



Request for Monthly Newsletter Articles

My dearest friends;

THE FIRST STEP IS COMPLETE!

We have built the outline for the 2019 Authorship Success Journey with your help. Thank you all for helping make this possible. I am excited and already anticipating this month-by-month journey of becoming a successful author.

NOW WE NEED YOU TO TAKE THE SECOND STEP:

Take a look at the 2019 calendar and see if you have an article (or would like to write one) for this journey. (Can't make out the document—go here for the full PDF -)

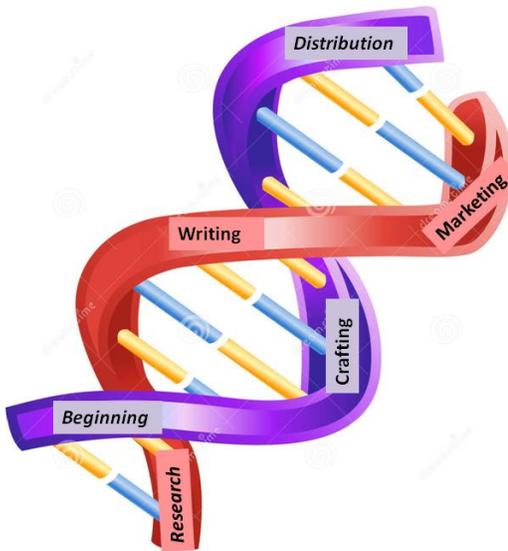
Next year, Monthly Conversation wants to engage our readers with a month-by-month exploration of the key elements for becoming a successful writer, no matter the genre or the platform.

Please help me by reviewing the outline attached and finding a place where your experience, strength and hope and help support our readers in their authorship journey. Thank you in advance for your kind support. Either comment your answers, PM me, or email me at bill.joyce@vismgt.com



Outreach for articles for 2019

Purpose – Introduction to the Year



Two pathways

There are, essentially two life journeys that you will travel if you choose to be an author—the inward journey of self-actualization and the outward journey of sharing your gifts with the world. For others to assume they know your pathway is to deny your inner journey. We all travel very different pathways in life and we must, if we are to find fulfillment, honor our personal journey above all.

Therefore as you gather and evaluate the topics for 2019, make them spices to liven up the feast you are preparing rather than strict rules to be followed without thought or feeling. I will be urging our writers/authors to delve into both pathways as they travel their authorship journey this year.

I look forward to opening up the inner journey to the craft of authorship. It is where I find both comfort and excitement in my

personal authorship journey. Please join us at Monthly Conversation a newsletter dedicated to encouraging authors everywhere.

The dance of two goals

I chose the double helix for its visual paring of two strands. One cannot stand alone and both are required to create the vision. The reality of great authors is that they know what their audience will embrace and they know themselves, bringing the two together in a dance only they can perform. Rules, craftsmanship, outlines and story arcs are all tools to be used but it is in the paring of the internal and the external that creates new masterpieces.

My journey began with a desire to tell stories, or at least the belief that I could do something like the great epic fantasy authors before me. I believe I first mastered the inner journey, out of necessity and out of insecurity. Being introverted makes one look inward more often than others. It was much later in life that I attempted approaching the world with my scribbling and that is an adventure tale all its own. Now, having reached the golden years of “Old-Fartdom,” I choose to share my pontifications with a liberal dash of mischievousness. Please forgive my borderline sarcasm. I just find it enjoyable to poke at the traditional standards of the writing process.

Monthly Conversation

Encouraging authors every month



The Journey's End

Living in a result oriented world, most start a task by setting a goal. The journey's end for the author is not a goal (selling 10,000 books) but a life-change at the core of our being. We become a part of our craft and find true happiness in the act of being a writer.

