

THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL

# 101

BEST WEBSITES

# FOR WRITERS

BY KARA GEBHART UHL

**W**hen we started compiling this list 17 years ago, our goal was to introduce writers to the bevy of resources taking root on the vast Web that was revolutionizing the world as everyone knew it. Today, that Web is a bigger part of our lives than we ever imagined—and this guide has evolved into an essential tool to help you determine where and, perhaps more important, *how* you spend your time linked to cyberspace, from the blogs you browse while eating lunch at your desk to the social networks that ping into your smartphone.

Online communities and resources can impact our writing lives in increasingly meaningful ways, but when our writing time is at a premium, we need to be careful not to let those hours slip away to the alluring time-sucks that surround even the most helpful websites. We've extensively vetted the best of the best online hubs, visiting every one of the endless stream of reader nominations we've received over the past year, taking into account past lists, and including staff favorites. The sites we've chosen offer an abundance of resources, most of which are free.

We've organized the list into eight sections: creativity, writing advice, everything agents, publishing/marketing resources, jobs and markets, online writing communities, genres/niches, and just for fun. Numbers in black circles indicate sites that have never appeared on any previous

WD 101 Best list. We've also included symbols for a glimpse at what each site offers, expanding our key to include more social media platforms than ever before: advice for writers, classes/workshops/conferences (or links to them), contests (or links to them), critique sections, e-newsletters/RSS feeds, a Facebook page, content for young writers, forums, an Instagram account, job listings, markets for your work, podcasts, a Tumblr site, a Twitter feed and a YouTube account. Finally, we've highlighted a "Best of the Best" in each category.

Of course, no site can put words on the page for you. But for advice, critiques, markets, inspiration and support, look no further than this, the writing world's most definitive list.

## 101 AT A GLANCE: SYMBOLS KEY

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| ✓ Advice for Writers                | 📷 Instagram                                  |
| 👤 Classes/Workshops/<br>Conferences | 💰 Jobs                                       |
| 🏆 Contests                          | 📍 Markets                                    |
| 🗣️ Critiques                        | 🎧 Podcast                                    |
| 📡 E-newsletters/RSS                 | 📕 Tumblr                                     |
| 📘 Facebook                          | 🐦 Twitter                                    |
| ★ For Young Writers                 | ▶ YouTube                                    |
| 💬 Forums                            | # First Appearance on<br>Our Annual 101 List |

## 1-5

## CREATIVITY

1. CREATIVITY PORTAL    **creativity-portal.com**

Chris Dunmire's Creativity Portal inspires with how-to articles and exercises focused on brainstorming ideas for your work. Be sure to check out the Imagination Prompt Generator. Parents and educators should look for the articles on fostering children's creativity.

## 2. SEVENTH SANCTUM

**seventhsanctum.com**

This collection of generators created by Steven Savage can be helpful when brainstorming story ideas, character names and plot twists. And Savage's blog posts on the craft are often thought-provoking.

## BEST OF THE BEST

## 3. SIX WORDS

**sixwordmemoirs.com**

"Say it in six. One life. Six words. What's yours?" Since Six-Word Memoir debuted from *SMITH Magazine*, more than 1 million people have shared their six-words. Submit yours for a chance to have it chosen as a home page feature—or even appear in a print anthology.

4. THE STORY STARTER  **thestorystarter.com**

Each click here will randomly give you one of more than 215 billion opening lines to get you started on your story. Its little sister, The Story Starter Jr. ([thestorystarter.com/jr.htm](http://thestorystarter.com/jr.htm)), is popular in classrooms.

5. THE WRITER'S JOURNEY ROADMAP WITH AUTHOR LAURA DAVIS     **lauradavis.net/roadmap**

Bestselling self-help author Laura Davis emails subscribers inspiring quotes and writing prompts every Tuesday. Use them privately, or join others in posting your writing in the site's active comments section.

## 6-26

## WRITING ADVICE

## 6. BETTER NOVEL PROJECT

**betternovelproject.com**

Join aspiring novelist Christine Frazier as she deconstructs bestselling novels (including *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, *The Hunger Games* and *Twilight*) in search of common elements from which to build a framework for your own stories based on what's proven to work.

