, when a bell rings, it means an angel got their (his) wings," from the classic movie “It’s a Wonderful Life,” we believe your book holds a similarly powerful and memorable line.

Please share with us the one line from your book that you feel has the potential to make a lasting impression, and explain why it holds special significance in the narrative. This is an opportunity to showcase the essence of your literary masterpiece and entice readers with a glimpse of the profound messages within its pages.

The Summer of One Liners

We will create an image featuring the selected line, book image, etc., (an example is shown below) and share it across our social media platforms. Additionally, we are contemplating a contest to encourage readers to discover where that line is within the book.

Authors, envision thousands of people learning about your book and, hopefully, reading it to participate in this contest.

As part of our Summer Reading program, we will merge these two initiatives, spotlighting books from our members on social media that also feature the chosen one-line quote. Readers will be prompted to read the book, identify the page number of the chosen line, and enter for a chance to win a $250 Amazon gift card at the end of the summer. Each correct entry will count as one entry into the drawing.

Authors will be required to pay a $50 fee, which will cover the cost of the gift card and the expenses associated with creating and promoting the contest. Deadline to participate in this program is May 1, 2024. Promotion begins May 15 through August 15, 2024. The drawing will be September 15, 2024.

Email us at TexasAuthors@outlook.com if you would like to participate. Payment of the fee will be at a later date.



Supporting those that Support Texas Authors

2025 Lone Star Literary Excellence Awards

Call for Nominations

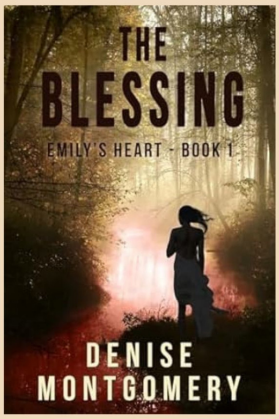
We are thrilled to announce the call for nominations for the prestigious 2025 Lone Star Literary Excellence Awards, celebrating outstanding contributions to the vibrant publishing landscape of Texas. Presented by [Your Organization's Name], these awards aim to honor individuals and entities who have left an indelible mark on the Texas literary community through their unwavering dedication, innovation, and advocacy

Do you know a Texas resident who has demonstrated exceptional support for local authors, made significant strides in the publishing industry, or contributed to the growth and enrichment of literary culture in our state? We invite you to nominate them for consideration in one of the following categories:

- **Lone Star Publisher of the Year**
- **Texas Author Advocate Award**
- **Rising Lone Star Author**
- **Lone Star Literary Extravaganza**
- **Lone Star Book Emporium Award**

To be eligible for consideration, nominees must meet the outlined qualifications, including residency in Texas and a demonstrated commitment to the advancement of the publishing industry and literary community within our state.

The deadline for nominations is October 31, 2024. To submit your nominations or for further inquiries, please email us at TexasAuthors@outlook.com. Let us come together to celebrate the richness and diversity of Texas literature and recognize those who tirelessly champion its growth and prosperity. We look forward to receiving your nominations and joining you in honoring the luminaries of the Lone Star State's literary world.



Emily Holmes grew up in the hills of Arkansas. Life was never easy. At sixteen she leaves home. She ends up in Arizona alone and afraid, desperate for someone to hold onto, for anyone that can fill the void in her life. Then she meets Jeff. The happiness she has longed for is finally within her reach.

Available at Your Favorite Bookstore

Becki Willis

AUTHOR

AWARD WINNING FICTION

Multi Award-Winning Author, Cozy Mysteries is her specialty.

https://buff.ly/3YmXwyr



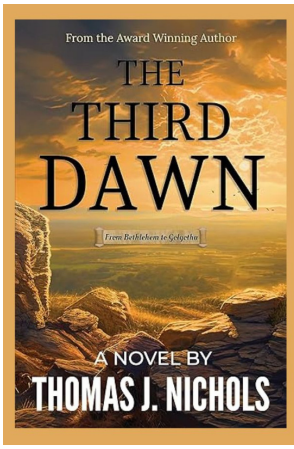
An Educational Children's Book

ISBN: 9781642553543

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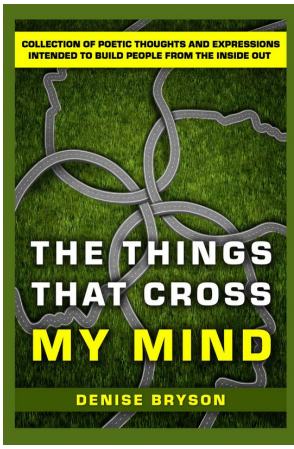
Charlie & Cora are two cardinals who meet, fall in love, and mate for life. This precious children's book takes you through their courtship, nesting, and raising a family. It teaches children how a normal family takes care of one another, as they travel through the adventures of life.





Nichols turns his award-winning writing career to the greatest mystery of all time in ***The Third Dawn: The Dawn that Changed the World.***

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The Things That Cross My Mind is a collection of poetic thoughts and expressions intended to build people from the inside out by exploring four facets of relationship: About God and me; about relationship; about being single; and about life. Its poetry and psalms are designed to inspire, enrich, and help others approach life with confidence and assurance that they are important to God and significant to this world.

Available at Your Favorite Bookstore



The Lone Star Festival, conceived by B Alan Bourgeois, was established with the aim of showcasing Texas authors through a grand gathering. Recognizing that the event's success depended on a comprehensive celebration of creativity, it was expanded to encompass various artistic domains, thereby creating the sole festival that nurtures all facets of creativity. This expansion also tapped into a significant source of revenue for creatives: Texas Creatives, which contribute billions of dollars to the US economy.

Annually, the Lone Star Festival serves as a platform for some of the most exciting and emerging talents in the realms of literature, visual arts, music, and soon, film. Each sector highlights the remarkable aspects of the creative world, providing attendees with fresh opportunities to discover both emerging and established Texas-based creative individuals.

Beyond its celebration of creativity, the Lone Star Festival serves as a substantial fundraiser for the Texas Authors Institute of History, Inc. (TAIH). This institute stands as a unique museum, the only one of its kind in the country, dedicated to preserving the rich literary history spanning the past two centuries. In addition to supporting contemporary authors through various marketing initiatives, TAIH also safeguards the literary heritage of Texas while inspiring future generations of writers.

With each passing year, the organizers of the Lone Star Festival eagerly seek to introduce new elements to facilitate its growth, with the goal of becoming the annual must-attend event for all Texans.

For more information about the talented creatives who have participated in previous and current editions of the Lone Star Festival, please visit their website at http://LoneStarFestival.Fun.

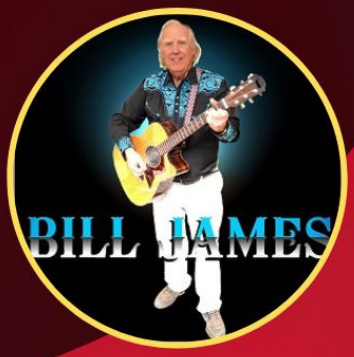
3RD LONE STAR FESTIVAL 2024



NATHAN KEARNEY



CREE8ION



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