It is just _____ steps from the beginning

Here at the beginning of things (who wrote that...) we need to embrace both future goals and measure our inner willingness to become. Of ten thousand people who have the thought to become an author, 9,900 will leave the thought where it falls, 65 will ponder the idea by learning about writing or joining a writer's group, 25 will pen more than five chapters before they move on, and 10 will commit to the journey. It is so with any great endeavor. And it is very OK to be in any of the above groups. Finding what makes you real is the key to any life-endeavor, and chasing a dream that does not fit your insides is just silly.

Someone will attempt to set a measurement as to when you are officially an author. Thank them and calmly move on. It is not a destination—it is a choice only you can measure. I suppose you could avoid looking inward and end up on a best sellers list. In retrospect, I suppose you could consider yourself an author at any moment. But truthful reflection will uncover the inner commitment and covenant you make to get to the bookshelves. It is and always will be an intertwined dance that makes the journey we have chosen to embrace.

The following page provides the raw data we are using to create our 2019 MC Topic Outline. So far we know we want this:

- ℓ Each month will have an internal and external sharing to honor both the personal journey and the craft of sharing our writings.
- ℓ We will make an attempt to follow a calendar progression of the art form. This in no way confirms or condones a timeline to the process of authorship. As can be seen in the raw topics, the process is not linear and is definitely not timed.
- ℓ Measurement will be the moments of learning. I, being a journeyman will look to learn from those who share their understandings of the topics. Like you, I will sift through and incorporate those learning moments that will support my personal journey.
- ℓ At the end of the year we will have amassed 12 months of wisdom, either by embracing or gently leaving the advice found.

As newsletters go, that is just about the best we can accomplish. That is unless you choose to help by providing your articles for the adventure...

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2019 Monthly Conversation Article Master Listing

Season	Month	Article	Suggested Topics	Title	Author
On Becoming an Author	1	Article 1	Commitment; Author CV; Balance; Critiques; Fascination; Finding the first steps on the path of authorship; It is not just the writing that makes you an author; Write your truth	A Journey of Exploration and Reflection	Bill J.
	1	Article 2		The Four Bios Every Author Needs	Nate Hoffelder
	1	Article 3		Is Your Story a Chronicle or a Plot	Scott McConnell
	1	Article 4		Jerry Finds a Magic Cookie	Erin Lawrence
	1	Article 5			
	2	Article 1		Find the ME in the writing journey	r.e.joyce
	2	Article 2			
	2	Article 3			
	2	Article 4			
	2	Article 5			
	3	Article 1		Being True to the Vision	Wrathe W. Aceing
	3	Article 2		Author CV	Laura Wiley
	3	Article 3			
	3	Article 4			
	3	Article 5			
Learning the Craft	4	Article 1	Commitment, determination, and dedication; Accountability personal or someone else; Creative Attributes; Daily Commitment; focus, setting person goals; Knowledge; Genre; Process		
	4	Article 2		Knowledge is the Key	Mari Christie
	4	Article 3			
	4	Article 4		201904 Points of View NOW NOVEL	
	4	Article 5			
	5	Article 1		Make your learning experience fun	William C. Joyce III
	5	Article 2		Writing techniques to polish your prose	NOW Novel
	5	Article 3			
	5	Article 4			
	5	Article 5			
	6	Article 1		Scars from falling help solidify the learning.	r.e.joyce
	6	Article 2		Finding sentences to start a story	NOW Novel
	6	Article 3			
	6	Article 4			
	6	Article 5			

