

WAG Digest

Volume 13—Issue 5

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Character Building: Outside the Box – by
Kathy Dobronyi

Sunday, