



WRITERSTALK

Volume 28
Number 10
October 2020

Monthly Newsletter of the South Bay Writers Club™

OCTOBER SPEAKER: NINA AMIR

Turn Your Content into a Book Production Machine

by Jamal Khan

You are sitting on a goldmine. Your posts on social media and blogs can be transformed into so much more. Indeed, with the right focus and planning, your content can become a book-production machine. Learn how you can combine your blogging, social media, platform-building, and writing efforts to create successful books both from scratch and from previously published posts over and over again. On Monday, October 12 at 7pm, Nina Amir will guide us through this process, from posting to publishing.

With Nina's guidance, you will: (1) learn how to churn out books on and from your social media accounts and blogs, (2) discover how to write a book from scratch as you post and build a platform, (3) find out how to repurpose your social media and blog posts into a marketable book, (4) uncover the secret to having your content help you land a book deal, and (5) get the basic steps to churn out books of all lengths as you promote.



Nina Amir, the Inspiration to Creation Coach, is a 19X Amazon bestselling author of *How to Blog a Book*, *The Author Training Manual*, *Creative Visualization for Writers*, and a host of ebooks.

See more books on page 4.

As an Author Coach and one of 800 elite Certified High Performance Coaches world-wide—the only one working with writers—she helps her clients Achieve More Inspired Results.

Nina founded the Nonfiction Writers' University and the Write Nonfiction in November Challenge. She passionately pursues opportunities to support writers and bloggers in their efforts to make a positive and meaningful difference with their words.

You can find out more on page 4 and at <http://www.ninaamir.com>

When: Monday, October 12 at 7pm

Where: Zoom Online Platform (details forthcoming)

ZOOM MEETING RECAP: SEPTEMBER

Scott Sublett

by Luanne Oleas

Professor Scott Sublett, the featured speaker at the September 14th meeting, kept participants captivated with his real-life tales about screenwriting. He not only discussed craft but also gave lively examples to keep everyone interested. For his day job, he teaches screenwriting, playwriting, and film studies at San Jose State University.

He contrasted books and scripts, noting that plot and structure play crucial roles. Narrative thrust in film requires advance plotting and a set time length not required in creative fiction.

Sublett proposed starting a screenplay or play by using a decision tree involving territory, a through line, and an outline.

SELECT FAMILIAR TERRITORY: "Write what you know" plays a big part in selecting the territory. It becomes the part of your life that you dramatize. It speeds up the writing if the selected territory comes to mind easily, reducing the need for time-consuming research.

KNOW YOUR THROUGH LINE: Determine the path to travel through your territory before you begin, making necessary choices beforehand. Sublett proposed the example of traveling in Nevada. Instead of examining every inch of the state, you pick the high points.

OUTLINE THE SCENES: In this case, outlining means listing scenes of conflict. Knowing those scenes in advance speeds up the writing. Scenes detail the action and dialogue but leave out the summaries found in other forms of writing.

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October 12: Literary Costume Party

Yep, we're having a Halloween Costume Contest online! See page 4.

Presidential Message

Edie Matthews

President, South Bay Writers



The Author's Abode

Over the past three years, my President's Message has been a hodgepodge of communiqués meant to inform, inspire, and entertain.

Some months I scramble for a topic. Other months, I have to choose from an array of ideas. Often, I'll begin in one direction and muse leads me in another.

In the process of deciding, I try not to reiterate news that's already being covered in *WritersTalk* — unless I can provide another angle.

In the case of my reminiscences, I hope they remind members of their experiences and send them on their own nostalgic odyssey.

However, I've also drawn from my travels around the world, especially visiting numerous authors' homes. These include pilgrimages to William Shakespeare's birthplace in Stratford-upon-Avon (twice); Isak Dinesen aka Karen Blixen's house in Rungsted, Denmark (*Out of Africa*); Anton Chekhov's summer home in Yalta, Ukraine; Robert Lewis Stevenson's grass hut in Hawaii; Lucy Maud Montgomery's home on Prince Edward Island, etc.

Perhaps like Bruce Springsteen who tried to scale the gates of Graceland (Elvis's mansion), I hoped to absorb inspiration by inhaling the exalted air of the writer's environment.

In some cases, the writer's home is not there. Jack Kerouac lived in various forgettable rentals in Lowell, Massachusetts, and none honor him. However, the stately library where he spent many hours is still in operation, and the city dedicated Kerouac Park to their hometown celebrity. The small park features a number of granite slabs with passages of his writing.

Samuel Clemens aka Mark Twain built his dream home in Hartford, Connecticut. The three-story structure of twenty-five rooms is filled with eclectic motifs from China, Japan, India, Turkey, and Morocco. In the living room, a shelf circles the room with a collection of artifacts and bric-a-brac. Clemens practiced his story-telling skills entertaining his three daughters. His extemporaneous tales incorporated each item on the shelf in the order it was situated. One mistake and the children insisted he start over.

Harriet Beecher Stowe (*Uncle Tom's Cabin*) lived next door to Twain. We spent the lion's share of our time touring Twain's house, and only a got quick peek into Stowe's home and gift shop before it closed for the day.

