



Ink Spots



The Newsletter of Fremont Area Writers
The "Centennial" Branch of the California Writers Club

Nancy Guarnera Editor-in-Chief

Vol. 111 August 2021

inkspots@cwcfremontareawriters.org

Visit us at <http://cwcfremontareawriters.org>



photo by nguarnera

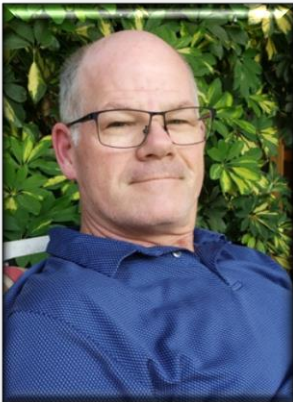
August General Meeting

— August 28th — 2 to 4 PM — Zoom —

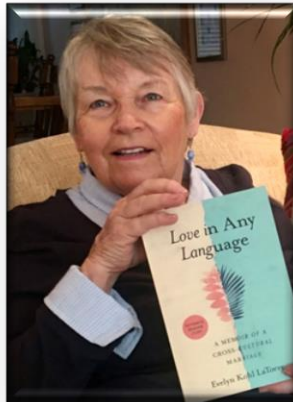
BECOMING A PUBLISHED AUTHOR

From beginning to end . . . and beyond

Our Guest Speakers



Chris Cook



Evelyn Kohl LaTorre



Urmila Patel

If you're thinking about writing and publishing a book, but have no idea how to make that happen, join Fremont Area Writers at 2:00pm on August 28th, for *Becoming a Published Author: From beginning to end ...and beyond*.

FAW will be gathering on Zoom to listen to Chris Cook, who's about to publish his first book, a sci-fi novel; Evelyn Kohl LaTorre, who's in the final stages of publishing her second memoir; and Urmila Patel, who has just published the second in her memoir series, as they share their individual experiences from story concept to signing published copies.

The three authors will comprise a panel on the process of writing, publishing and promoting a book. While this is Chris's first book, he has been working on his manuscript development for several years and is now making his way through the process of finding an agent and a publisher. Evelyn is still busy promoting her first book, *Between Incan Walls: A Peace Corps Memoir*, published in 2020, and is in the final stages of publication on her follow-up book, *Love in Any Language: A Memoir of a Cross-Cultural Marriage*. Urmila Patel's first book, *Out of Uganda in 90 Days*, a memoir, was published in the spring of 2019; she has just published her second memoir, and is now promoting it. They'll explain the steps to take and obstacles they encountered once they'd completed their manuscripts and were ready to publish and sell their books.

Hear from authors that you know, about their individual journeys from writer to published author and beyond. Sometimes, before you've done something, it seems impossible; but once you've done it, you've proven to yourself and the world that you can! This is the perfect opportunity to be inspired to start your own journey.

Contact Scott (scottfrombayside@yahoo.com) for a Zoom invitation link to the meeting on August 28th and join us for this FREE discussion of the different ways to get from manuscript to money!



TERRY TOSH
FAW President

President's Message

Hello Team FAW,

There has been an unexpected development...

Effective immediately, president-elect Sue Curtzwiler has found it necessary to step down from all Board member positions. She would like to express her regret and appreciation for everyone's support and encouragement.

This is a personal matter for her; she would appreciate everyone respecting her privacy at this time. She has asked me to let you know that she will be continuing her membership with the

club, and will see everyone at our monthly general meetings.

At this point, I have spoken with Knuti VanHoven, and we have determined that we will continue working together as president and vice president, until someone else decides to step up and nominate themselves for president moving forward.

I am fine with continuing to represent our branch as CWC Representative on the Central Board, as well as taking back the reins as president, though I am sorry that Sue was unable to move forward in this role.

We are continuing to hold our meetings on Zoom at this time. We have been notified (Thank you, Art!) that our previous location 42 Silicon Valley is now for sale and may not be available to us through the new owner. Anyone who may have a suggestion of a future onsite venue, please contact any board member with the opportunity. In the meantime, we Zoom!

As this message is somewhat last minute, due to the change in our *Ink Spots* publication date from late to early month, I will keep it short and look forward to seeing everyone again at the August General meeting on the 28th.

Thanks for your support for Sue, as well as for myself in this matter.

Keep the Faith!

Terry Tosh

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A Word from Our Editor



Nancy Guarnera
Editor-in-Chief *Ink Spots*

Welcome to our August 2021 issue of *Ink Spots*. I hope this finds you, and those you love, safe, healthy and happy.

We have made a **change to the newsletter's publication schedule**. You will now receive Ink Spots on or around the first of the month. The new submission deadline for each issue is the 10th of the month prior to the publication month (**August 10th for the September issue**). Let me know if you need extra time and we can discuss it.