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Creating the Manuscript	7	Article 1	Outlining; Action; Beta Readers; Editing; Editing - Copy or Line; Editing - Developmental; Editing - Proofreading; Editing - Substantive	To be the best - learn from the best	Wrathe W. Aceing
	7	Article 2			
	7	Article 3		The Coward's Way to Deal with Criticism	Lara Lee
	7	Article 4		201907 Character motivation examples NOW NOVEL	
	7	Article 5			
	8	Article 1		201907 7 tips for stronger rewrites NOW NOVEL	
	8	Article 2			
	8	Article 3			
	8	Article 4			
	8	Article 5			
	9	Article 1		Each element of craftsmanship can be made to fit your style.	r.e.joyce
	9	Article 2			
	9	Article 3			
	9	Article 4			
9	Article 5				
Distributing Your Work	10	Article 1	After the Book Deal is signed; Audience relationship; Distribution; Email lists - social media; Finding your audience; Launch Team; Marketing; niche; Social Media; Step by Step Marketing Strategies; Tradition vs. Indie Publication	A Simple Book Launch Framework - Book Launch Part 1	Kirsten Oliphant
	10	Article 2		201910 Writing story exposition	NOW Novel
	10	Article 3		What 5 Different Authors Do Successfully	Pagan Malcom
	10	Article 4			
	10	Article 5			
	11	Article 1		How to Get Other People to Share Your Books - Book Launch Part 2	Kirsten Oliphant
	11	Article 2		After the Book Deal is Signed	Laura Wiley
	11	Article 3		How to Use Paid Promotions to Launch Your Book - Book Launch Part 3	Kirsten Oliphant
	11	Article 4			
	11	Article 5		What it Feels Like When Your Writing is Rejected - and How to Bounce Back	Ali Luke
	12	Article 1		How to Grow Your Email List - Book Launch Pt 4	Kirsten Oliphant
	12	Article 2			
	12	Article 3			
	12	Article 4			
12	Article 5				



Building Up the Year of Authorship

Main Focus by Seasons

On Becoming an Author

The personal side of the decision is made early on. The urge must be turned into dedication or any discipline or training will be for naught. Many are called but few are chosen...

On Learning the Craft

From schoolrooms, to local writing clubs and critique groups, to on-line communities; the craft of writing is shared daily for all to access. Putting it to use in your life is where the fun begins.

On Creating the Manuscript

There are as many ways as there are stars in the sky. None will work until you find your comfort zone. Plan your work by outline or sticky notes if that is what makes your creative juices flow. Jump in without a net if you find seat-of-the-pants writing more to your liking. Build a hybrid mixture of both if it feels good. It is not following another that allows your personal creativity to bloom. That is deep within your individual journey and must find its own way through the writing gauntlet.

Yes I did say gauntlet. In order transform pages of words into a manuscript a level of craft must be infused. First draft, endless other drafts, writing buddies, critiques, editors, agents, publishers may all be a part of what it takes to go from idea to readable manuscript.

On Distributing Your Work

Allowing another to look inside your core being by sharing your writings can be a daunting moment. For some it may not become part of your authorship journey. YES – I SAID IT – You do not have to distribute to call yourself an author. You will have an issue if you publicly announce your title with nothing to show for it, but it is not about the distribution. It is about the expression of what you have inside, placed on the page.

Choosing to share is the culmination of the desire to be part of community and the urge for your written words to be seen. I have two books that are just for me. They will never be seen on a bookshelf. If they were the only thing I wrote, my authorship would be very different but they are valid explorations of my inner journey and I am blessed to have them.

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Thoughts and Understandings

The very moment you identify a step to be taken, alternative paths open up. What fits one person perfectly, irks another, and helps a third to find a better way. Our goal this year in *Monthly Conversation* is to express the journey of authorship in a way that anyone can find their place in the adventure.

The Seasonal Focus provides the element of time, not to hinder but allow the new writer to embrace the myriad of elements in a practical way. No one plan for authorship will fit every writer. Heck there seems to be a different pathway for each and every genre.

The helix represents the two sided structure many overlook in the learning of the craft. Both the internal and external motivations must come together to find both fulfillment and satisfaction.

When I searched for steps to authorship, I was amazed at the diversity of opinions. **Therefore, being the Grand-Poobah, I give an opinion of my own**

Take hold of the steps offered and find if they fit your style letting those parts that do not fit find the editing floor. Make your pathway with good advice but married to your inner understanding of what authorship means for you.

