



Literary Querying:

Three Saturdays March 23rd, April 6th & 13th, 2024 (note skipped week) 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Lifelong Learning — LLWRC 844

Class Goal

• This is a "hands-on" instructional workshop detailing the realities and forms of modern literary querying. Students should come away with an understanding of the methods and tools needed to send creative work to agents and editors for publishing consideration.

Week One Goals

- The Class
- Introductions
- Goals
- The War
 - Killer Manuscript
- Sharp Points
 - Log line
 - Meet Comp
 - Tag Line
 - Blurb
- Synopsis



I'll be talking at you a lot today.

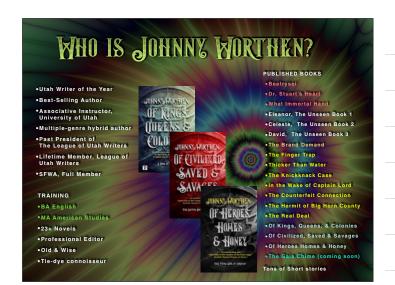
- Sorry



Class Structure

- Workshop Homework Together
- Lecture
- Break
- Homework assignment





"Who goes there?"



- Introductions
 - Name
 - Experience
 - Project

Motivation

- Why are you doing this?
- Why do you write?
- Why do you want to SHARE your writing?
- Who is your audience?



Goals

- · What is success?
 - Published?
 - Traditional?
 - Big Five vs. Small Press?
 - Self-Pub/Indie?
 - Hybrid?

Money?

"A goal without a plan is just a wish."

• Fame?

• Validation?

Career Planning

-Antoine de Saint-Exupry

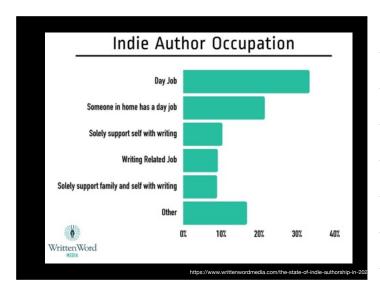
My Experience

- This Class: What I'd wished I'd known.
- I'm twelve years into my ten year plan to be an overnight success.
- Every authors has a different journey
- Attitude and endurance
 - 5 queries per week
 - Agents/Publishers/Awards
 - Find success where I can
- Placed everything myself (so far)
- I've had 2 agents; currently don't have one



Realities

- A career in art is... tough.
- The odds are against you.
 - "Writing can feel more like a skill-based lottery"
 - And even then, it's not a meritocracy
 - Cultural shifts, political whims, chasing consumers
- If you can be something other than a writer... do that



Publishing's Changing Landscape If his never been easier to be published, it has never been harder to be read. Candle makers in the Age of the LED Competition for money and attention. Gatekeepers Shifting Paradigm eBooks, audiobooks, and technology, Kindle, POD, streaming The end of brick and mortar? Self Publishing Noise and still there are Gatekeepers. Declining literacy

Traditional Gatekeepers

- Big agents receive 1,000's of queries per WEEK!
 - Have maybe 40 clients, 20 active (rest in residuals)
- The best way to get a publishing contract is to:
 - Be born the only child of a Big 5 Editor
 - Bring your own audience
 - Keep trying



Five Four

Big Five

- New York:
 - Hachette Livre
 - Penguin/Random House
 - Harper Collins (NewsCorp)
 - Simon & Schuster (CBS)
- Germany
 - MacMillan (Holtzbrinck Publishing Group)
- Amazon (everywhere!)



Li hachette

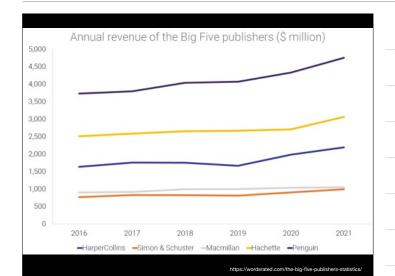
macmillan

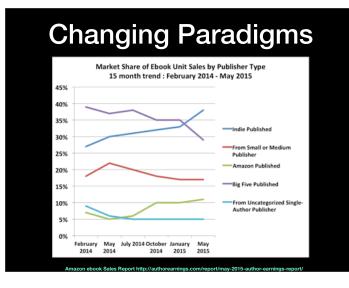
An overview of book sales revenue for the Big Five publishing houses is presented in the table below (revenue figures are expressed in \$ million):

