

TO PUBLISH OR NOT TO PUBLISH: TAKING YOUR WRITING BEYOND THE BLOG -- OR NOT

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1. Take a big-picture view of your career while you're still blogging.
2. Create and build a sustainable personal brand—one that truly represents who you are and that you can be proud to stand behind.
3. Figure out how you will get paid for opportunities beyond blogging.
4. Decide where you want to draw the line between the personal and the professional.

Organizations of interest to authors

Access Copyright	www.accesscopyright.ca
American Society of Journalists and Authors	www.asja.org
Association of Authors' Representatives	www.aar-online.org
Association of Canadian Publishers	www.publishers.ca
Canadian Association of Journalists	www.caj.ca
Canadian Authors Association	www.canauthors.org
Canadian Freelancers' Union	www.cfunion.ca
Canadian Intellectual Property Office	http://cipo.ic.gc.ca
Canadian Society of Magazine Editors	www.canadianeditors.ca
Editors Association of Canada	www.editors.ca
National Writers Union	www.nwu.org
Periodical Writers Association of Canada	www.pwac.ca
Poynter Online	www.poynter.org
Professional Writers Association of Canada	www.pwac.ca
The Writers Union of Canada	www.writersunion.ca

Book industry information, statistics, guides, and tools

Canadian Magazines blog	www.canadianmagazines.blogspot.com
Chases Calendar of Events	www.chases.com
Jane Friedman's blog	www.janefriedman.com
J-Source	www.j-source.ca
MagNet Conference	http://magnet.magazinescanada.ca
Profnet	www.profnet.com
Publishers Marketplace	www.publishersmarketplace.com
Publishers Weekly	www.publishersweekly.com
Quill and Quire	www.quillandquire.com
Quill and Quire Blog	www.quillandquire.com/blog/
The Storyboard	www.thestoryboard.ca
Sources.com	www.sources.com
Toronto Freelance Editors and Writers List	http://ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/tfew

Journalism industry information, statistics, guides, and tools

ASJA Newsletter (Public Section)	www.asja.org/newspub/newspub.php
ASJA: Writer Resource Links	www.asja.org/links/links.php
Canadian Business Press	www.cbp.ca
Canadian Magazine Publishers Association	www.magazinescanada.ca
Copyrightlaws.com (Lesley Ellen Harris)	www.copyrightlaws.com
Jeff Gaulin's Job Board	www.jeffgaulin.com
Journalism Links	www.poynter.org/content/content_view.asp?id=896&sid=26
Masthead	www.masthead.ca
MediaBistro	www.mediabistro.com
University of Nevada: Survey of Freelance Journalists Income (US, 2005)	www.asja.org/pubtips/050324a.php

Writer's tool kit

Fire & Knowledge: A Guide to Writing Well By Joshua Sowin
www.fireandknowledge.org/archives/2007/01/08/a-guide-to-writing-well/

Poynter.org: Fifty Writing Tools: Quick List
www.poynter.org/column.asp?id=78&aid=103943

What Not to Miss When Negotiating Your Book Publishing Contract
by Lloyd J. Jassin
www.copylaw.com/new_articles/final.three.html

Novel Products in Aisle Nine by James Robinson
<http://books.guardian.co.uk/news/articles/0,,1307741,00.html>

How a Publisher's Sales Force Can Make or Break Your Book by Deanne Carlyle
<http://deannacarlyle.com/articles/power.html>

Publicize Your Book!
www.publicizeyourbook.com/links.htm

Finally, please see @anndouglas' various writing-related lists on Twitter for many other book, journalism, and writing-related resources.

REFLECTIONS FROM OTHER WRITERS ON THE WRITING LIFE

Compiled by @anndouglas

Everything I write, I write many drafts of. Even a Salon piece probably takes five drafts to make it sound natural. Then people say, "Oh, you write just like you talk." But it took me five drafts to get it to sound that way.

- Anne Lamott, Powells.com Interviews
(www.powells.com/authors/lamott.html)

Summer Sisters was as painful an experience as I've ever had writing. It went through 20 drafts--literally--and there were times over that three year period when I thought about burning it. I'm very glad (now) that I stayed with it.

- Judy Blume, Author Chat, New York Public Library
(www.liveworld.com/transcripts/NYPL/11-19-2002.1-3.html)

Before I begin each new book I keep a notebook. I write down everything that comes to mind during that period before I actually begin. It might take months or weeks. That notebook is my security blanket so that I never have to face a blank screen (or blank page).

- Judy Blume, Author Chat, New York Public Library
(www.liveworld.com/transcripts/NYPL/11-19-2002.1-3.html)

Ease yourself in. You could say, there is no halfway point between being stuck and writing, but I will tell you what I consider to be mine. I jot down words. Phrases sometimes, but sometimes, just single words. I don't make outlines, and I don't draw up elaborate plans. I scatter a lot of loose words around myself. They may be actual, concrete elements I mean to incorporate in my story. But they may be nothing more than phrases that evoke a time and place, or a voice and tone. If nothing else, what these phrases and words do for me is to keep me from feeling that I have absolutely nothing to go on here. I may not have any actual sentences yet, but I have all these pieces of sentences, at least.

- Joyce Maynard (www.joycemaynard.com/columns-articles/for-writers-making-writing.shtml)

There are three reasons for becoming a writer: the first is that you need the money; the second that you have something to say that you think the world should know; the third is that you can't think what to do with the long winter evenings.

- Quentin Crisp (<http://en.thinkexist.com/quotations/writing/>)

For me, the first draft of something is really hard to do. It's usually no good anyway, and overly long. What I tend to do is write really fast so as to prevent remorse for having written badly. At least it didn't take a long time, I say to myself.

- Tracy Kidder (www.writermag.com/wrt/default.aspx?c=a&id=1473)

The great advantage of being a writer is that you can spy on people. You're there, listening to every word, but part of you is observing. Everything is useful to a writer, you see -- every scrap, even the longest and most boring of luncheon parties.

- Graham Greene (http://thinkexist.com/quotes/graham_green/)

Writing is a form of therapy; sometimes I wonder how all those, who do not write, compose, or paint can manage to escape the madness, the melancholia, the panic fear, which is inherent in a human condition.

- Graham Greene (http://thinkexist.com/quotes/graham_green/)

I am coming to suspect that the internet will be to my generation of journalists, and to any younger ones, what alcohol was to our predecessors': a destroyer first of thought and then of productivity, destructive both of the capacity to reflect, and to react, blurring everything into a haze of talk and endlessly repeated variations on the same experience.

- Andrew Brown (www.guardian.co.uk/print/0,,329525728-111449,00.html)

Writing isn't about the destination -- writing is the journey that transforms the soul and gives meaning to all else.

- Sue Grafton (www.poynter.org/dg.lts/id.10466/content.content_view.htm)