In Salem, Massachusetts, we visited the House of Seven Gables, inspiration for the book with the same title. Nathaniel Hawthorne never lived in the house but was intrigued by the unique design. Unbeknownst to him, there was a secret closet inside. Conjecture is it was either used for smuggling imports to avoid revenue men or hiding runaway slaves escaping to Canada.

While in Natchitoches, Louisiana, to see my nephew perform the lead in *Kismet*, a University production, I took a quick trip to Kate Chopin's home. In Cloutierville, about 18 miles away, lo and behold, who should I run into, but my brother and his wife. They were also in Natchitoches to see their son perform. Naturally, as an English teacher/professor, we were on the same wavelength.

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California Writers Club
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SBW Mission

Educating writers of all levels of expertise in the craft of writing and in the marketing of their work.

Join Us

We have a membership category that fits you. Renewal dues are \$45 for membership through June 30, 2021. Dual membership, \$25; student membership, \$20. New member, \$65. Contact Membership Chair at a meeting or sign up online at southbaywriters.com or send a check to CWC-South Bay Writers, P O Box 3254, Santa Clara, CA 95055.

WritersTalk

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Deadline

Submissions are due by the 15th of the month.

Submissions

SBW encourages writers at all levels of expertise to submit their creative works for publication in *WritersTalk*. All submissions should be sent to the above email address in the form of text or an attached MS Word file (sorry, no hard copy submissions can be accepted). Please prepare your work as carefully as you would for an agent. Use Times New Roman 12-font; no tabs; no colors; no page breaks. Send graphics separately as jpg files, with separate instructions for placement in the submission if placement is important.

All submissions will be copyedited. Titles and headlines subject to change. Managing Editor reserves the right to selection.

Suggested word limits (less is more):

Member Achievement / News (200 words)

News Items (400 words)

In My Opinion (300 words)

Letters to the Editor (300 words)

Creative Works

Short Fiction/Memoir (1800 words)

Poetry (200 words)

Essay/Nonfiction (1000 words)

Reprints

Authors retain all rights to their works. *WritersTalk* gratefully acknowledges the authors' permission to publish their works here. Contact individual authors for permission to reprint.

Announcements

An announcement is information of interest and value to writers that does not provide direct economic benefit to its originator and is published free of charge.

Advertisements

Advertising of workshops, conferences, and events is accepted from other branches of California Writers Club. Because California Writers Club is a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation, *WritersTalk* cannot accept advertising of events or services that benefit an individual. Advertise in CWC Bulletin. See page 14.

Also, we cannot accept political advertising of any kind.

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Marjorie Bicknell Johnson
Interim Managing Editor



Humor Happens ... Or Not

While enduring more than a hundred consecutive "Spare the Air" days and hunkering down in our virus-free houses, we could all use some laughs. So, I decided to write a short humorous piece.

That's it: I'll look at life through a funhouse mirror. The warped surface of the mirror distorts perception, stretching or shrinking parts of the image, just as I would stretch reality, bending and distorting it for comic effect. But I couldn't focus without holding a pen.

When I picked up my pen to write my humorous piece, the red pen in my pencil cup leaked all over my hand and painted everything in the cup red. Such an omen should have warned me: Everything funny I thought of depended upon context.

Humor happens ... or not. But funny things do happen to me every day. For example, I, a mathematician, once failed a test on the numbers one to ten.

Before my husband and I traveled to China, we took conversational Chinese at adult ed. We found four tonal levels for each vowel challenging, but surely we could learn a few polite phrases from our charming young instructor. The numbers one through ten – Yes! Right down the area of expertise for two math teachers.

We practiced those numbers all week. We were ready for the test.

"Give me 7 yuan," our instructor said in Chinese. She stood between us and put a \$5 bill and five \$1s on the table.

Neither of us could distinguish the number, spoken within a sentence. After two more failures, she put her hands on our shoulders.

"And you're both math teachers?" she asked.

I was glad we travelled to China in a group. When I tried to ask for the women's toilet, I ordered fried squid.

All of us have something funny happening in our lives. If you have a humorous story, please submit it to *WritersTalk* to cheer your fellow writers. Or, send a short piece on how to write humor.

Send your masterpiece to newsletter@southbaywriters.com. Please use Times New Roman 12 font because my cranky computer and old version of InDesign work better that way. – WT

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October 12: Literary Costume Party

Yep, we're having a Halloween Costume Contest online!

No need for the bottom half of the costume, the top half will suffice. And there will be prizes too. The five categories include Funniest, Scariest, Prettiest, Literary, and Most Original. Have you always wanted to dress like a gladiator, but have skinny legs – here's your chance. Do you have a perfect green tunic, but no tights for a leprechaun – no need this year. How about, Captain Ahab? You won't need a peg leg. Join us for the fun at the next ZOOM meeting October 12th!



Could this be you on October 12?
Costumes will show only heads.