You'll notice that the newsletter looks a bit different. Going forward we will feature a photo on the front cover of each issue. Consider this photo, as well as others throughout the newsletter, as visual prompts to encourage you to write (two in this issue). If you're inspired to write, consider submitting your work to the Writer's Corner. While anyone may submit a photo for a prompt, submission does not guarantee publication. Please follow **Submission Guidelines** below.

In addition to expanding submissions to include photographs, we've done some rearranging. You'll find the pages with the Board and Committee Chairs at the back of the newsletter. Some now have contact info.

Ink Spots now has a **Table of Contents**, which you'll find on **page 3**. We hope this helps you navigate through the newsletter and makes it easier for you to find that which you seek.

We've started a new feature last month, *Anagram Alley* in the **Puzzles & Brain Teaser** department on **page 13**. Each month we'll have several of these for your pleasure. The anagrams will be the name of a famous author and one or more of their famous characters. Your mission: unscramble them and match the author and character(s). Send your answers and how long it took you to solve and we'll print your name and times along with the correct answers in the next issue. If this takes off, perhaps we'll announce a champion periodically. If you have other literary puzzles or brain teasers, submit them for Puzzle page. We hope you enjoy this!

Remember, send your creative work for the **Writers' Corner**; your "shout outs" for **KUDOS**; and your book/movie reviews/recommendations, etc. to this email address: inkspots@cw-fremontareawriters.org for publication.

Stay safe and healthy...

Cheers! Nancy (I•S)

Newsletter Submission Guidelines

Please send all submissions for *Ink Spots* to inkspots@cw-fremontareawriters.org. Remember to put **FAW—Ink Spots Submission—Your Name** in the **Subject** field of your email; this makes it much easier to find your email. Thank you for sharing your writing with the rest of us!

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

All submissions are due on or before the 10th of the month prior to the publication month.
August 10th for the September issue.

Please submit your work as attachments, rather than in the body of your email.

WORD COUNT:

Feature articles (President's Message, etc.): **450 to 475 words max.**

Creative Submissions: **1,000 words max.** (unless you are willing to have longer pieces serialized)

Weekly SIP NOTES: **400 to 475 words max.** **Kudos:** **100 words max.** **Book/Movie Reviews** **350 & 500 max.**

FORMAT: Text – Word.doc/docx in Arial 12 pt. **Photos** – JPEG 300dpi

Please **DO NOT** use special formatting. Use the return key **ONLY** at the end of each paragraph.

Please don't double space between sentences and don't indent. Thank you!

FAW – August Meetings

Fremont Area Writers “Fourth Saturday” Membership Mtg on Zoom

Saturday August 28th 2:00 – 4:00 PM

*Meeting is open to CWC/FAW members and the general public;
writers of all skill levels are welcome.*

Guest Speaker: FAW Authors Panel

*For details on Zooming, contact Scott Davidson at
scottfrombayside@yahoo.com*

Fremont Area Writers “Tuesday before 4th Saturday” Board Meeting on Zoom

Tuesday August 24th 3:30 – 5:00 PM

*Meeting is open to FAW members to observe their Board in action.
Comments and Questions will be addressed at end of meeting
with prior notice.*

*For details on Zooming, contact Scott Davidson at
scottfrombayside@yahoo.com*

FAW – August Meetings

Fremont Area Writers

“Second Saturday”

Social Write-In on Zoom

Saturday August 14th 2:00 – 3:30 PM

*Get to know others through personal writing with prompts.
Members will be sent a Zoom invite. Nonmembers should
contact Scott Davidson (see below) for an invite.*

*For details on Zooming, contact Scott Davidson at
scottfrombayside@yahoo.com*

Fremont Area Writers

“Fourth Monday”

Writers’ Salon on Zoom

Monday August 23rd 7:00 – 9:00 PM

*Open to FAW members and the general public.
Share, listen and support writers as they read their work.
For a Zoom invitation link contact Tony Pino (see below).*

*For details on Zooming, contact Tony Pino
up.dragonfly.com@gmail.com or 510-745-0761*

KUDOS – Members' News

If you have an accomplishment related to your writing, or some other aspect of your life, and would like to share it with FAW members in this space, please send it to inkspots@cwcfremontareawriters.org. Please keep it to 100 words or less. Put **FAW—KUDOS—Your Name** in the subject field of your email to us. Thanks!

CORRECTION: In the June 2021 issue Marie Blanchard's KUDO suggested that the Dialogue Journal was affiliated with Kalamazoo College. Dialogue Journal is actually an independent, non-profit dealing with issues, historical and cultural, regarding Mormonism; it has no affiliation with either the Church of Latter Day Saints or with Kalamazoo College. We apologize for the confusion.

KUDOS to Amber DeAnn, who was one of 21 people to be interviewed for a podcast on healing journey stories for **Rebel Health Tribe** (a health podcast). The show aired in July.

Congratulations, Amber!