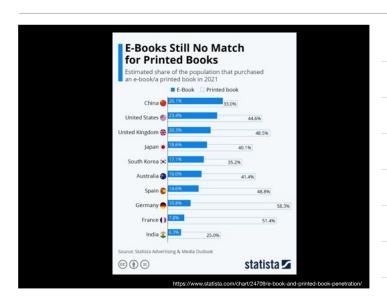
Year	HarperCollins	Simon & Schuster	Macmillan	Hachette	Penguin	Big Five total revenue	Change
2021	2,191	993	1,051	3,066	4,755	12,056	9.92%
2020	1,985	903	1,039	2,708	4,334	10,969	7.29%
2019	1,666	814	1,001	2,670	4,072	10,223	-0.46%
2018	1,754	825	994	2,657	4,040	10,271	3.88%
2017	1,758	830	917	2,587	3,796	9,887	3.54%
2016	1,636	767	902	2,513	3,731	9,549	

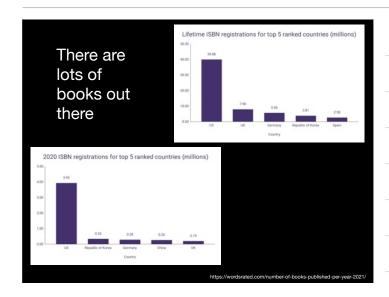
Big Five Pie 2021: \$12,056,000,000

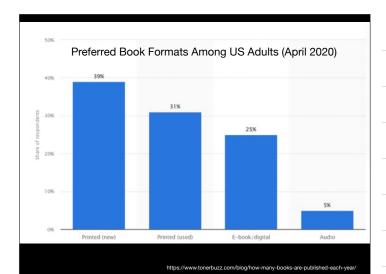
https://wordsrated.com/the-big-five-publishers-statistic











Books Printed

- 826 million physical books were sold in 2021 the US, a growth of 8.9% over the prior year. Trade paperbacks sold 450,000 print units.
- In 2022, revenue for book sales in the United States generated \$9.1 billion, compared to \$8.6 billion in 2020. Hardcover books accounted for nearly \$3.2 billion of those sales.
- Self Published Piece
 - In the US, there were around 2.3 million NEW self-published books in 2021, a decrease from two previous years (over 1.6 million in 2018).
 - But, as stated above, not all self-published authors use trackable ISBNs so that number may be higher.
 - Also Print on Demand

https://www.tonerbuzz.com/blog/how-many-books-are-published-each-year/

Audiobooks are on the rise Number of audiobooks published by year Audiobook sales revenue by year (\$ billion) Audiobook sales revenue by year (\$ billion) Audiobook sales revenue by year (\$ billion) Audiobook sales revenue by year (\$ billion)

Self Publishing?

PROS

- Complete Control
 - Editing
 - Cover
 - Content
 - Marketing
- No Gatekeepers
- · Keep all the profit
- Avoid rejection

CONS

- Complete Responsibility
 - Editing
- Cover
- Content
- Marketing
- No Gatekeepers
- Do all the work
- Considered inferior

The Traditional Route

- · Write a Great Book
- Query an Agent
- Get a big advance
- Go on Oprah
- Sell Books
- Be rich and famous
- · Live happily ever after



Gatekeepers

- Editors choose what to print
 - Staff / Interns (young and poorly paid)
- Big Publishers Won't Touch* an Un-agented Author
 - Filter the dregs
 - · Personal relationship
 - Who you know...
- Remember Agents get 1,000's of queries per week but...
 - Usually keep a handful of active clients



Funnel Into Limited Space

- Agents
- Thousands of offers from Writers each week
 - Editors
 - Hundreds of Offers from Agents each week



- · Scores of Offers from Editors each month
 - Printed
 - Maybe a couple dozen books/year (mostly by established authors)
 - Stores
 - Limited Space (quick turnaround or gone)

The Slush Pile

- Huge Volume
 - Staff / Interns
 - (young and poorly paid)
- Looking for a Reason To Say "No"
 - Don't make it easy for them

Other Routes to Publishing

- Writing Programs
- Network/Geography
- Small Press
- Self Publishing
- Fame
- Traditional System
- Luck





Rejection

- We bleed on paper and then try to sell the bandages.
- The soul-crushing reality of the life of an artist
- Rejection, self-doubt, depression
- Exposure and criticism
 - It never stops
 - Really... it's constant and crushing





Subjective!