Costumes left to right:

- *The Wicked Witch*
- *The Raven*
- *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*
- *The Sorcerer*

Winners in October, 2016, cut from
Carolyn Donnell's photo.

Continued from Page 1

Scott Sublett

This means the conflict must be external, which dramatizes a story in a way that a camera can watch it happen. To outline, you need to know the spine of the story.

Five SHORT elements compose the “spine” of the script:

- **Hook:** Why do I want to watch this? For instance, in *Casablanca*, the hook is romance, Nazis, and an exotic location.
- **Hero:** Main character whose pursuit of a goal drives the narrative. In *Casablanca*, this is Rick.
- **Goal:** This is the arc of the story of the main character. Hopefully, it's a goal the audience roots for. In *Casablanca*, the goal was to get the girl back.
- **Central Question:** What question does the story pose? In *Casablanca*, it's “Will Rick realize that winning WWII overshadows getting the girl?”
- **Central Conflict:** Usually this involves the hero in conflict with one other person, though there could be sub-conflicts with other characters. It can also involve overcoming an obstacle, such as climbing a mountain. In *Casablanca*, it's Rick vs. Ilsa.

Sublett also discussed the three-act structure, which plays an important part in the focus and unity that gives strength to the story. An easy way to remember this is:

- Act One: Get the hero up a tree.
- Act Two: (the longest act) Throw rocks at the hero.
- Act Three: Get the hero down from the tree.

For more information, see Scott Sublett's book, *Screenwriting for Neurotics: A Beginner's Guide to Writing a Feature-Length Screenplay from Start to Finish*. –WT

View From the Board

by Marjorie Johnson

Nine of us Zoomed it on Wednesday, September 9: President Edie Matthews, Secretary Marjorie Johnson, Treasurer Trenton Myers, Membership Chair Inga Silva, Web Editor Tatyana Grinenko, Member-at-Large Alfred Jan, CWC Central Board Rep Bill Baldwin, CWC-NORCAL Board Rep Dave LaRoche, and SBW member Carolyn Donnell.

Edie announced the October meeting details, all of which appear in this issue of *WritersTalk* and thus not repeated here.

We discussed some of our website's issues. The most irritating one is when you try to access southbaywriters.com from Google, you get Cialis ads, but you do get there safely if you type www.southbaywriters.com into the bar on Safari. Tatyana is working on getting someone to address the problems.

The problem that vexes me most is that your emails do not always reach me. Here's my private email address: marjohnson89@earthlink.net.

The next Board meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, October 7, and the next general meeting, Monday, 7 p.m., October 12, all on Zoom, of course.

We welcome your input. SBW Board meetings are open to all members. Please email Edie at pres@southbaywriters.com if you wish to attend. –WT.



SBW Meeting Sept. 14 and Open Mic Sept. 18 on Zoom



Screen shots from Carolyn Donnell

The Author's Abode

Chopin only lived in Louisiana for five years, until her husband died. Nevertheless, her French Creole neighbors made a lasting impression and became the basis for her early writing. Her neighbors didn't approve of her, and she did not spare her opinion of them when creating her stories.

However, one doesn't have to travel out of California to find literary inspiration. We are living in Steinbeck Country. John Steinbeck's childhood home is in Salinas. The Steinbeck Museum is also there. In Monterey, a mere 15 miles away, you can stroll Cannery Row (renamed from Ocean Avenue to capitalize on the popularity of the novel). This locale inspired two novels, *Cannery Row* and *Sweet Thursday*. Steinbeck's best works are set in California: *Of Mice and Men*, *Grapes of Wrath*, and *East of Eden*.

Lesser known is John Muir's home in Martinez, a National Historic Site. Though he is mainly recognized as an environmentalist, he was an influential and profusive writer (300 articles and 12 books). An avid reader of the Bible, he had memorized three-quarters of the New Testament. Consequently, his writing is infused with lyrical prose of nature's Godliness which helped save

Yosemite and establish the National Park System.

Above Danville, playwright Eugene O'Neill used his Pulitzer Prize money (\$36,000) to build his West Coast home, the Tao House. It's now a National Historic Site and worth a visit. You must make a reservation in advance because a shuttle drives you to the secluded location. The tour is led by a ranger who describes O'Neill's life and leads you through his home and property. O'Neill's office had one chair that he scooted between two desks because he often worked on two projects at once. His most biographical play, *Long Day's Journey into Night*, was not to be performed until twenty-five years after his death. But his wife ignored his wishes, and the play, considered his magnum opus, was staged about ten years after he died.

If you're a noir fan, you're in luck. Dashiell Hammett worked in San Francisco as a Pinkerton detective. His occupation inspired his work, including the famous book, *The Maltese Falcon*. Fans can sign up for a four-hour walking tour that covers Hammett's haunts and home and scenes from the mystery. A plaque on Burritt Alley, marks the place

where Sam Spade's partner, Miles Archer, is shot by Brigid O'Shaughnessy.