## 7. DAILY WRITING TIPS

**dailywritingtips.com**

Free writing tips every day on grammar, punctuation, spelling, usage and vocabulary. Become a Pro Member (\$9.90 monthly) to receive daily articles and exercises, take part in online courses, and search for writing jobs.

8. GRAMMAR GIRL    **quickanddirtytips.com/grammar-girl**

Widely published Grammar Girl Mignon Fogarty believes the rules of grammar are fodder for lifelong study, and provides short, friendly tips with simple memory tricks. Her popular podcast offers more in-depth discussions.

9. HELPING WRITERS BECOME AUTHORS      **helpingwritersbecomeauthors.com**

Since 2007, historical and speculative fiction author K.M. Weiland has published more than 700 posts on characters, writing life, inspiration, story structure and self-editing. Her e-newsletter provides further news, how-tos, exercises and more.

10. INKYGIRL      **inkygirl.com**

Children's author and illustrator Debbie Ridpath Ohi's illustrated blog for writers includes comics, interviews, resources and tips. Ohi is all over social media, with frequent tweets about kid lit and YA.

## BEST OF THE BEST

## 11. JANE FRIEDMAN

**janefriedman.com**

A longtime champion of writers, *WD* contributing editor and former publisher Jane Friedman has more than 15 years of experience in publishing. Here she shares her expertise, with emphasis on the digital realm, alongside thoughtful guest posts from the writing and publishing community.

## 12. KRISTEN LAMB'S BLOG

**warriorwriters.wordpress.com**

Kristen Lamb, bestselling author of *We Are Not Alone—The Writer's Guide to Social Media* and *Are You There, Blog? It's Me, Writer*, devotes her blog to teaching writers how to use social media to create a solid platform and brand. Lamb also is the founder of WANATribe ([wanatribe.com](http://wanatribe.com)), a social network for writers.

## BEYOND THE 101: The *Writer's Digest* Family of Sites

**WRITERSDIGEST.COM** For everything writing-related, check out WD's online hub of free articles and downloads. Make it your virtual home for craft tips, career advice, creativity-sparking prompts and more.

**WRITERSMARKET.COM** Along with 9,000-plus market listings updated daily, subscribers receive submission trackers, articles and more. Annual, six-month and monthly paid subscriptions are available.

**WRITERSDIGESTUNIVERSITY.COM** Get one-on-one instruction from professionals in the comfort of your home. WDU classes start year-round and cover everything from grammar to novel writing to marketing.

**WRITERSDIGEST.COM/EDITOR-BLOGS** Put a friendly, authoritative voice behind the writing advice you need. Our WD bloggers have you covered with discussions of writing, publishing, poetry, agents and more.

**TUTORIALS.WRITERSDIGEST.COM** Access more than 200 instructional writing videos instantly, with at least one new tutorial being added each week. Subscriptions are \$25 monthly or \$199.99 annually.

**DIGITALBOOKWORLD.COM** DWB offers education, networking and resources, online and off, for publishing professionals and their partners.

**SCRIPTMAG.COM** *Script Magazine* is a vital online resource in the script-writing world—delivering essential advice and must-read news on craft, spec scripts, film festivals, how to make it in Hollywood and more.

### 13. NATHAN BRANSFORD



**blog.nathanbransford.com**

Literary-agent-turned-author Nathan Bransford is generous with his time, knowledge and advice on this ever-popular blog. Having published a trio of novels for young readers, managed social media for CNET and worked with the Freelancers Union, he offers uniquely diverse perspectives. Don't miss his Publishing Essentials section.

### 14. A NEWBIE'S GUIDE TO PUBLISHING

**jakonrath.blogspot.com**

Bestselling hybrid author J.A. Konrath's strong takes on controversial publishing topics earn him several million hits per year. (For example, in 2014 he and blockbuster

novelist Lee Child publicly duked it out, right there on Konrath's blog, over the Amazon/Hachette dispute.) He also aims to help fellow authors by detailing his experiences with both traditional and self-publishing.

### 15. PLOT WHISPERER BLOG



**marthaalderson.com/**

**Plot-Whisperer-Blog**

No matter what genre of fiction you write, you'll benefit from writing instructor Martha Alderson's blog, which is focused entirely on plot. She regularly tweets bite-sized tips, and offers in-depth tutorials on YouTube.