- "You have no business being a writer and should give up." To Zane Grey
- "Too different from other juveniles on the market to warrant its selling." To Dr Seuss
- "It is so badly written." The Da Vinci Code
- "Nobody will want to read a book about a seagull." Richard Bach's Jonathan Livingston Seagull
- "An absurd and uninteresting fantasy which was rubbish and dull." To William Golding, <u>The Lord Of The Flies</u>
- "An absurd story as romance, melodrama or record of New York high life." F.Scott Fitzgerald for The Great Gatsby.
- "Stick to teaching." Louisa May Alcott, Little Women
- "We suggest you get rid of all that Indian stuff." Publisher to Tony Hillerman
- "He hasn't got any future." John le Carré The Spy Who Came in From the Cold
- "Hopelessly bogged down and unreadable." To Ursula K. Le Guin

Good Company

- J.K. Rowling, <u>Harry Potter</u> 12 publisher rejections
 - Connects with daughter of publisher
- Frank Herbert, <u>Dune</u> 23 rejections
 - Prints with Chilton known for car repair manuals
- Stephen King, Carrie 30 rejections
 - Established short story author
- Louis L'Amour, 300+
- Alex Haley, Roots, 200+
- Agatha Christie, 5 Years trying
- Jack London, 600+ before first story

A PROFESSIONAL
WRITER IS AN
AMATEUR WHO DIDN'T
QUIT.

Richard Bach







Tools for Querying

- Agents
- Editors
- Publishers
- Sellers
- Readers



You'll need and use these tools even if you self-publish.

What is Querying?

- "Querying" novels and books
 - Asking to send more for consideration
- "Submitting" short stories, articles etc.
 - Entire work submitted
- "Entering" contests



Basic Tools

- Computer
 - Programs and backups (always)
 - · Internet for contact
 - Scrivener* (it's a binder)
 - Spreadsheet for tracking
- Printer, paper, envelopes and boxes
- Good Attitude
 - Thick Skin for survival
 - Patience for success
 - * Get 20% off Scrivener with my coupon code





Six Weapons To Assault the Gates

- Killer Manuscript
- Sharp Lines
- Excellent Synopses
- Superb Query Letter
- Flawless First Pages
- Undeniable Presence



ROBERT A. HEINLEIN'S RIVE RULES OF WRITING

- 1. You must write.
- 2. You must finish what you start.
- You must refrain from rewriting (except to editorial demand).
- 4. You must put it on the market.
- 5. You must keep it on the market until sold.

Killer Manuscript

- Beyond the scope of this class
- Do the best you can
 - Be happy with it
- Feedback
 - Readers and Editors
- Remember:
 - Even if perfect and great, there's no guarantee
 - Right place, right time, right thing, right demographics, right sunspots...

Sharp Lines

- Short Versions to Pitch
 - Log Line
 - Tag Line
 - Comarables
 - Blurb
 - Elevator Pitch*



SAVE THE CAT!

Log Line

- "What is it?"
 - "High Concept"
 - A striking and easily communicable idea.
 - ullet Summed Up A brief statement/explanation.
- Save The Cat!
 - Extensive discussion on this subject (limited use to writers)
- A group of people hide from bloodthirsty zombies in a farmhouse. Night of the Living Dead
- A listless and alienated teenager decides to help his new friend win the class presidency in their small western high school, while he must deal with his bizarre family life back home. – Napoleon Dynamite
- A couple of high school grads spend one final night cruising the strip with their buddies before they go off to college. – American Graffiti

Log Line

- "High Concept"
- Bare Bones
- Marketing Description
- A good concept sells better than anything else
- A test before writing

Protagonist + Struggle with Antagonist + Death Stakes

Example Log Lines:

- In 1936, archaeologist and adventurer Indiana Jones
 [protagonist] is hired by the US government to locate the ancient
 Ark of the Covenant before the Nazis [struggle with antagonist]
 and stop them from becoming the most powerful army the world
 has ever known. [death stakes] (Raiders of the Lost Ark.)
- Two detectives—a rookie and a veteran [protagonists]—attempt
 to catch a serial killer who uses the seven deadly sins as his
 modus operandi [struggle with antagonist] before he kills again.
 [death stakes] (Se7en.)
- A young couple [protagonists] becomes increasingly disturbed by a seemingly demonic presence in their new suburban home [struggle with antagonist] and must figure out how to stop it before it's too late. [death stakes] (Paranormal Activity.)