Of course, we can't forget our unofficial club founder, Jack London. His home in Glen Ellen is a State Historic Park. Sadly, Wolf House, his magnificent twenty-five room (uninsured) mansion, burned down before he moved in. But his smaller house is there, and a larger one, later built by his widow, is now a museum. Walking paths and bike trails traverse the property – a perfect outing for peace, serenity, and inspiration.

BTW, London has roots in the South Bay. While searching for gold in Alaska, he was befriended by two brothers from Santa Clara. Their father, Judge Bond, owned a sizeable ranch that included the property where the Carmelite Monastery is now located. London was a frequent visitor. In fact, he used the exact setting of the ranch in the beginning of *Call of the Wild*. This is where the dog Buck is stolen from. Near the monastery gate on Lincoln Street, there's a plaque noting the connection.

I encourage everyone to take time to read or perhaps reread the author's work first. Then set a weekend aside for a foray of fun! – WT

Book Announcement

All I Can Take of You

by Linda Boroff

My new short story collection, *All I Can Take of You*, is out from Adelaide Press and available from Amazon and from Barnes & Noble.

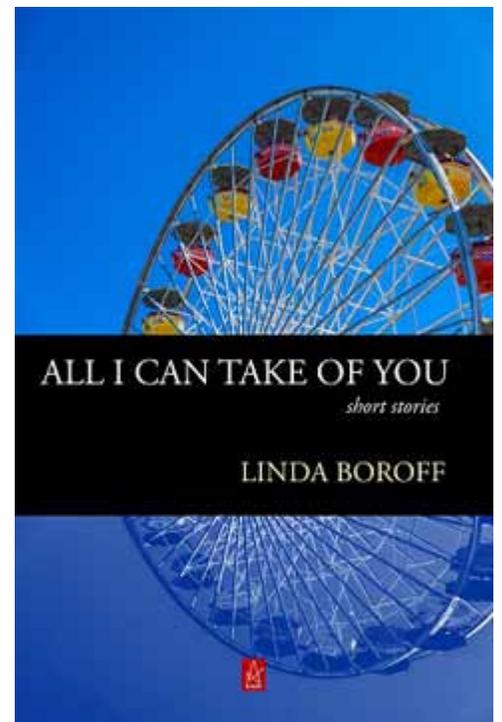
This exuberant fiction debut of fourteen linked short stories and a novella portrays the comic and sometimes wrenching expedition of a young woman during a life of unexpected outcomes.

Here's a link to my new website featuring it and my thriller *The Remnant*, which came out in June.

<https://lindaboroffauthor.com/>

My other books are way at the bottom of the page, and some of my short story publications are aggregated under The Writing Life tab.

I'm looking forward to all of us overcoming these social setbacks and getting together again in person someday soon. – WT



fiverr.com

by Marty Sorensen

Yes, it's like a fiver, \$5. But it's like Dollar Store, which ain't a dollar any more, either. It's a fabulous resource, a side benefit of the worldwide web, where people around the world can do things, and five bucks means a lot to many of these people. Not everyone, as some charge a hundred for the best avatars. And there's lots of them for just the \$5.

They do everything. For \$10 you can get someone with a beautiful voice to sing your song, or anybody's song, whatever you want. Of course, you have to be savvy about music and recording, but that's exploding around the world, too. You can put on your computer the music software as good as the Beatles had on Abbey Road. As did Nia Ander-

sen in Norway, who was on Norwegian Idol, who recorded my song, for my granddaughter, and the \$10 of course is the very low end, yet on the other hand, it's also a way for them to try and be discovered.

22,214 fiverr sellers offer proofreading and editing, and then 9,554 people on fiverr offer book cover design services. Izabela from Macedonia, ten dollars, "high resolution ebook cover with 3D photo. Licensed stock images included. Fast delivery!" Flor from Spain \$200-\$500. Paula Johnston in New Zealand will, for \$100, proofread 10,000 words.

I paid ten dollars for a short story for my granddaughter, paid to Grecia in Macaraibo, Venezuela, a great story about how Kira was better than a strongman, a knight, and a gentleman at defeating the witch.

And this is, as they say, the tip of the iceberg. Now, I hesitate to mention this one, but 2020 is already crazy, so try a lady from Malaysia. She is the fourth generation in the bloodline of Wiccan Witch Descendant with High Spiritual Power to perform rituals and spells. Just to let you know, if you don't read this article, you'll be hearing from her. Unless you've paid ten bucks to the other wiccancoven person who will remove all spells. Maybe I'll just pay for a spell to make you read it. In all honesty, I did look up a lot of customer comments and there are quite a few with "still waiting." —WT

Our WT resident witch reminds our readers that we do not endorse this or any website nor do we take advertising.

POETRY

Bora Bora

by Edgar Wen Chang

I fly to you at dusk
I sing you a night song
The rhythmic repetition
Bora Bora

Parrotfish schools in procession
Shifting course in precision
Bottom of lagoon, so clear,
Four-foot clams half-open their lips
Dotted with crimson, black, orange,
emerald

Occasional dolphin's ballet
In the air, at a distance
An arrival welcome

Silky curtain
Dance with the sea breeze
White sand beach, uninvited
Insists on presenting her purity
Under the moon light

Through the glass table
Bright colored fishes
Devour the light
Hustle into a deranged rainbow
Matisse's Fauvism
In motion in its abstraction

The thunderstorm didn't wake me
Total silence afterward
The Indra net above
Inspires Van Gogh's Starry Night
A thousand eyes, big and sparkling
All gaze at me
I gaze at stars
I am the stars

A Hakka roadside cafe
No hamburger or hot dogs
Freshly caught steam fish and sashimi
For this rough island circling biker
Ha!