### 16. PREDITORS & EDITORS



**pred-ed.com**

Founded in 1997, the widely respected *Preditors & Editors* protects

writers, artists, screenwriters, composers, game designers and poets via its warnings regarding scams, red-flagged publishers and other illegitimate businesses.

### 17. STORYFIX2.0

**storyfix.com**

Award-winning novelist and author of writing guides *Story Engineering* and *Story Physics* (both from WD Books) Larry Brooks breaks down the mechanics of story structure based on his model of "The Six Core Competencies of Successful Storytelling."

### 18. TERRIBLEMINDS

**terribleminds.com/ramble/blog**

This blog by novelist, screenwriter and game designer Chuck Wendig is full of colorful (read: not safe for work) insights on how to write great fiction and build a career as a hybrid author.

### 19. WOMEN'S FICTION WRITERS



**womensfictionwriters.**

**wordpress.com**

Women's fiction author Amy Sue Nathan helped fill an online void within her genre by creating this place to connect and learn.

### 20. WORDSERVE WATER COOLER

**wordserverwatercooler.com**

By a group of writers represented by WordServe Literary, this blog provides a peek into the life of the agented author while offering tips and tricks on marketing, publishing, the craft and social media.

### 21. WOW! WOMEN ON WRITING



**wow-womenonwriting.com**

An e-zine devoted to connecting women writers, editors, agents and publishers, WOW! also offers a

comprehensive list of writing-related resources from all over the Web.

**22. WRITE NONFICTION NOW!**



[writenonfictionnow.com](http://writenonfictionnow.com)

Bestselling author, book coach and expert blogger Nina Amir offers free nonfiction writing advice and strategic marketing tips.

**23. THE WRITE NOW! COACH BLOG**



[writenowcoach.com/blog](http://writenowcoach.com/blog)

Rochelle Melander, author of *Write-A-Thon: Write Your Book in 26 Days (And Live to Tell About It)*, has been providing publishing tips and writing prompts since April 2011.

**24. WRITER BEWARE**

Co-sponsored by Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America, Mystery Writers of America, Horror Writers Association, and American Society of Journalists and Authors, this watchdog group provides warnings about flat-out literary scams, as well as publishers/agents with red flags; discussions of how industry changes, trends and controversies affect authors; and overall sound advice.

**25. WRITER UNBOXED**



[writerunboxed.com](http://writerunboxed.com)

Established in 2006, Writer Unboxed has grown tremendously, with a stable of regular contributors made up of writers (aspiring and bestselling, fiction and nonfiction) and industry leaders alike sharing their best craft advice. 2014 marked the first Writer Unboxed Un-Conference—“part symposium, part networking affair, part workshop, part retreat.”

**26. WRITERS IN THE STORM**



[writersinthestormblog.com](http://writersinthestormblog.com)

A group of seasoned writers across various genres brings different perspectives to this blog (note the recent address change), focusing on craft and inspiration for fiction works.

## 27-35

### EVERYTHING AGENTS

**27. ADVENTURES IN AGENTLAND**

[adventuresinagentland.com](http://adventuresinagentland.com)

Natalie M. Lakosil at the Bradford Literary Agency provides in-depth, thoughtful posts about her life as an agent, as well as tips on bettering your writing and navigating the world of agents and publishing.

#### BEST OF THE BEST

**28. AGENT AND EDITOR WISH LIST**

[agentandeditorwishlist.tumblr.com](http://agentandeditorwishlist.tumblr.com)

On Twitter, agents and publishers have taken to using the #MSWL (Manuscript Wish List) hashtag to let writers know what they're looking for. This Tumblr page archives all those tweets in one handy place, and even provides a useful search function.

**29. BETWEEN THE LINES**



[booksandsuch.com/blog](http://booksandsuch.com/blog)

The agents at Books & Such Literary Management—Rachelle Gardner (who also has a huge archive of helpful content for writers at [rachellegardner.com](http://rachellegardner.com)), Rachel Kent, Wendy Lawton, Janet Kobobel Grant and Mary Keeley—use their blog to educate writers from all walks of life on everything

from the craft to the literary life to the business of publishing.