This ain't a movie (yet)

- Short Attention Span Culture
- Log Lines can be super useful or totally useless
 - Log Line will never contain your work (unless your work is shallow and easily digestible in soundbites)
 - Could contain enough to start— a door, give a very brief roadmap
 of where it goes while suggesting possibilities, twists and conflicts.
- Gives another angle for you (and others) to grasp your book
- Condensed Blurb / Seed of the Pitch
- Start with it / Figure it out after

HIGH CONCEPT

A man goes on a mission to save the environment from evildoers. He must complete multiple missions and defeat multiple bosses.

Tag Line

- A catch phrase or slogan
- Marketing tool
 - 🖓 In space, no one can hear you scream Alien
- * The mission is a man Saving Private Ryan
- * There can be only one Highlander
- Bring him home The Martian
- Michael was chosen of God. Just not that God.—What Immortal Hand
- Again borrowing from Film
 - Limited use but a good exercise and specialized tool

Comparables

- Book Comparables (useful):
 - What book is yours like?
 - Setting, Plot, Character, etc.
 - Shows you know the genre
 - Readers of A Fault in Our Stars will find much to like in my book
 - Find some! (Recent is better than older, nothing too grandiose)

Meet Comp

- Meet Comp
- A specific mash up of comparable titles
- *Breaking Bad meets My Little Pony"
- "Where the Red Fern Grows meets Game of Thrones"
- "Jackie Brown with a touch of Romancing the Stone"
- "High Concept®"

The Blurb*

- A SALES PITCH
 - Think back of the book
 - Not a synopsis
- A TEASER paragraph (or a couple)
 - 100-200 words
- Used in selling to **everyone**
- Partner (part of the query, demonstration)
- Reader (hook on the back of the book)
- The second thing after the cover a reader looks at

*not to be confused with an "review/author blurb"

Blurb Should Indicate

- Genre of book
- Targeted age group
- Main plot (see synopsis)
 - Conflict
 - Stakes
- Main characters (name them)
- Setting

Blurb Considerations

- Shorter is better than longer
 - Less is more tease (effectively)
- Include Keywords (triggers) +/-
- Genre specific
- SEO consideration
- Be honest (making promises)
- Will probably have to include SOME spoilers
 - Give enough to entice, but not to destroy
 - Push the limit
 - Like "Firsts" make them want to read more



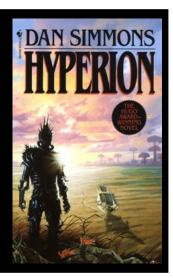
Study Examples



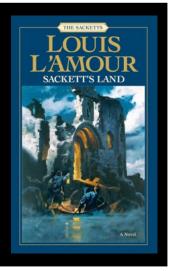
- Visit any bookstore including Amazon
- Find similar (successful) titles and see how they wrote their blurb
 - Great writers don't borrow, they steal and conceal their sources
- Sense the rhythms and forms, keywords and constructions.
- >> Those that forefront a famous author are not necessary the best to emulate

On the world called Hyperion, beyond the reach of galactic law, waits a creature called the Shrike. There are those who worship it. There are those who fear it. And there are those who have vowed to destroy it. In the Valley of the Time Tombs, where huge, brooding structures move backward through time, the Shrike waits for them all.

On the eve of Armageddon, with the entire galaxy at war, seven pilgrims set forth on a final voyage to Hyperion seeking the answers to the unsolved riddles of their lives. Each carries a desperate hope—and a terrible secret. And one may hold the fate of humanity in his hands.



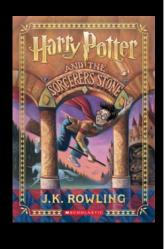
After discovering six gold Roman coins buried in the mud of the Devil's Dyke, Barnabas Sackett enthusiastically invests in goods that he will offer for trade in America. But Sackett has a powerful enemy: Rupert Genester, nephew of an earl, wants him dead. A battlefield promise made to Sackett's father threatens Genester's inheritance. So on the eve of his departure for America, Sackett is attacked and thrown into the hold of a pirate ship. Genester's orders are for him to disappear into the waters of the Atlantic. But after managing to escape, Sackett makes his way to the Carolina coast. He sees in the raw, abundant land the promise of a bright future. But before that dream can be realized, he must first return to England and discover the secret of his father's legacy.