Among thatched house tops
One red tile roof blatantly stands out
He asked Tarita never say those
three words

But at his life's end
Marlon Brando uttered first
"I love you"

Gauguin, sickness, hunger, struggle
Purity, terrifying tranquility
Women, half-naked so naturally
Ingredients for his creation
Where do we come from?
What are we?
Where are we going?

Deep blue ocean
Dispatch white waves
Bang on black corral reef
Lament a love song
An effort in vain
To kiss lagoon of his admiration
A thousand years, still

Iron bird fly higher, higher
Mount Otemaru volcano vanishes
Palm tree studded island
A dark green pearl
Rolled with thin white lace
The Polynesian Eden
The world loves to chant
Bora Bora.

Note 1: Hakka is a tribe in Canton, China from which people, for economic reasons, have emigrated all over the world; Tahitian grocery stores are called Chinese stores.

Note 2: There are pieces of garbage floating in the loading dock area on my third trip — sad. The above poem gives my first impressions of stun and awe.

Contests and Markets

by Carolyn Donnell



Carolyn Donnell
Contributing Editor

Let us know if you have any success with any of the contests listed in Writers Talk. (Or any other contest for that matter.)

Send your writing victories to membernews@southbaywriters.com You can also check other branches for their current contests or submission requests. See a list of other CWC branches at <https://calwriters.org/cwcbranches/>

To members of our Facebook group, South Bay Writers Club: see contest postings and other notifications.

Listings are for information only. NO VETTING has been done by South Bay Writers Club. Some contests have been around for a long time and the reputation is known but some are newer. Please read all guidelines carefully before submitting. And please share any experience you have with them. Good or bad.

CONTESTS WITH UPCOMING DEADLINES

Writer's Digest

- Personal Essay Awards: Deadline, 10/15/20. Grand prize: \$2,500 and a paid trip to the *Writer's Digest* annual conference, including a pitch slam. 2nd \$1,000, 3rd \$500, 4th - 10th \$100; 11th - 25th \$50 gift certificate.
- Short Short Story Competition. Early-Bird Deadline, 11/16; regular deadline, 12/14. Prizes: 1st \$3,000, 2nd \$1,500, 3rd \$500, 4th - 10th \$100; 11th - 27th \$50 gift certificate.

<https://www.writersdigest.com/writers-digest-competitions/>

Soul-Making Keats Literary Competition (community arts outreach program of Nat'l League of American Pen Women). Prizes: 1st \$100, 2nd \$50, 3rd \$25. Previously published works OK in every category except Novel Excerpt. Deadline: post-marked by Nov. 30. Awards event: Sunday, March 21, 2021, at the SF Public Library Main Branch, Koret Auditorium. <http://soulmakingcontest.us/contests/guidelines-rules/>

2021 Academy of American Poets First Book Award

Deadline Nov 14. \$5,000 first-book publication prize. Winner also receives an all-expenses-paid six-week residency at the Civitella Ranieri Center in the Umbrian region of Italy, distribution to Academy of American Poets members, and promotion in *American Poets* magazine. <https://poets.org/claudia-rankine-judge-academy-american-poets-first-book-award>

Regal House Publishing current contests and submissions: <https://regalhousepublishing.submittable.com/submit>

- The W.S. Porter Prize for Finely Crafted Short Story Collections: Sept 1 - Nov 1.
- Terry J. Cox Poetry Award: Nov. 23, 2020 - Jan. 31, 2021

RESOURCES: LOCAL AND OTHER CWC BRANCHES

The Literary Nest: A local online publication. See details for future submissions at <https://theliterarynest.com/> Also visual art high res .jpeg, .gif, or .png format to theliterarynest@gmail.com

Sand Hill Review: Stories, non-fiction articles, and poems. <https://sandhillreview.org/>

Catamaran Literary Reader: West Coast quarterly literary and visual arts journal. Fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, and fine art. Submissions year-round with quarterly production cycle. <https://catamaranliteraryreader.com/>

Fremont Area Writers lists many resources on their page, such as Contest Announcements, Publications Seeking Submissions, Freelance Jobs, Resources for Screenwriters. Genre Organizations, and more .