KUDOS to Pat Doyme, whose submission to the CWC Literary Review, "Bang!," has been accepted and will appear in this year's publication. **Congratulations, Pat!**

KUDOS to Terry Connelly, whose submission to the CWC Literary Review, "Swept Away," has been accepted and will appear in this year's publication. **Congratulations, Terry C!**

KUDOS to Terry Tosh, whose submission to the CWC Literary Review, "From the Sixties to the Sixties," has been accepted and will appear in this year's publication. **Congratulations, Terry T!**

NorCal Report

submitted by Anita Tosh, FAW's NorCal Representative

The NorCal Zoom meeting got rolling on time with about fourteen in attendance. Roger Lubeck, our new CWC President attended along with Sandy Lynn Moffat, the CWC membership chair. They, along with Carol Bumpus the NorCal chair, reiterated the need for training of the membership chairs and treasurers of the local branches. They assured us they are available to help with group or individual training for these officers.

The "Building Better Branches" conference was discussed, as well. This is another opportunity for training branch leadership that has been successful in the past. It is hoped that this all-day workshop can be held in-person sometime soon, but this has yet to be determined.

San Francisco Writer's Conference is scheduled for February 17-20, 2022. CWC will participate once again. NorCal will plan for it at our next meeting on November 6, 2021. Think about being a volunteer at our CWC table—this opens the door for you to attend some of the conference for **FREE**.

Many branches are looking forward to meeting "in-person" again soon. Most are planning hybrid meetings of "in-person" mixed with either zoom or YouTube recordings of the meeting. A majority of the NorCal branches are planning picnics in August, as a first step toward "in-person" meetings.

It was suggested that the person responsible for scheduling speakers for each branch should communicate with others doing the same thing in other branches. One branch takes a quick "on a scale of 1-10" poll of their members at the end of each speaker's presentation to determine if they would recommend that speaker to other branches. This allows their branch to easily and quickly recommend their favorite speakers.

Roger would like each branch to tally the number of books that their authors have published, so he can, in turn, know the number of books published for all of CWC. This works hand-in-hand for the branches to "Celebrate" author publications.

There are a lot of good things coming together through NorCal's efforts to improve all the branches of CWC.

June Speaker Recap

Kelley Ann Way, Esq.

Legal Q&A for Writers



kawaylaw.com

One of FAW's favorite guest speakers is attorney Kelley Way. This June, Kelley was once again our speaker. This time she fielded questions from our members. With the exception of one or two questions relating to taxes, which Kelley explained were best addressed by an accountant familiar with relevant tax laws, she answered all of our most pressing concerns. Here are some of those questions and her answers.

"What to do when Hollywood comes calling?" Kelley made it very clear: **DO NOT TO SIGN ANY CONTRACT CONCERNING THE USE OF YOUR CREATIVE WORK, WITHOUT FIRST READING AND UNDERSTANDING THE RIGHTS AS SPELLED OUT IN THE DOCUMENT.** If you are not given sufficient time to read the contract or have your lawyer look over it for/with you—walk away.

Someone shared a story with the group about a writer who, under pressure, made the mistake of signing a contract without reading and fully understanding what it said, and her work was used to produce a pornographic film. There was very little the author could do about it, because she'd signed the contract. The moral of this story...read the contract before you sign it and if you don't understand it, there are lawyers who will, and they can help you. Kelley reminded us that contracts are negotiable and did suggest we think about how involved we might want to be in the making of a movie from our book or story, should we ever be in that situation.

Most of the questions were related to trademark and copyright laws. Someone asked if a pen name could be covered by trademark protection. Kelley recommended that we research a pen name before using one we like. If it's already being used, she suggested we consider choosing something else.

While this is something a lawyer familiar with copyright and trademarks can do for you, it is possible to do this research on your own. She recommended starting with a Google search of the pen name under consideration. To verify that something is actually a registered trademark or patented, check with the US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO.gov). A trademark that is registered will be there, whether it's text, art (a logo), or a photograph.

Even if the name or logo is not on the USPTO.gov site, Kelley cautioned us that if someone is "building that pen name or a logo in the marketplace," even if not officially registered, their long-time use of it might out-weigh our use or desire to use it. In addition to longevity, the court might give consideration to whether consumers would be confused by the similarities. Again, these are situations where you might want seek an attorney's help, or just choose a different pen name or logo altogether.

You can register a trademark online, at USPTO.gov, but Kelley suggested that it helps to know what you're doing, and again recommended this might be best left to an attorney. Copyrights are easier, but she reminded us that you can't sue someone for copyright infringement without having your material registered.

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June Speaker Recap (continued)

Basic rule of thumb on registering: patents must be registered (®), trademarks (™) are optional, copyrights (©) must be registered, if you're going to court.

What if someone is violating my copyright rights? How would I know? This is not easy, though with regard to your name, you can Google yourself once a month and see what comes up. If you discover that someone is using your name or your work without permission, you can send a "cease and desist" letter. The Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) covers digital piracy and has a "take down" notice that can be sent to anyone violating your rights online. It also requires anyone with a website to designate a person to deal with DMCA complaints.