Harry Potter has never been the star of a Quidditch team, scoring points while riding a broom far above the ground. He knows no spells, has never helped to hatch a dragon, and has never worn a cloak of invisibility.

All he knows is a miserable life with the Dursleys, his horrible aunt and uncle, and their abominable son, Dudley - a great big swollen spoiled bully. Harry's room is a tiny closet at the foot of the stairs, and he hasn't had a birthday party in eleven years.

But all that is about to change when a mysterious letter arrives by owl messenger: a letter with an invitation to an incredible place that Harry - and anyone who reads about him - will find unforgettable.



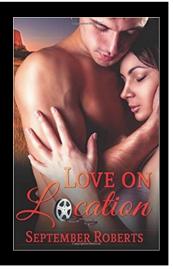
Turning the envelope over, his hand trembling, Harry saw a purple wax seal bearing a coat of arms; a lion, an eagle, a badger and a snake surrounding a large letter 'H'.

Harry Potter has never even heard of Hogwarts when the letters start dropping on the doormat at number four, Privet Drive. Addressed in green ink on yellowish parchment with a purple seal, they are swiftly confiscated by his grisly aunt and uncle. Then, on Harry's eleventh birthday, a great beetle-eyed giant of a man called Rubeus Hagrid bursts in with some astonishing news: Harry Potter is a wizard, and he has a place at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. An incredible adventure is about to begin!



Romance is always hot in the desert. Park ranger Alex Mitchell finds that out first hand when she meets a gorgeous movie star filming his latest blockbuster in her park. Instead of managing Twisted Juniper State Park, all she can think about is the Hollywood womanizer with a sordid past. She doesn't want to be another notch in his belt, but she definitely wants that belt on her bedroom floor. He'll be gone in a couple of weeks. What's the harm?

Blaze Johnson is used to getting what he wants, and he has his sights set on Alex. But the feisty ranger is different. She isn't falling for his sweet-talk or swagger, which means he has to work overtime to charm her. In an unguarded moment, he finally wins her over but ends up getting more than he bargained for

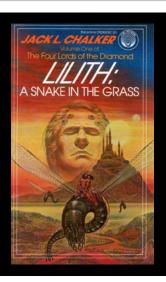


Four worlds that cannot be visited. Four worlds that must be visited.

Aliens are spying on Earth from one of the four worlds that make up the Warden Diamond. But it is impossible to send agents to any of the four worlds because of unique microscopic symbionts that make it impossible for visitors to leave the Diamond.

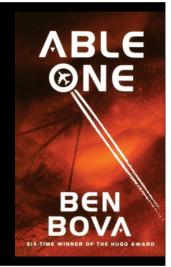
Seeking a unique solution, each of the four worlds making up the Diamond is sent a person whose mind has been stripped of everything and who is now controlled by an agent of the Confederacy

Lilith is the first planet to be visited. Here, Cal Tremon, stripped of his own personality, must overcome incredible odds and survive not only the incredible perils of the foreign planet but his own controllers as well.



When a nuclear missile launched by a rogue North Korean faction explodes in space the resulting shockwave destroys the world's satellites, throwing global communication into chaos. The United States military satellites, designed to withstand such an assault, show that two more missiles are sitting on the launch pad in North Korea, ready to be deployed. Faced with the threat of a thermonuclear attack, the United States has only one possible defense: Able One.

ABL-I, or Able One, is a modified 747 fitted with a high-powered laser able to knock out missiles in flight. But both the laser's technology and the jet's crew are untested. What was originally to be a training flight with a skeleton crew turns into a desperate race to destroy the two remaining nukes. Will Able One's experimental technology be enough to prevent World War III-especially when it becomes clear that a saboteur is onboard?



Ordinary Elementary is anything but ordinary. Below the classrooms are winding, abandoned, underground passages filled with lost treasures. Fifth-grader Graysen Foxx., aka The Gray Fox—finder of secrets, solver of mysteries, and explorer of the unknown—is hot on the trail of the legendary treasure of Principal Redbeard, which includes decades of confiscated gadgets, rare comic books, firstedition Pokemon trading cards, an original Rubik's Cube, and a retro handheld video game.