AWP Association of Writers and Writing Programs. See at <https://cwc-fremontareawriters.org/resources-writers/>

West Trade Review Reading period Apr. 1st -Jan. 2nd Original and unpublished works of fiction, poetry, and photography by both new and established writers/artists. Our Kelly Harrison is an associate editor; she says right now is a time to get a good read. <http://www.westtradereview.com/submissionguidelines.html>

OTHER CONTESTS AND SUBMISSIONS:

The Blue Nib: Essays/Journalism, Reviews, Poetry, and Fiction. They pay for items accepted for print but not for digital. <https://thebluenib.com/submit-to-the-blue-nib-2/>

The Write Life: 31 Free Writing Contests: Legitimate competitions with Cash Prizes. <https://thewritelife.com/writing-contests>

Sequestrum Literature and Art: "competitive, paying market which publishes high-quality short fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and visual arts on a rolling basis." Previously unpublished. Nominal reading fee. Can subscribe. See link for details. <https://www.sequestrum.org/submissions>

Poets & Writers: See upcoming contests/deadlines here. https://www.pw.org/content/upcoming_contest_deadlines

Association of Writers and Writing Programs: <https://www.awpwriter.org/contests/overview>

Electric Lit: Free or Cheap Resources for Emerging Writers <https://electricliterature.com/free-or-cheap-resources-for-emerging-writers/>

The Writer Magazine: See their list of upcoming contests, articles, resources and you can subscribe to their newsletter. <https://www.writermag.com/contests/>

RESOURCES FOR POETS:

Writing Matters: 30 Publishers of Poetry Books & Chapbooks. <https://randalssanctuary.wordpress.com/2020/08/11/publishers-of-poetry-books-chapbooks/>

Up The Staircase Quarterly: Submit 3-6 poems in a single document. Submit up to 10 .jpps for art. No previously published poetry, but previously published artwork is okay. <https://www.upthestaircase.org/>

Poets & Writers: Lists poetry and other contests. https://www.pw.org/blogs/prize_reporter. **P&W** also lists over twelve hundred literary magazines.

https://www.pw.org/literary_magazines

The Thimble Magazine: A quarterly online journal. <https://www.thimblelitmag.com/submissions/>

Poetry Pacific: Literary e.zine, 2 issues per year, Spring and Fall. Published and unpublished welcome as long as you still have the rights. <https://poetrypacific.blogspot.com/>

Authors Publish: Poetry Manuscript Publishers. No reading fees. <https://www.authorspublish.com>

Trish Hopkinson: a blog. <https://trishhopkinson.com/where-to-submit-reprints/>

Ace World Pub: Submission lists. <https://aceworldpub.com.ng/category/latest-opportunities/>

Poetry Foundation: <https://www.poetryfoundation.org>

Some **Facebook Poetry Groups:**

- Poetry Center San Jose - PCSJ
- Willow Glen Poetry Project
- Cupertino Poet Laureate
- Santa Clara County Poet Laureate
- Los Gatos Poet Laureate
- National Poetry Month-write a poem a day challenge
- California Poets
- How Writers Write Poetry Community Group

- No Fee Calls for Poems
- SF Creative Writing Institute drop-in poetry workshops

OTHER RESOURCES: (* On both Internet and Facebook.)

- *Poets & Writers:* * <https://www.pw.org/grants> https://www.pw.org/content/upcoming_contest_deadlines
- MWA NorCal Chapter: * Mystery Writers of America <https://mwanorcal.org/>
- Women's National Book Association: San Francisco Chapter: * <https://wnba-sfchapter.org>
- *The Write Life* : * Contests. <https://thewritelife.com/writing-contests/>
- Funds For Writers: Contests, submissions, grants, etc. <https://fundsforwriters.com/contests/>
- *Freedom With Writing* : * submissions, contests, jobs, and more. <https://www.freedomwithwriting.com/>
- *Authors Publish* : * <http://www.authorspublish.com/>
- *The Best Writing Contests* curated by Reedsy <https://blog.reedsy.com/writing-contests/>
- *NewPages Classifieds* - <https://www.newpages.com/>
- *Hidden River Arts*: Book award deadlines listed at <https://hiddenriverarts.wordpress.com/>
- ProWritingAid Writer's Community: Facebook group
- Writers Post No Fee Call for Submissions: Facebook group

Here's to happy contesting. – WT

Member News

by Marjorie Johnson

Carolyn Donnell reported a new review of *Deeper Colors* on Amazon – from someone she didn't give the book to:

"This engrossing, well-plotted love story offers double the pleasure of two entwining tales that blend together with an artist's eye and pen and relate to paintings in the story. Major elements of time and place ebb and flow with engrossing characters and a unique subplot that ties together the whole. Even with so many layers the story sails along in a realistic and romantic setting that will long remain with the reader.

The writer offers the reader a depth of enjoyment that is literary fiction at its best."

Brava, Carolyn!