We touched briefly on music and character names. If you're considering using music as is, get permission from the record label if you want to use a particular recording. If you intend to revise a piece of music, get permission from the composer/song writer. Occasionally, characters are registered; Mickey Mouse and the Batmobile are examples of these. Recipes are not copyrightable because they are considered formulas.

Sometimes publishers go out of business, and we need to know what rights we retain if this should happen. This should be included in your contract. In general, you would want your copyright rights to revert to you. In addition, the definition of "out of print" should be included in the contract, especially in the case of print on demand publishing.

Kelley also covered "public domain" for us again. Anything written before 1925 is now in the public domain, and can be used without permission or concern with regard to copyright infringement. Copyright duration is the same for art and photos as with written work. Anything created after 1978 is covered by copyright for the life of the creator plus 70 years. Anything created before 1978 is covered for 95 years. You can consult an attorney or other professionals about copyright "clearance and permission," if you decide you need help with this.

Once again, Kelley was generous with her knowledge and time, and helped us better understand the legal aspects of being a writer and a published author. Just remember one thing...never sign a contract without knowing and understanding what's in it! **I•S**



photo by nguarnera

FAW & CWC Information:

— PLEASE READ —

FAW Needs You Help Wanted FAW Needs You

The following non-elected Board positions need to be filled:

NorCal Rep – attends & represents FAW at CWC NorCal meetings, files reports

Volunteer Coordinator – finds & assigns volunteers to assist FAW committee heads

Hospitality Chair – welcomes, maintains contacts & encourages newcomers to join FAW

Please speak to a Board member if you are interested in one of these positions or being of service in some other capacity.

General Zoom Meeting — August 28th

Our guest speakers will be Chris Cook, Evelyn LaTorre and Urmila Patel

You don't need a Zoom account to attend, but you do need to have Zoom on your smart phone, tablet, laptop, or computer—something with a camera and sound. Here's a link for a tutorial to help you set this up: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9isp3qPeQ0E>.

You will receive an email invitation with a link to use for the meeting.

Need help with Zoom? Contact Scott Davidson scottfrombayside@yahoo.com by the Wednesday, before the meeting. Put **FAW Zoom Help** in the subject line. Start logging by 1:50 PM. Thank you.

Here's the link for the NorCal events calendar.

Use it to find out what other branches are doing and when—guest speakers, conferences, special events, and more.

<http://cwcnorcalwriters.org/events/>

A Very Important Reminder

Any CWC member can attend meetings of any other CWC branch for the same fee that the branch charges its own members. This applies only to meetings, not to conferences or special events. If you are interested in attending a monthly meeting at another branch, check the events calendar for branches in Northern California. It can be found at <http://cwcnorcalwriters.org/events/>

Your Bi-Weekly SIP NOTES

WEEK #39 APR. 5TH SCOTT DAVIDSON

After the Vaccine – a SIP Note

I went to the mall this week, and I didn't die.

I'm sure I wouldn't have died if I had gone to the mall a month ago, but I went two weeks after my second COVID vaccination shot. And I felt free.

I wore my mask of course, I'm not a jerk. But, for the first time, I didn't have to worry about getting infected after over a year of working hard to avoid infection. I feel like a survivor. I've come out the other end of this ordeal never having gotten sick, and in fact being healthier than I've been for ages. No contacts, no colds. My doctor said there's hardly any flu around also. I felt hale and hearty.

I met a friend walking her dog. She had been vaccinated also, so we could talk to each other, not that close, but not six feet apart, without masks. Almost like normal people, not explorers of some strange alien world with a dangerous atmosphere. I felt human.

I no longer ask, like they did in WW II gas rationing times, "Is this trip necessary?" I can drop into the store. We can go to the thrift store for fun. Maybe even a restaurant some day without fear of spreading the virus or getting the virus. The world has opened for me. I feel like part of it.

Best of all, we can start planning visits to our kids and grandkids. Zoom and Skype are stopgaps, but nothing like sitting on the floor playing with the four-year-old and snuggling with the one-year-olds. I feel like I have a real, not TV, family again.

I knew getting vaccinated would make me safe, I never expected that it would make me whole. Medicines sometimes cure more things than you imagine they could. I feel good.

Scott Davidson

**We Need
SIP Notes**

WEEK #40 APR. 19TH CAROL LEE HALL

Celebrating Marion Lee

March 8th was National Women's Day. While other people celebrated the accomplishments of famous women like Harriet Tubman, Marie Curie, Susan B. Anthony, or Anna May Wong (look her up if you don't know her), I'd like to celebrate my mom, Marion Lee.

Mom passed away on March 8th of this year. Even though she recovered sufficiently from COVID and COVID-related pneumonia to be released from the hospital, her body just gave out at 97 years. We will be planting a lemon tree in her memory because she loved lemons.