Graysen is determined to find the treasure and share it with his fellow students. His nemesis, Raven Ransom—nicknamed "Red Raven"—plans to stop him and claim the prizes for herself, just like she did with the game-winning home run kickball everyone thought was lost on the roof of the

Wearing his adventurer-iconic fedora, journaling in his field notebook, and wielding his elastic stretchy hand, Graysen is ready for action. But can he avoid the second-grade spy network working for Raven? Could the third-grade twins, Maya and Jack, give him an advantage? Can he avoid the ruthless sixth graders while trying to protect the innocent first graders? And who is the mysterious Midnight Moth who is leaving cryptic notes and riddles?

It's a battle between courage and cunning, smarts and shrewdness, charity and cheating. With the treasure on the line, can Graysen trust his rival—or is it just another one of her traps! May the best treasure hunter win!



It was a gamble for Eleanor to rejoin humanity, but she was driven to it. She'd been too successful forgetting. The last vestiges of her family hung by a thread in her transformed brain and drove her to be reckless.

Ten years later, Eleanor hides in plain sight. She is an average girl getting average grades in a small Wyoming town: poor but happy, lonely but loved. Her mother, Tabitha, is there for her and that's all she's ever needed. But now her mother is sick and David has returned. The only friend she'd ever had, the only other person who knows her secret, is back. And Eleanor again becomes reckless.

Eleanor is a modest girl, unremarkable but extraordinary, young but old, malleable but fixed. She is scared and confused. She is a liar and a thief. Eleanor is not what she appears to be.

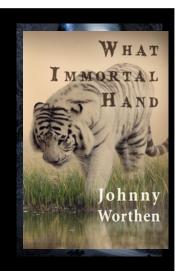


Michael is called of God; just not that God.

What begins as a routine investigation of a hijacked truck turns into a desperate and personal quest for memories, faith, and meaning. The answers to these, for Michael Oswald, like the strangled cries of a thousand murdered travelers, is found in the dark heart of an ancient cult of killers.

Literary and dark, What Immortal Hand is a road trip across American wastelands and into the depths of spiritual darkness, where the Dark Mother, Kali, has set up house in the New World, and her children, the Thuggee cult of ancient India, are alive and thriving.

Well researched and imagined, in the tradition of Dan Simmons' Song of Kali, throbbing with symbolism and epic undertones, What Immortal Hand answer's William's Blake famous question from The Tyger: "What immortal hand or eye, Could frame thy fearful symmetry?" It is the Goddess Kali, consort of Shiva, Lord of Destruction. Through her worshipers, the Faithful Tigers—The Thugs of old, she culls the roads of travelers and prepares the fires of renewal.



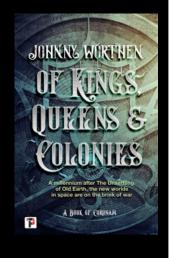
One crime leads to another; one time to a time before. Michael Oswald pulls it all apart as though tugging a thread on an old sweater. A theft to a murder to crimes beyond imagining, Michael Oswald doesn't understand what he's investigating. But he'll remember. The tale begins unraveling when Michael embarks on a search for a missing truck.



Nearly a millennium after The Unsettling of old Earth, the new civilized worlds are on the brink of war. The planet Enskari, as an affront to tradition and the Prophet on Temple, has placed Zabel, a woman upon its throne. With the backing of the church, Brandon of Hyrax readies an armada to subdue Enskari and unite the system under a single rule—his own.

Meanwhile an Enskaran group of separatists depart for the last unclaimed world of the system, Tirgwenin. There they will find something strange. Something low and connective, subtle and spreading. Something alien.

Something truly threatening.



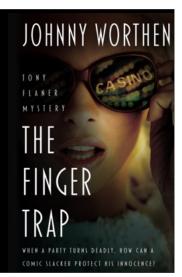
When half measures don't get you the whole truth...

Tony Flaner is a part-time comedian and full-time commitment-phobe who has never been able to stick with anything in his life. After his fourteen-year marriage ends in divorce, Tony's life takes a dramatic turn when a drunken party ends in murder.

With his life on the line, he must uncover the identity of the mysterious girl who was murdered and how they ended up together in the first place. This undertaking is not just about clearing his name—Tony needs to prove to himself and everyone else that he can finish something for once in his life.