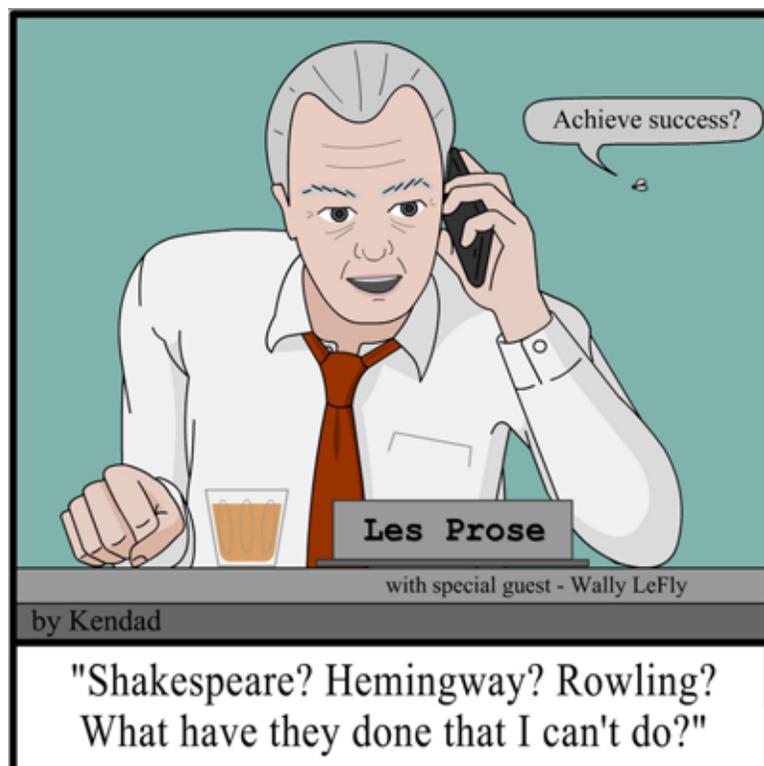
Please share news from your writing life by sending a note to membernews@southbaywriters.com. – WT

Editor:

Reviews boost an author's morale and really help book sales. This is an example of a well-thought-out critical appraisal. Please consider taking the time to write a review when you read a good book. – WT

Les Prose Comics

by Ken Roberge (Kendad)



News from California Writers Club

Ads in CWC Bulletin by Bob Isbill (760) 221-6367

Want to increase your visibility? Sell your service? Promote your book? Increase speaker engagements? Pump up your web traffic? Or just send a greeting?

Each issue of *The CWC Bulletin*, published three times a year, reaches 2,000 published and aspiring writers in 21 CWC branches throughout the state and is published on www.calwriters.org

Now we are accepting writing-related advertising from businesses, CWC members, and individuals who wish to reach our target market at reasonable prices. See calwriters.org for details and how to format your ad. -WT

You may advertise in the *The CWC Bulletin*

For details, go to calwriters.org.

CWC Around the Bay

Published meeting locations and times for other CWC branches in the greater San Francisco Bay Area. If you want to attend one of their meetings, first check their websites for details.

Berkeley: 2:00 third Sundays, Oakland Public Library Main Branch. cwc-berkeley.org

Central Coast: 5:30 third Tuesdays, Point Pinos Grill, 77 Asilomar Boulevard, Pacific Grove. centralcoastwriters.org

Fremont Area: 2:00 fourth Saturdays at Round Table Pizza, 37408 Fremont Blvd., Fremont. cwc-fremontareawriters.org

Marin: 2:00 fourth Sundays, Book Passage in Corte Madera. cwcmarin.com

Mendocino Coast: 6:00 third Wednesdays, Mendocino Hotel. writersmendocinocoast.org

Mount Diablo: 11:00 second Saturdays, Zio Fraedo's Restaurant, 611 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill. cwcmtdiablowriters.wordpress.com

Napa Valley: 7:00 second Wednesdays, venue is changing. napavalleywriters.net

North State: 6:00 third Mondays, Butte County Library-Chico Branch. northstatewriters.com

Redwood: 2:30 first Sundays, Flamingo Conference Resort & Spa, 2777 Fourth Street, Santa Rosa. redwoodwriters.org

Sacramento: 11:00 third Saturdays, Cattlemen's Restaurant, 12409 Folsom Blvd., Rancho Cordova. cwcsacramentowriters.org

San Francisco/Peninsula: 10:00 third Saturdays, Sequoia Yacht Club, Redwood City: check website <http://cwc-peninsula.org/>

San Joaquin Valley Writers, 12:30 second Saturdays, University of Pacific community room