Marion was part of The Greatest Generation. She worked at the Oakland Army Base doing clerical work during World War II. She married and had three kids of her own and raised two of my cousins. When I was in junior high, she started working for the Parent Child Development Center in Oakland doing office work. She retired in the late 1980s and enjoyed traveling to Europe, Asia, and North America. She even took care of her own finances up to her early 90s.

Mom had a great sense of humor. Whenever someone asked her how old she was, she'd say, "I'm sweet sixteen and haven't been kissed—lately!" In her sixties, she recorded her own phone answering machine message in a sexy voice and said, "At the sound of the beep, tell me EVERYTHING. Bye, for now."

My mom was very pragmatic. One of her favorite sayings was, "Do what you can today, for you never know what tomorrow brings." I think that helps me not procrastinate. When my sister told her she would not be returning to her assisted living facility after her last hospital stay, but instead moving to a nursing home, she said, "Well if that's where I have to live, that's where I have to live."

She always welcomed our friends to the house. Many of them were second generation Chinese whose parents spoke broken English. They were surprised my

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Book & Movie Reviews

Here's your opportunity to share your favorite books and movies. They can be just for fun, ones that changed your life, books on writing craft, etc. If you decide to submit: **325 max. word count**. Please email to the **Ink Spots** email address and put **FAW—Book Review Submission—Your Name** in the subject field. The opinions stated here are strictly those of the individual, and do not represent either CWC or FAW.

CORRECTION: In Scott Davidson's review of *Whale Day* by Billy Collins, a random scrap of text appeared at the very end of the review. We apologize to Scott and to our readers. The last verse of the review should have read:

So, get *Whale Day* and read it,
And give it to a non-poetry reading friend.
They might get hooked on it,
Just the way I did.

Between Two Kingdoms

by Suleika Jaouad

Reading this book made me want to scratch my skin along with the protagonist.

After the opening, I felt so vulnerable that I hesitated to continue immersing myself in this book. However, reading about Suleika's health wars when so young was worth the pain I felt for her. Her battles gave me more empathy for what cancer patients go through, than I could have gained any other way. I kept waiting for her road trip (shown on a map in the front of the book) wondering how someone so frail could undertake the rigors of driving across country alone. It came, though with less detail than her hospital trips. Nevertheless, her ordeal and bravery will inspire all who read this popular tome.

Review submitted by
Evelyn LaTorre

Twenty Lessons from the Twentieth Century. The author presents signs to watch for in a threatened Democracy. Short and to the point, at 126 pages, a book worth a read in our current times.

Review submitted by
Joyce Cortez

SIP NOTES (Continued from previous page)

WEEK #40 APR. 19TH CAROL LEE HALL

mom spoke English as well as them! For many years, she would host a Christmas gathering for our extended family because she wanted to keep everyone together.

Although she wasn't famous, Marion Lee will be remembered for her generous hospitality, practical advice, great sense of humor, and financial acuity.

We will miss you, Mom.

Carol Lee Hall

The House on Mango Street

by Sandra Cisneros

The House on Mango Street begins with a prefatory dedication: "A Las Mujeres"—which means "To the women." This is exactly what the book is about: the sufferings and abandonment of women in a patriarchal culture. It's also about the possibility of hope and joy. It's an easy, *brilliantly crafted* novel that became Sandra Cisneros's signature work. Within these brief pages, the main character, Esperanza (which means hope), struggles with familial and social obligations and expectations—as she observes her *amigas* walk down the traditional path to escape and security—marriage—only to learn that this solution can create more problems than it resolves. It is psychologically and mythologically deep, with a Pietà scene when she holds her father who is grieving the loss of his own father, and a mystical encounter with the three fates of ancient Greece disguised as three *tias* (aunts). She deals with the sad alienation of the foreigner, and the burden of sexual predators. Some could call this a coming-of-age novel; in any case, it should be called a masterpiece. I enjoy this book for its themes, its depth, and its truth about the issues of our times.

Review submitted by
Tony Pino

On Tyranny

by Timothy Snyder (2017)

Puzzles & Brain Teasers

Anagram Alley

Do you like word games? How about anagrams? Welcome to “**Anagram Alley.**”

Word play is a great way to keep your brain sharp and your mind focused while having some challenging fun. Thought we’d try this for a few issues to see if you enjoy doing them.

If you decide to play, consider timing yourself (or not). When you solve them all, send your name and your answers, (and total solve time) to inkspots@cwcfremontareawriters.org and we’ll publish your name and answers, as well as the time it took you to solve all of them, in next the issue. **Deadline** is the 10th of the month before the publication month (ex. May 10th for the June issue).

Please exercise your brain, and DON’T use the solution algorithms available online.

There’s a bunch of names below; some are famous authors and the others are famous characters in books written by those authors. We’re throwing in a mix and match element as well, so, be prepared to match the authors and their characters as you solve each anagram.

WHO
ARE
THEY?