**30. THE BLABBERMOUTH BLOG**



[theblabbermouthblog.com](http://theblabbermouthblog.com)

The Jennifer DeChiara Literary Agency's Linda Epstein, who represents writers for young readers, blogs about her experiences as an agent. Her Quick Questions series of interviews with acquiring editors is a must-read.

**31. CARLY WATTERS, LITERARY AGENT**

[carlywatters.com](http://carlywatters.com)

Carly Watters, who represents a wide variety of both fiction and nonfiction at P.S. Literary Agency, offers valuable insight into how she reads the submissions in her slush pile, complete with advice for querying and even pinpointing what's wrong with your manuscript.

**32. JANET REID, LITERARY AGENT**

[jetreidliterary.blogspot.com](http://jetreidliterary.blogspot.com)

Janet Reid, an agent with FinePrint Literary Management, has long offered writers good-humored, honest advice. Preparing to submit? Be sure to check out her Query Letter Help sidebar. Have a question? Ask. There's a good chance she'll post an answer. Be sure to check out her second blog, [queryshark.blogspot.com](http://queryshark.blogspot.com), in which she invites query letters for in-depth critiques.

**33. LITERARY RAMBLES**



[literaryrambles.com](http://literaryrambles.com)

Children's writers, bookmark this site. Casey McCormick, a founding member of WriteOnCon ([writeoncon.com](http://writeoncon.com)), and Natalie Aguirre, an aspiring middle-grade and YA fantasy writer, have spotlighted countless agents in the genre, and each post features

everything that can possibly be found about said agent online, with links. Also check out the author interviews and book giveaways.

### 34. QUERYTRACKER



[querytracker.net](http://querytracker.net)

If you're querying or thinking of querying, QueryTracker is a must. In addition to tracking your submissions (for free!) this site is constantly collecting data from its users—including agent and publisher response times and types, and accept/reject histories and rates.

### 35. WRITING AND RAMBLING



[nepheletempest.wordpress.com](http://nepheletempest.wordpress.com)

Nephele Tempest, a literary agent with The Knight Agency, offers her own tips for writers while also scouring the Internet to provide you with a roundup of the latest helpful publishing and craft links every Friday.

## 36 - 45

### PUBLISHING/ MARKETING RESOURCES

#### BEST OF THE BEST

### 36. AUTHOR MEDIA

[authormedia.com/blog](http://authormedia.com/blog)



"Help for authors timid about technology," Author Media offers blogging, platform building, social media, and website and writing tips in easy-to-follow posts.

### 37. THE BOOK DESIGNER



[thebookdesigner.com](http://thebookdesigner.com)

If you plan to self-publish, check out Joel Friedlander's 700-plus articles

on the nitty-gritty details of the business—from book design to marketing to ISBNs and more.

### 38. BOSACKS

[bosacks.com](http://bosacks.com)

Since 1993, media veteran Bob Sacks has been sharing "a very personal and slanted collection of news gathered daily over the Internet ... about the publishing industry." His daily e-newsletter reaches more than 11,750 media pros, mostly in newspapers and magazines. Sign up for a free portal behind the scenes.

### 39. THE CREATIVE PENN



[thecreativepenn.com](http://thecreativepenn.com)

Indie author Joanna Penn's site is massive, with more than 1,000 articles and 100 audio hours on writing, self-publishing, marketing and selling your books, and more.

### 40. HUGH HOWEY

[hughhowey.com](http://hughhowey.com)

Hugh Howey—touted as one of indie publishing's great successes—tracks his lessons learned through both self- and traditional publishing, offering observations on the future of authorship. His "Favorite Posts for Writers" sidebar is a great first stop for new visitors.

### 41. THE INDEPENDENT PUBLISHING MAGAZINE



[theindependentpublishingmagazine.com](http://theindependentpublishingmagazine.com)

Editor Mick Rooney launched this online magazine in 2007 to provide self-publishing information and resources and, most helpfully, detailed reviews of self-publishing service providers.

### 42. MASHABLE

[mashable.com](http://mashable.com)

With more than 40 million monthly visitors, Mashable is the go-to source for digital, tech, social media, business, entertainment and mobile news.