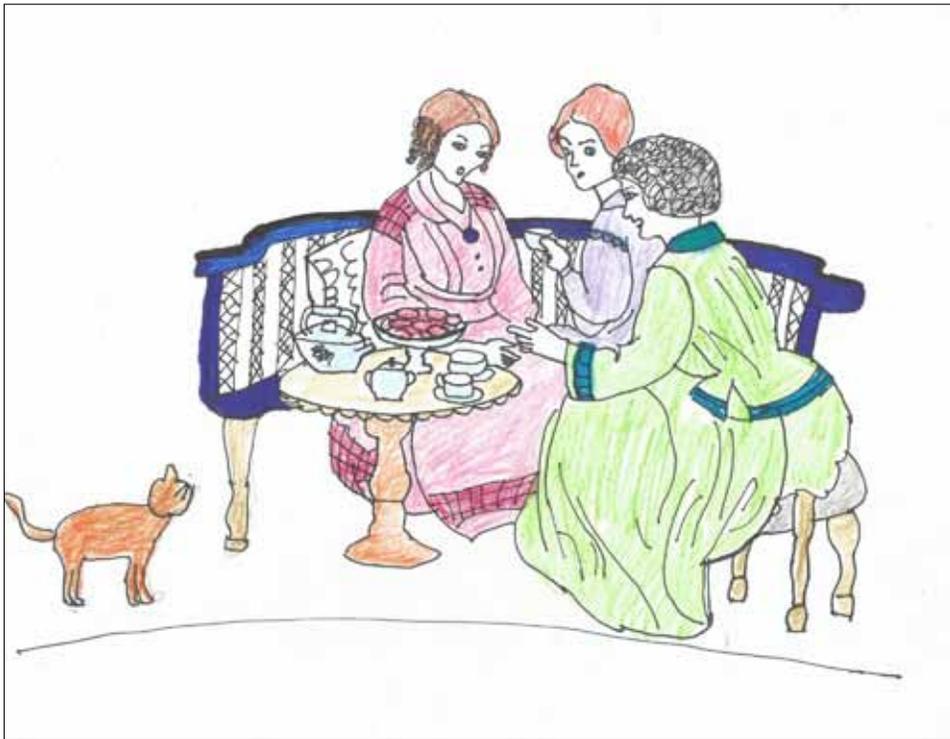
Tri-Valley: 2:00 third Saturdays, Four Points by Sheraton, 5115 Hopyard, Pleasanton. trivalleywriters.org

Notice: Due to Covid-19, there are no in-person meetings.

Check branch websites.

Off the Shelf

—Edie Matthews



JOKE

After the Play

by Kendad

"Ugh." Ted grunted as he passed through the theater exit. "It's amazing how rude people can be."

"Are you talking about the guys who sat in front of us?" Sherry asked.

"Of course. They just couldn't stop blabbering, laughing, and playing with their smartphones."

"It didn't bother me." She clicked her key-fob. "I've seen this play five times over the years. I'm sorry the guys ruined the show for you."

"That's not it," Ted said, opening the door. "They kept me from sleeping." —WT



"My poem describes the delicacy of daffodils."

"I'm writing about the ocean breeze. What about you Mary Shelley?"

"Well, this doctor has created ... a kind of ... uhh creature ..."

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|----------------|---|--|-------------------------------|----------|--------|----------|
| October | 2020 | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 2P Valley Writers Zoom | 6 | 7 7:00P SBW Board, Zoom | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 2P Valley Writers 6P SBW PROGRAM ZOOM | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 2P Valley Writers Zoom | 20 D e a d l i n e WritersTalk | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 2P Valley Writers Zoom | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |

Future Events:
TBA. All zoomed directly to you.
Calendar page is more or less blank because everybody Zooms these days.

CWC/SBW Calendar

NaNo Prep 101 Workshop

by Carolyn Donnell

Have you been thinking about doing NaNoWriMo this November? Some preliminary activities are available. Even though this started in September you can still access most of the articles, exercises, forums, and resources. Courses should still be available online even after dates listed.

If you complete the course, you can get an official NaNo Prep 101 certificate.

The course outline:

- Develop a Story Idea (September 13 – 19)
- Create Complex Characters (September 20 – 26)
- Construct a Detailed Plot or Outline (September 27 – October 3)
- Build a Strong World (October 4 – 10)
- Organize Your Life for Writing! (October 11 – 17)
- Find and Manage Your Time (October 18 – 24)

Check them out at NaNo Prep resources. <https://nanowrimo.org/nano-prep-101>

Want to do it all at your own pace? Download the handbook at <https://tinyurl.com/nanopreppdf>

Check out the calendar for writing events coming up at <https://nanowrimo.org/calendar>.

Find your regional calendar at <https://nanowrimo.org/regions/>

Note: NaNoWriMo is National Write a Novel in a Month. The challenge: Write 50,000 words in November. — *WT*

SBW Board Meetings

Look for announcements of Board meetings. Contact Edie Matthews at pres@southbaywriters.com.

SBW Regular Meetings

Watch your email for announcements and for invitations to Zoom meetings. Every second Monday, 7 p.m.

Open Mics

South Bay Writers Open Mic on Zoom. Contact Bill Baldwin (408) 730-9622 or email WABaldwin@aol.com

Ongoing discussion groups

Facebook Group: Members of South Bay Writers can join our Facebook group—South Bay Writers Club. Group Admin: Carolyn Donnell

SBW Recommends ...

If you know of a regularly occurring event for writers, send an email to newsletter@southbaywriters.com.



California Writers Club
South Bay Branch
P.O. Box 3254
Santa Clara, CA 95055
www.southbaywriters.com

MAIL TO

Address Correction Requested

South Bay Writers
September Regular Meeting
7 pm, Monday, October 12, 2020

ZOOM
Details arrive in your email

**Turn Your Content
into a Book
Production Machine**
Nina Amir
October Speaker

WritersTalk deadline is always
the 20th of the month.

Regular meetings are second
Mondays 7 – 9 PM on Zoom