Can you figure out who these famous literary folks are?

(Look for answers in the September issue of Ink Spots.)

WHO
ARE
THEY?

LEW HEATH * SEAN TAJUNE

CANDIE H DUFELLOL * CATHI ABANAP

MERLEEM VAN HILL * ANEBEL BINTZ HEET

NILS GRADJE * MYRA ZILFRAC TWILDIM

Please note: These names do not necessarily conform to the number of words in an author’s or character’s name — there may be two where there are three and three where there are two. Initials may be buried in the anagram, or included where there are none in the actual name.

Assume nothing!

(Here are the answers from the June 2021 issue of Ink Spots. Congrats to Terry Tosh who sent in his correct answers. He solved these in 4 minutes. Thanks for playing Terry!)

GRACIA HASHETTI = Agatha Christie EMMA SPRILS = Miss Marple

Notes from the World

TCK Publishing.com

2021 * 2021 * 2021

Short Story Awards Contest

Submission Deadline: August 31, 2021

Short Stories: 3,000 words max

Use this link for more details and to submit your stories

<https://www.tckpublishing.com/2021-short-story-awards-contest/>

Submission Fee: \$12/story Prize: \$1,000

FREE 1-hour Workshops w/ JANE CLELAND

Award-winning author Jane Cleland is offering **FREE** Zoom workshops on the craft of writing for writers of every skill-level. If you're working on a novel or wanting to write one, Jane will explain today's publishing world, and how to navigate it on August 14. On September 18, she'll discuss the importance of dialogue, and how it helps advance your story and adds to character development.

Sign up in advance at <https://janecleland.com/events> to register for these webinars. You'll receive a link to the workshop shortly before the day of the event. Don't miss these...register early.

Saturday, August 14, from 10:00 to 11:00 AM PDT (1 hour)

Find Your Path to Publication - *Publishing options, agents, and editors & editing*

Saturday, September 18, from 10:00 to 11:00 AM PDT (1 hour)

"What did you say?" Writing Dialogue that Sings! - *Effective use of dialogue*

Jane Cleland is an award-winning author who writes crime fiction, middle grade, espionage, and the long-running Josie Prescott Antiques Mystery series, all published by St. Martin's Minotaur. She's recently published the 13th book in the series, *Hidden Treasure*, and her 14th book, *Jane Austen's Lost Letters*, will be available in December. Cleland contributes craft articles to **Writers Digest** and teaches writing at the university level. She knows her stuff!

More Notes from the World

★ CONTESTS ★ ★ NEWSLETTERS ★ ★ ETC. ★

Writers Weekly. Free newsletter. 24-hour short story contest once each quarter. Topic and word length revealed after signing up. Limited to 500 entrants. \$5 entry fee. Also lists some paying markets for fiction and nonfiction. writersweekly.com

Winning Writers. Free newsletter. Lists free contests (many age or location restricted) as well as pay-to-enter contests. Lots of poetry contests. winningwriters.com

The Write Life. Website. Lists free contests (with a few exceptions.) Includes book, short fiction, essay, and poetry contests. Many contests are very specific, e.g. book by first generation immigrant, book of military fiction. thewritelife.com/writing-contests

Poets & Writers. Website. Searchable contest database with filters for cost, genre and deadline. pw.org/grants

Submishmash Weekly. Free newsletter. A curated arts newsletter with select publishing opportunities including contests, publications seeking submissions, and artist residencies. Run by the submission platform Submittable.com.

The Writer. Website and free newsletter. Listing of mostly pay-to-enter contests. writermag.com/contests

Fan Story. Paid site. Seven-day free trial. \$9.95/month or \$69/year. Feedback on writing you post and almost daily contests that can be entered at no additional fee. fanstory.com

Terrific Resource for Writers in the Age of COVID — **FREE**

The **Gotham Writers Workshop** in New York City has put together the **Inside Writing** series of free talks about writing. Each talk features a writer in a particular genre and an agent who deals with that genre. The first season covered everything from historical fiction to graphic novels to writing query letters.

Seasons 1 & 2 are archived at:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLIOByuSHCqP7V9mSsoqU5Fojjys2LsvYi>

Season 2 (recent presentations)

Inside Writing: Satire and Parody

Inside Writing: Comics and Cartoons

Check out these **free** talks on your genre!

Call for *Romance* Submissions

Belonging Books, a new, inclusive, feminist publishing house, began accepting submissions in June 2020. Submissions can be of all lengths from and about minorities—people of color, people with disabilities, religious minorities, LGBTQ+ people, etc.—and non-traditional romance.

Mission: diversify and modernize the genre.

belongingbooksonline.wordpress.com

FREE Online Workshops
scriptwriters check out
roadmapwriters.com

More Notes from the World

Attention Poets & Poetry Lovers

Check out the Poetry Center of San José
open mics * speakers * poetry slams * anthologies * etc.
www.poetrycentersanjose.org

Reedsy Learning

FREE Writing Classes,
Webinars and
A Blog

https://blog.reedsy.com/learning/courses/writing/show-dont-tell/?utm_source=mailparrot&utm_campaign=learning_show_don_t_tell

Reedsy has lots of free classes and webinars for writers, as well as many archived blog topics.