### 43. PUBLETARIAT

[publetariat.com](http://publetariat.com)

Indie author champion April L. Hamilton curates news and tips from around the Web for small indie presses and self-published authors.

### 44. WINNING WRITERS



[winningwriters.com](http://winningwriters.com)

Winning Writers is a leading resource for poets and writers interested in contests. Sign up for the free e-newsletter and get immediate access to the site's database of The Best Free Literary Contests. See also: the list of Contests and Services to Avoid.

### 45. WRITERCUBE

[bookmarketingdb.com](http://bookmarketingdb.com)

"The little black book of publishing contacts and resources," this fully vetted free database includes more than 20,000 listings for writers in the marketing stage. Find relevant bloggers, designers and media contacts.

## 46 - 54

### JOBS & MARKETS

### 46. ALL INDIE WRITERS



[allindiewriters.com](http://allindiewriters.com)

Formerly All Freelance Writing, this site allows you to browse its free jobs directory and offers education (content includes "60 Resources for Freelance Writers" and "30 Ways to Build Your Writer Platform"). A biweekly podcast is devoted to making a living as a freelancer, professional blogger or indie author.

**47. BLOGGINGPRO** ✓💰🐦**bloggingpro.com**

Brush up on the technical side of blogging with this coverage of plug-ins, software, themes and more. You'll also find freelance job listings ([bloggingpro.com/jobs](http://bloggingpro.com/jobs)) for bloggers, Web writers, editors and more.

**48. ED2010** ✓🐦📘💰🐦**ed2010.com**

Stay up-to-date on industry news, gossip, salaries, and freelance and full-time job openings (see the Whisper Jobs sections). Also find opportunities to meet fellow publishing professionals in your area.

**49. FREELANCE WRITING JOBS**

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**freelancewritinggigs.com**

Updated daily, this is one of the most comprehensive freelance job-listing sites. Find business, writing and job-hunting tips, as well as free downloads such as word processing programs and resume templates.

**50. FUNDS FOR WRITERS**

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**fundsforwriters.com**

Author C. Hope Clark helps you find ways to fund your writing through markets, grants, competitions, awards, publishers, agents and jobs.

**51. JOURNALISM JOBS**

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**journalismjobs.com**

This site is one of the largest and most-visited resources for full-time, part-time and freelance jobs.

**52. THE MARKET LIST**

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**marketlist.com**

Check out these extensive, regularly updated market listings, including magazines, book publishers, agents, writing contests and websites.

## BEST OF THE BEST

**53. MEDIABISTRO**

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**mediabistro.com**

A long-loved resource for full-timers and freelancers alike, Mediabistro keeps you up to date on industry news, job openings, workshops, contests and meetups. Take your pick of seven e-newsletters to receive the publishing scoop.

**54. THE REVIEW REVIEW**

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**thereviewreview.net**

The brainchild of award-winning fiction writer Becky Tuch, this site reviews literary magazines with the goal of helping you make wiser decisions when submitting your work. Don't miss the Calls for Submissions and Writing Contests.

## 55-66

ONLINE  
WRITING  
COMMUNITIES**55. ABSOLUTE WRITE**

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**absolutewrite.com**

With more than 60,000 members, the Water Cooler is one of the most active forums where writers can go to get input from peers on just about anything. Absolute Write also offers articles on relevant topics.

**56. AUTHONOMY** ✓🐦📘🗨️🐦**authonomy.com**

A project of HarperCollins Publishers Ltd., Authonomy allows writers to upload work for critique by community members and editors; every month, the HarperCollins staff selects five manuscripts to review for possible publication.

**57. CRITIQUE CIRCLE** ✓🐦🗨️🌟**critiquecircle.com**

Open to writers of all ages and genres, Critique Circle connects writers and offers them free tools, including a Word Meter, Outlining Workshop and Submission Tracker.

**58. CRITTERS WORKSHOP**

✓🐦🗨️🐦

**critters.org**

Once focused on science fiction, fantasy and horror, this site now welcomes writers in all genres to trade critiques. Established in 1995, this staple on our list currently has more than 15,000 members.