My Request to You

I hope each of you joins me on this year-long journey and helps contribute to the discussion. I look forward to learning from each of you. Some have already indicated their desire to provide articles and I have placed them on the master listing.

Please find a topic that stirs your heart and find its place on the master list. We would love to have your wisdom and encouragement.

As always, I am blessed to have you as a fellow journeyer in this wonderful world of creative writing. Thank you for the friendship and I would consider it a blessing if you would contribute to this year's topics

Respectfully,
Bill (r.e.joyce, Bill J, Wrathe W. Aceing) Joyce

Item	Outline / Steps
1	Step by Step Guide to Start Writing a Book
1	Step 1: Pick a Genre. Take a quick glance at your bookshelf ...
1	Step 2: Start from the End. Endings are the hardest part of any story ...
1	Step 3: Create Your Characters ...
1	Step 4: Make an Outline ...
1	Step 5: Write the First Draft ...
1	Step 6: Get Yourself a Drink ...
1	Step 7: Rewrite ...
1	Step 8: Edit
1	Step 9: Party
1	https://blog.udemy.com/how-to-start-writing-a-book/
2	18 Easy Steps to Becoming a Writer
2	http://www.writersdigest.com/editor-blogs/guide-to-literary-agents/18-easy-steps-to-becoming-a-writer
2	Step One: Decide you're going to write a story. [teacher, classmates, reading group, agent] and how it will completely change the way they look at you.
2	Step Three: Open up Microsoft Word. your eyes begin to burn and your brain hurts from the sheer emptiness of it all.
2	Step Five: Check your e-mail. If writing a novel, research agents for a
2	Step Six: Stare at the blank Word document again.
2	Step Seven: Realize you need music. Spend the next hour finding the perfect "mood" music for what you want to write.
2	Step Eight: Inspired by [insert perfect music here], click back over to Word
2	Realize you aren't on Twitter, and that anyone who is anyone is networking/wasting time on Twitter. Sign up for an account and spend the next two hours figuring out how it works and what the crap # means
2	Step Ten: Stare at blank Word document. Decide you need a title. Green Papayas" at the top of the document, followed by your name. Happily consider how easily a story will come now that you have such an amazing, literary title.
2	Step Twelve: Take a four-hour break for snacks and naptime.
2	Step Thirteen: Refreshed, sit down and toy around with pen names for a
2	Step Fourteen: Realize to your horror that your genius title is actually the name of a Vietnamese foreign film you saw seven years ago.
2	Step Fifteen: Erase the title, pressing Backspace much harder than
2	Step Sixteen: Stare at the blank Word document until your eyes bleed. commented on your status, asking what you are writing. Feel both guilty and annoyed.
2	Step Eighteen: Slam your laptop shut and go to the movies. Tomorrow's a
3	Here's How to Become a Writer:
3	Step 1: Become a better reader
3	Step 2: Write Everyday
3	Step 3: Start a Blog
3	Step 4: Read the book "Everybody Writes" by Ann Handley
3	Step 5: Enroll in an Online Writing Course
3	Step 6: Find a Place to Get Honest Critiques
3	Step 7: Start Journaling
3	Step 8: Practice Becoming More Conversational
3	Step 9: "Write Drunk, Edit Sober"
3	Step 10: Recognize Why You Want to Become a Writer
3	https://www.locationrebel.com/how-to-become-a-writer/
4	How to become a novelist: 10 top authors' tips
4	https://www.nownovel.com/blog/become-novelist-10-top-authors-tips/
4	Step 1: Find the story that feels most necessary to you
4	Step 2: Seek character-building experiences for writing inspiration
4	Step 3: Become a better writer before you chase reward
4	Step 4: Write a first draft and treat it as process work
4	Step 5: Find a productive time to write
4	Step 6: Cultivate perseverance
4	Step 7: Create a space where your imagination can work freely
4	Step 8: Don't let your own or other people's doubts get in your way
4	Step 9: Start writing down everything you don't want to forget
4	Step 10: Market yourself and your work consciously