Check it out!

Genre-specific Websites

Sisters in Crime <http://www.sistersincrime.org>
(open to men as well as women)

Mystery Writers of America <http://www.mysterywriters.org>

Romance Writers of America <http://www.rwa.org>

Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America
<http://www.sfwaweb.org>

Inspire Christian Writers <http://inspirewriters.com>

Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators
<http://www.scbwi.org>

Women's National Book Association <http://www.wnba-books.org> (open to men, as well as women)

Academy of American Poets <http://www.poets.org>

Poetry Society of America <http://www.poetrysociety.org>

National Association of Memoir Writers
<http://www.namw.org>

American Society of Journalists and Authors
<http://www.asja.org> (nonfiction writers)

CineStory (screenwriters) <http://www.cinestory.org>

Scriptwriters Network <http://scriptwritersnetwork.com>

Historical Novel Association <https://historicalnovelsociety.org/>

Horror Writers Association <http://www.horror.org>

FAW MONTHLY ZOOM MEETING CALENDAR

SECOND SATURDAY

Social Write-In

2:00 – 3:30 PM

TUESDAY BEFORE

4TH SATURDAY

Board Meeting

3:30 – 5:00 PM

FOURTH SATURDAY

General Membership Mtg.

2:00 – 4:00 PM

FOURTH MONDAY

Writers' Salon

7:00 – 9:00 PM

FAW Members on Social Media

● **Cherilyn Chin**

Cherilyn is a professional aquarist and marine biologist. For the past 12 years, she's maintained her award-winning blog, "**Ocean of Hope: Marine Animals Voice Their Wishes on Ocean Conservation Issues**," and has 8,500 followers on Twitter. She also writes children's fiction and non-fiction books about the ocean. She's a web-site developer, strategic content copywriter, and digital marketer at **Wordsmith for Wealth**.

<https://protecttheoceans.org/wordpress> Twitter @protectoceans

<https://wordsmithforwealth.com>

● **Terry Connelly**

Twice a week Terry posts her own writing ranging from essays, personal stories, poetry and short fiction. On her second blog she posts prompts twice a week, to help get you started.

tconnellyswritingposts.com connellyswritingprompts.com

● **Evelyn LaTorre, EdD**

Evelyn loves to travel and write about her experiences. Besides travel adventures, the blogs on her website share the first chapter of her prize-winning book, *Between Inca Walls*, her adventures in other countries, and her cousin's drowning on the Costa Concordia cruise ship. You can also find recent recordings of her interviews. Website:

<https://www.evelynlatorre.com>; Facebook: **Evelyn Kohl LaTorre, Author**; and Instagram: **evelynkohllatorre**.

● **Luanne Oleas**

Luanne writes literary and women's fiction, when she's not creating social media links. Her most recent foray is in promotional videos on Youtube, but her blog (Pondering Life in Silicon Valley) and other links are also updated periodically. Follow Luanne at **WEBSITE**: <https://luanneoleas.com> **BLOG**: <http://blog.luanneoleas.com/> **AMAZON AUTHOR'S PAGE**: <https://www.amazon.com/-/e/B07PBNM6NB> and *Social Media* — **FACEBOOK**: personal) <https://www.facebook.com/luanne.oleas> (author): <https://www.facebook.com/Luanne-Oleas-Author-114940863384719/> **TWITTER**: https://twitter.com/bike_writer **Youtube Promo Videos**: *A PRIMROSE IN NOVEMBER*: <https://youtu.be/Gtnk5FHpEeE> *FLYING BLIND, A Cropduster's Story*: <https://youtu.be/X0HFzceXdoU>

● **Rekha Ramani**

Rekha has a **Facebook** page devoted to sharing her poetry called, "*Poetry: Sweet and Bittersweet*," with a standing invitation to FAW members, as well as non-member poets, to post their poetry.

● **Dave M. Strom**

Check out Dave's creative and tech writing blogs and his videos at: <http://davemstrom.wordpress.com/> <http://davemstrom.weebly.com/> <http://www.youtube.com/user/davstrom>

● **Anita Tosh**

Anita writes YA Christian fiction often with a focus on the "end times." She's recently published her third book, *The Book of Jeremy*. It's now available for sale. Website & Blog: booksbyanita.com Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/111394698919> YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn2Eh1NyNnca6V0pAZNUSRA>

● **Fremont Area Writers**

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/FremontAreaWriters/inbox> Here are new people liking our page - <https://www.facebook.com/FremontAreaWriters/notifications> Here are the number of new follows - https://www.facebook.com/FremontAreaWriters/community/?ref=page_internal

FREMONT AREA WRITERS' CORNER

Bittersweet

I was asked today how my year was.
Surprisingly I couldn't answer right off
You would think having just a few days left of school,
I would have a quick, ready response.