**59. FICTIONAUT** ✓🐦📘🗨️🐦**fictionaut.com**

"Part self-selecting magazine, part community network," Fictionaut allows writers to discover new work, post their manuscripts for feedback, connect with fellow writers and participate in specific sub-communities.

## BEST OF THE BEST

**60. LIT REACTOR**

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**litreactor.com**

Founded by the team who built [ChuckPalahniuk.net](http://ChuckPalahniuk.net), this site requires a fee (\$9 monthly) to access certain features. But the free magazine offers myriad advice, including columns from lit coach Erin Reel and D4EO agent Bree Ogden, as well as author interviews, reviews and news. Sign up for the free e-newsletter to receive a download of "A Compendium of Top Advice From Contemporary Authors."

**61. MOONTOWNCAFE.COM**

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**moontowncafe.com**

This free poetry community allows you to create a My Café account to connect with poets, writers and publishers from around the world. Be sure to check out the site's many free contests for children and adults.

**62. MY WRITERS CIRCLE**   
[mywriterscircle.com](http://mywriterscircle.com)

My Writers Circle is an active online community where you can post your work for feedback, participate in writing games and challenges, and ask and respond to questions writing and publishing related.

**63. NATIONAL NOVEL WRITING MONTH**  
  
[nanowrimo.org](http://nanowrimo.org)

Every November, the NaNoWriMo challenge draws hundreds of thousands determined to write 50,000 words in a month, and Camp NaNoWriMo ([campnanowrimo.org](http://campnanowrimo.org)) hosts smaller challenges in April and July. Both sites allow you to track your progress and connect with fellow participants.

**64. REDDIT'S WRITING FORUM**  
  
[reddit.com/r/writing](http://reddit.com/r/writing)

Among 141,000+ members, you're sure to find a kindred soul when you want to talk about the craft. Ask questions, seek and provide feedback, recruit writing group members, share articles, get grammar help and more.

**65. SCRIBOPHILE**  
  
[scribophile.com](http://scribophile.com)

This writing group works on a karma point system: Spend points to receive feedback, earn points by providing it. Hang out with other writers in the forum, follow the blog's tips and tricks, and sit in on writing tutorials.

**66. THE YOUNG WRITERS SOCIETY**   
[youngwriterssociety.com](http://youngwriterssociety.com)

Formed in 2004, this free community for writers age 13 and up aims to "promote creative writing as a pastime" and "prepare aspiring authors for future publication." A home page spotlight displays the five new works with the highest number of likes.

**67-95**

**GENRES/  
NICHES**

**CHILDREN'S/YA**

**67. ADVENTURES IN YA PUBLISHING**   
[childrenspublishing.blogspot.com](http://childrenspublishing.blogspot.com)

This group blog features advice from young adult authors, provides YA writing and publishing tips, delivers insider tidbits, and hosts YA book giveaways.

**68. KID LIT 411**  
  
[kidlit411.com](http://kidlit411.com)

Kid Lit 411 is a well-organized repository for info related to writing and publishing picture books, middle-grade and YA. The Facebook group also hosts a Manuscript Swap.

**69. RACHELLE BURK'S RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN'S WRITERS**  
  
[resourcesforchildrenswriters.blogspot.com](http://resourcesforchildrenswriters.blogspot.com)

Children's author Rachelle Burk shares hundreds of links—scroll for articles on improving your children's writing, finding an agent, getting published and networking.

**BEST OF THE BEST**

**70. SOCIETY OF CHILDREN'S BOOK WRITERS & ILLUSTRATORS**

  
[scbwi.org](http://scbwi.org)

This respected organization offers free information on conferences, grants, awards, markets, publishers and agents for children's book writers. Many visitors pay for a membership (\$95 yearly) for access to *The SCBWI Bulletin*, discussion forums and more.

**71. YA HIGHWAY**

  
[www.yahighway.com](http://www.yahighway.com)

Navigate the Publishing Road Map to visit Cape Characterization, Agent Acres, Critique Creek, Book Deal Delta and so much more.