But when Tony discovers that his fate is intertwined with that of the mysterious girl he hardly knew—and that their lives are connected like a Chinese finger trap—he unknowingly embarks on a journey full of twists and turns around every corner.

Can Tony Flaner finish this one task and clear his name before he gets sent to prison for a murder he didn't commit?



Important



- Blurb is probably the most important writing you'll do concerning your book.
- Possibly more important than the book itself.
- Write it with the book

Synopses

- What are they?
- Who they're for?
- Why we need them?



Definition

- **Synopsis**: a brief summary or general survey of something.
- It is a <u>technical</u> document
- It is **NOT** a blurb
- Think "Cliff Notes"
 - only shorter



Internal Document

- Is **NOT** intended for **readers** (consumers) of the book.
- It is Intended for **partners** who need quick access to the book's broad strokes to sell it.
 - Non-fiction can use bullet points.
- Still a sales tool so do it well.

Concentrate!

- First step in concentrating your story for mass consumption and fast delivery.
- It will get harder, denser, more artful
- Often part of the documentation requested in the query (80%+)
 - At the get-go
 - At the Request For Manuscript



What you must do

- Reduce you 300 page story into
 - 4 pages
 - 3 pages
 - 2 pages
 - I page
 - I paragraph....
- 1-2 page synopsis is you goal



With any Luck...

 You'll come up with an excellent two page synopsis and run with that.



I would have written a shorter letter, but I did not have the time

-Blaise Pascal

Synopsis Considerations

- Limit the scope
 - Stick to main plot points and ideas
 - Limit characters
 - Who, what, where, and why

• INCLUDE SPOILERS & ENDING

• Dealing with a partner not a consumer

Synopses Format

- Standard Manuscript Formatting with a few differences
 - No cover page, basic info at beginning
 - Name, immediate contact information (phone, email)
 - Can play with spacing—WON'T BE EDITED,
 - Avoid single space, can get down to 1.25 spacing if necessary and .75 margins
 - Header all pages; Author, Title-synopsis and Page
 - Worthen / BRAND DEMAND-Synopsis / 1
 - OFTEN: ALL CAPS the first mention of a character who'll be referred to again in the synopsis. If referred to only once, don't name them—identify with function.
 - ex: HUNTER BLAKE, a drunk truck-driver, finds a bag of money.
 - ex: The school headmaster saves Harry.
 - Succinct and to the point
 - Include the ending.

SYNOPSIS

Worthen / THINGS BEOUEATHED synopsis / 1

THINGS BEQUEATHED - Synopsis

By Johnny Worthen
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Fourteen year-old, MIRANDA KENDRICK (ANDI) has a magickal creature she named DAMON. He's nine inches tall, bright red leathery skin, winged with a barbed tail. He looks like the devil and just appeared one night. He can disappear at will, blend into his surroundings like a chameleon, and share senses with Andi including his unearthly ones.

Andi is an orphan. Her mother MAYA was killed. She never knew her father. She is cared for by her grandparents but feels an underlying dislike from them that may explain why Maya never mentioned them and moved around constantly. From a drunk uncle, Andi learns that her father, COREY DOUGAL, supposedly killed her other uncle, ran away with Maya, and got her pregnant. The uncle's anger at Corey is bent to Andi in his drunkenness and he moves to strike her but is thwarted by Damon. The uncle doesn't see the monster and passes out leaving Andi upset at being compared to her disliked father.

Hints

- Pretend like you're writing to your mother.
 - "Hi Mom. Send money. I just wrote this great book. It's about...
- To shorten later drafts remove subplots and/or characters.
- Compound sentences are your friends.
- Though plot oriented, try to include in your synopses other aspects of your book that make it unique (setting, theme, arcs, emotions, etc.)
- Google examples of similar works to get ideas
- If you make chapter synopses as you write, you're far ahead

Synopses Examples

- Handouts:
 - Rowling, Harry Potter & The Sorcerer's Stone
 - Hemingway, The Sun Also Rises
 - Worthen, The Brand Demand
 - Worthen, The Gaia Chime

Homework

- For Critique
 - Log line
 - Tag Line
 - Comparable Titles
 - Meet Comp
 - Blurb
 - 1-2 Page Synopsis
- Send to me by Thursday April 4th (you actually have 2 weeks)
- We will **Workshop** these together