Unprecedented could be one word
Never imagined that I would be distance teaching
And virtual learning as well
An unplanned journey.

Revitalized could be another word
No paper copies, what!
Had to become a technology-based teacher
Not something I am good at - yet.

Overwhelmed is a rather strong word
Inundated might be softer
I found my buoyancy
Partially submerged but floating still.

Doubts often clouded my mind
Is what I am doing enough?
Will they be able to learn this way?
Am I a good enough teacher?

Disappointed is a feeling that I have
Not necessarily in my students
Not necessarily in myself
Just the overall ness of everything

Emotions oscillated,
happy one moment, sad the next
Mostly kept under control
But with extreme duress.

Exposed would be another descriptor
I cannot hide my color
They don't know that I am a teacher
All they see is Asian.

Shrouded are my students
Hidden behind a dark Zoom cloud
Unseen voices heard
But personal connections were obstructed.

Hopeful that this year meant something
Both academically and personally
That it's just a speedbump
On the fast track to success.

Uneven - even now
As I try to write this
A bit unbalanced
Scale keeps tipping.

Drained and somewhat depleted
Don't want to run on idle
Or staying parked
I need a clutch play.

Nostalgic, poignant, sentimental
Impressed, plaintive, compassionate
Understanding, forgiving, high expectations
My answer - bittersweet.

George Kwong

I Recommend D.E. Stevenson:

One of My Favorite Authors

by Terry Tosh

Ink Spots has requested book and movie reviews, but I would like to offer you a suggestion for a favorite author. My love for D.E. (Dorothy Emily) Stevenson's wonderfully witty and extremely addicting works began quite randomly about 40+ years ago while I was literally just browsing through the Sunnyvale library searching for an interesting book to read to Anita as part of our "story time" sessions. I happened to be in the "S" fiction aisle, and noticed a series of books that started with the words "Mrs. Tim...." Well, we love to discover new (to us) series and often take any opportunity to try out unfamiliar authors and themes.



D.E. Stevenson

This happened to be a series based on the diaries of the author, who was encouraged to publish them, as they were so delightful, as well as witty and captivating. So, she changed the names, and did just that! They were so popular, that she went on to write a multitude of wonderful works that intertwine characters and keep you laughing and crying, and hoping you will run into the characters in forthcoming stories, which you often do as they show up as a neighbor or distant relative as you voraciously pour through the ensuing novels. We, of course, have collected almost her entire work, and truly missed the people we'd met along the journey, once her wonderful talent left this world for whatever came next for this excellent Lady.

Below is her bio as found on Wikipedia, it's quite a heritage.

Stevenson was born in Melville Street, Edinburgh, Scotland, on 18 November 1892. Her father was David Alan Stevenson, a lighthouse engineer and first cousin to author Robert Louis Stevenson; her mother Annie Roberts.^[2] A commemorative plaque, marking the house where she spent her childhood, was mounted at 14 Eglinton Crescent, Edinburgh in 2016.^[3] She began writing at a young age but hid her efforts because her parents and governesses disapproved. Her father refused to send her to university, lest she become a bluestocking.^[4]

*In 1916, Stevenson married James Reid Peploe, a captain in the 6th Gurkha Rifles.^[4] Her 1932 novel *Mrs. Tim of the Regiment*, which describes her life as a British army wife,^[5] was based on her personal diary.^[4]*

She wrote most of her books while living in the town of Moffat, Dumfries and Galloway, Scotland. Her novels were best-sellers, with more than seven million copies printed^[3] and translations in multiple languages.^[4] Her last book was published in 1969.^[4]

Stevenson died in Edinburgh in 1973.^{[4][6]} She is buried with her husband in Moffat New Cemetery.

The Writers' Corner accepts author recommendations (see above), essays, commentary, etc., as well as, poetry and prose. If you might be interested in writing a recurring column, please email the Editor and we'll discuss it.

inkspots@cw-c-fremontareawriters.com

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BOARD MEETINGS
3:30 to 5:00 PM
Tuesday before the Fourth Saturday
General Membership Meeting
on ZOOM

JACK LONDON AWARDEES

FREMONT AREA WRITERS

- 2009 Bob Garfinkle
- 2011 Myrla Raymundo
- 2013 Carol Hall
- 2015 Art Carey
- 2017 Shirley Ferrante
- 2019 Jan Small
- 2021 Nancy J Guarnera

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KNUTI VANHOVEN
Speakers Program
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FAW MISSION STATEMENT

Fremont Area Writers educates writers and the public by providing:
Forums for educating members in the craft of writing and marketing their works and
Public meetings, workshops, and seminars open to all writers and the general public
to facilitate educating writers of all levels of expertise. (*Article II Section 1:1.1 and 1.2 FAW Bylaws*)