**FANTASY/SCIENCE FICTION**

**72. JIM C. HINES**   
[jimchines.com/blog](http://jimchines.com/blog)

Although fantasy author Jim C. Hines' blog is at times personal and political, it gives readers a complete inside look at the life of an author, including posts detailing exactly how much money he has made at his craft and how. Read a few posts and you'll quickly see why he has so many readers—and commenters.

**73. SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY WRITERS OF AMERICA**

  
[sfwa.org](http://sfwa.org)

While some of SFWA's content is free (news, book releases and writing tips), paid membership (\$70–110 annually; with eligibility requirements that recently changed to include indie authors) gives you access to forums and a slew of personal support.

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**FREELANCE**


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**74. FREELANCEWRITING**

**freelancewriting.com**

Browse more than a thousand articles on how to become a profitable freelance writer, and check out the new video tutorial series on how to start a successful freelance career.

**75. MAKE A LIVING WRITING**

**makealivingwriting.com**

Award-winning writer Carol Tice is “obsessed with helping writers earn more from their work.” She shares how you can move past low-paying markets to higher-paying jobs.

**76. THE RENEGADE WRITER**

**therenegadewriter.com**

In free posts and downloads, freelance writers Linda Formichelli and Diana Burrell share their unconventional tips and tricks to succeeding in the freelance marketplace.

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**HORROR**


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**77. DARK MARKETS**

**darkmarkets.com**

Dark Markets helps horror writers find genre magazines, e-zines, book publishers, anthologies and contests.

**78. HORROR WRITERS ASSOCIATION**

**horror.org/writetips.htm**

The HWA offers free articles on crafting work in the genre. Paid membership (\$48–68; eligibility requirements apply) opens doors to networking, mentoring, information trading and promotional resources.

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**MYSTERY/CRIME**


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**79. JUNGLE RED WRITERS****jungleredwriters.com**

Seven successful crime fiction authors post updates almost daily on all things related to their genre. They dub the site “The View. With bodies.”

**80. MYSTERY WRITERS OF AMERICA**

**mysterywriters.org**

This organization for aspiring and established mystery and crime writers offers free listings of publishers, as well as contests and classes related to the genre. Check out bestseller Nelson DeMille’s Benefits of a Membership for a long list of what a paid membership includes (\$95 per term; eligibility requirements apply).

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**POETRY**


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**81. POETRY FOUNDATION**

**poetryfoundation.org**

From the publisher of *Poetry* magazine, this site offers podcasts, content for children, a Learning Lab, a place to browse poems and poets, and a blog for poetry and related news.

**82. POETRY SOCIETY OF AMERICA**

**poetrysociety.org**

The Poetry Society of America’s official site provides articles on poetry; links to contests, awards and fellowships (including the PSA Chapbook Fellowships); and interviews with editors of poetry journals.

**83. POETS.ORG**

**poets.org**

Tens of millions of visitors seek out the Academy of American Poets’ official website each year, and its e-newsletter delivers a new poem daily. Look for the updated list of writing programs and events in your area. Here teachers can also

find free lesson plans for including poetry in their curriculum.

**84. RATTLE**

**rattle.com**

Rattle is published in several forms, primarily print. Much of the publication’s content is shared online, however, including audio archives and free PDF downloads. Receive a daily poem via email, and submit your work to Poets Respond, a series of poems inspired by the week’s news.

**85. THETHE POETRY**

**thethepoetry.com**

“THEthe is a forum for ideas on poetry and the poetic aspects of fiction, nonfiction, music, visual art, film. ...” Check out Scattered Rhymes, where poets read and discuss their work.

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**ROMANCE**


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**86. ROMANCE UNIVERSITY**

**romanceuniversity.org**

With a dedication to empowering writers, entertaining readers and understanding men, Romance University offers free online lectures three days a week—Crafting Your Career (Mondays), Anatomy of the Mind (Wednesdays) and Chaos Theory of Writing (Fridays)—to help aspiring writers succeed and established writers advance.

**87. ROMANCE WRITERS OF AMERICA**

**rwa.org**

Founded in 1980, more than 10,000 members strong and home to 145 local and online chapters, RWA offers free online articles related to the genre. A membership (\$95) provides access to the active discussion forum, the monthly trade publication *Romance Writers Report*, and information on contests and conferences.

