

Dear [insert agent's first and last name],

Having heard that you're looking for exciting new Young Adult, I thought you might enjoy LIAISON—Young Adult light science fiction that will appeal to fans of ILLUMINAE by Amie Kaufman and Jay Kristoff, THE LUNAR CHRONICLES series by Marissa Meyers, and THESE BROKEN STARS by Amie Kaufman and Meagan Spooner.

Seventeen-year-old Ophelia "Phee" Dunn spends her days surviving the gritty streets of her fringe planet. It's a tough life, but it's better than the one she had when her dad was still alive—traveling around the galaxy selling illegal weapons to the worst kinds of criminals.

Then the Intergalactic Union shows up, and they want Phee to help them track down terrorists who plan to use a weapon Phee's father sold to them before he died.

Phee hates the government—but she could use the money.

She joins the secret task force and teams up with an arrogant—but, admittedly, hot—boy named Leev, and a ten-year-old prodigy named Samarra. But complications come in the form of mysterious shadow creatures called Wisps that follow their ship around the galaxy.

It soon becomes clear that the government lied to Phee about the true nature of the task force. And no one is who they say they are—not even her two teammates. Now Phee must race to find the weapon before either the government or the terrorists get their hands on it.

Complete at 86,000 words, LIAISON is a standalone novel with crossover and series potential that would also appeal to fans of Beth Revis, Melissa Landers, and Veronica Roth. This novel can be described as a teenage ROGUE ONE with a supernatural twist.

This book won First Place for "Best First Chapter in a YA Science Fiction" at the recent 2018 Storymakers Conference.

I live in Orem, UT, with my family, where I'm an active member of Utah's excellent writing community. I'm a 2016 Pitch Wars alum, as well as a selected participant in Pitch Madness 2017. I love Mexican food, London, Netflix on the treadmill, and reading and writing well past midnight. I don't love cheesecake, gardening, and sad endings (unless they make sense).

Thank you for your consideration!

Author's Name

[insert address]

[insert email]

[insert website and/or social media handles]

Dear Jordan Hamessley:

TALI DRINKWATER: AMERIXICANA (44,000 words) is a middle grade contemporary with humor and themes reminiscent of *One Day at a Time* and *American Born Chinese*.

Tali Drinkwater is too Mexican to be American and too American to be Mexican. Her first day of seventh grade crashes and burns after a sudden visit from Aunt Flo leaks through her new white pants onto the seat of Jeffery Palmer. His disgust goes beyond the incident to slurs targeting Tali's Mexican half. And although Tali speaks English, all people see is her brown skin. If she can land the lead role in the school musical, she can make them see her the way she wants.

But when Mom is put on bed rest and Dad is deployed, *Abuelita* swoops in and transforms Tali's home into a Mexican casita. Tali's attempts to teach her grandma English and the American way fail to leave an impression. Instead, Tali is forced to wear a Mexican dress to picture day, go to Mass on Sundays, and interpret for *Abuelita* at parent-teacher conference. Not even ketchup burritos and a ban on Spanish are enough to stop her influence.

When Tali's feud with Jeffery gets her suspended, she must dismantle her own prejudices in order to bring a unique flair to the school musical and cultivate love—not just tolerance—for her Mexican roots.

Like Tali, my mother is Mexican and my father is white American. *Amerixicana* is deeply rooted in my own journey to balance two cultures. The original manuscript earned a mentorship from Beth Turley during Author Mentor Match, round 4.

Thank you for your consideration.

Daphne Higbee
daphnehigbee.com

Dear Ms. Crockett,

On your MSWL, you mention that you're looking for accessible YA historical fiction, and I think you may be interested in my novel SECRETS & STEEL. Set in 1640s London, it is a 90,000-word YA historical that will appeal to readers of GRAVE MERCY and THE GENTLEMAN'S GUIDE TO VICE AND VIRTUE.

It was only a duel to the first blood, but something went terribly wrong.

Now a nobleman has been murdered and only seventeen-year-old Eleanor Bowyer knows her brother, Peter, isn't the killer. But the true murderer—whoever he is—is a step ahead of her. Revealing what she knows could land Eleanor on the gallows alongside Peter...or floating face down in the Thames.

Determined to clear Peter's name, Eleanor disguises herself as a man and ventures into London's dark underbelly—a world of dashing rogues and tavern brawls, where a skilled sword arm can mean the difference between life and death. However, she soon learns that Peter has been keeping secrets: he's a courier for a rebel spy ring. As the web grows denser, Eleanor finds herself entangled in the struggle between King and Parliament for control of England. No longer is this a matter of mere murder, but also of treason and the fate of a nation.

As a renaissance reenactor and instructor in historical rapier fencing, I have extensive first-hand experience with the swordsmanship and daily life of the seventeenth century. My short story, THE PATENT MAN, was published in the United Authors Association's 2016 anthology. I have also served as the treasurer of Utah Valley Writers and am a member of the Historical Novel Society.

Per your submission requirements, I have included the first ten pages below.

Thank you for your time,

Michelle Stoddard

>>>>THIS LETTER HAS NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL... YET<<<<

Dear _____,

I'm seeking representation for my 95,000 word gritty crime thriller, *A Blind Squirrel*. Based on _____, I think this could be a good fit for you and _____ agency.

Holland is a man on the run when he meets Christie, whose life has hit a wall. Her job's evaporating as the authorities close in on her boss, Nick, for his collapsing Ponzi scheme. Nick's only chance is to trade his millions in diamonds for cash. What better way to do that than through a gangland kingpin like Taka? Who better as go-between than a man on the run?

Getting anything out of the deal is a long shot for everyone involved, but even a blind squirrel finds a nut once in a while.

New crimes and old debts, love and honor entangle their lives as promises are tested in this gritty crime thriller homage to Elmore Leonard. It has a strong ensemble cast full of unforgettable adult characters who pull the reader into a classic story of twisting crime capers, big money, romance, drugs, and deceit. There's gunplay and sharp dialogue, fast-moving twists and surprises

A *BLIND SQUIRREL* is an adult crime novel with oodles of cool in the vein of the late great Elmore Leonard, Larry McMurtry, and James Ellroy. Think *Jackie Brown* with a dash *Romancing the Stone* set in the grift capital of the world, Salt Lake City, Utah.

A *BLIND SQUIRREL* is a standalone novel, but the main characters, Holland and Christie, are itching for a sequel.

My last agent was taken ill and we had to part ways. I'm currently orphaned.

I'm twelve years into my ten-year plan to be an overnight writing success. Sixteen of my novels across multiple genres have been traditionally published, as well as dozens of short stories. I have a growing platform and am well-known in the local writing community. I'm affiliated with many writers groups and am a past president of the League of Utah Writers. I teach creative writing at the University of Utah and regularly speak at writing conferences around the mountain West.

My scrapbook/CV can be viewed at:

https://johnnyworthen.com/JWPublicity/JohnnyWorthen_Short_Literary_CV.pdf

I've attached exactly what your website said to request.

Thank you for your consideration,

Johnny Worthen

Johnny@johnnyworthen.com