## SCRIPTWRITING

### 88. JOHN AUGUST

[johnaugust.com](http://johnaugust.com)

Screenwriter John August, who's written numerous movies (including the Tim Burton projects *Big Fish* and *Frankenweenie*), generously shares his expertise on the craft and business of scriptwriting. Once you can peel yourself away from the blog, check out his podcast series *Scriptnotes*, co-produced with screenwriter Craig Mazin.

### 89. MOVIEBYTES

[moviebytes.com](http://moviebytes.com)

With more than 23,000 registered users, MovieBytes provides the latest info on screenwriting markets and contests. Check out MovieBytes Interviews for free access to more than 600 Q&As with screenwriting contest winners.

### 90. THE SCRIPT LAB

[thescriptlab.com](http://thescriptlab.com)

A comprehensive screenwriting resource, The Script Lab covers everything from the basics of screenwriting to breaking into the field. Tune in to the site's YouTube channel, which airs discussions with writers, filmmakers and film school educators weekly.

## SPIRITUAL

### 91. THE SEEKERS

[seekerville.blogspot.com](http://seekerville.blogspot.com)

This group blog of 13 published Christian writers offers free support and encouragement on the writing journey. The blog frequently includes contest updates as well.

### 92. THE STEVE LAUBE AGENCY

[stevelaube.com/blog](http://stevelaube.com/blog)

Four agents contribute to this blog, focused on publishing Christian

fiction. Peruse the Top 25 Posts for the most popular topics covered.

## THRILLER

### 93. INTERNATIONAL THRILLER WRITERS

[thrillerwriters.org](http://thrillerwriters.org)

With more than 3,000 members in 28 countries with nearly 3 billion books in print, ITW is the premier association for writers of thrillers. Be sure to sign up for the free monthly e-zine, *The Big Thrill*.

### 94. THE KILL ZONE

[killzoneauthors.blogspot.com](http://killzoneauthors.blogspot.com)

Visit daily for insight "into the thriller and mystery writer's mind" from 11 of today's best thriller writers, including bestselling writing instructor James Scott Bell (a regular WD contributor). Here they share craft tips and discuss topics that "inspire, anger, amuse and entertain."

### 95. MURDER BY 4

[murderby4.blogspot.com](http://murderby4.blogspot.com)

MB4 is currently "MB3" (authors Kim Smith, Aaron Paul Lazar and Dora Machado), and the trio regularly posts honest thoughts on industry trends, writing tips, reviews, how-to articles and more. While initially focused on thrillers, the content has broadened.

# 96-101

## JUST FOR FUN

### 96. BO'S CAFÉ LIFE

[boscafelife.wordpress.com](http://boscafelife.wordpress.com)

This comic strip on the novel writing life, by Wayne E. Pollard (the artist behind WD's own "Furst Drafts" cartoons), will leave you LOL.

### 97. BOOKMOOCH

[bookmooch.com](http://bookmooch.com)

Give away books you no longer need, receive books you want. Brilliant.

### 98. DAILYLIT

[dailylit.com](http://dailylit.com)

Read literary classics and new fiction in short installments.

### 99. INDIEBOUND

[indiebound.org](http://indiebound.org)

Founded by members of the American Booksellers Association, IndieBound is a community of readers, booksellers, local business alliances and more in the indie business movement.

## BEST OF THE BEST

### 100. KIRKUS REVIEWS

[kirkusreviews.com](http://kirkusreviews.com)

Founded in 1933, Kirkus has long been "an authoritative voice in book discovery." Sign up for a free weekly e-newsletter for unbiased book reviews and announcements of the best new releases. For a fee, Kirkus also offers a full suite of author services, including indie reviews, editing and marketing.

### 101. SHAWGUIDES

[writing.shawguides.com](http://writing.shawguides.com)

Thinking of attending a writing conference or retreat? Search here by location or keyword, or check out the calendar of upcoming writing events. **WD**

## NOMINATING NEXT YEAR'S 101

Don't see one of your favorite sites here? Wish we'd add a new category? Send your comments and nominations for next year's list to [writersdigest@fwmedia.com](mailto:writersdigest@fwmedia.com) with "101 Websites" in the subject line between now and Dec. 1, 2015.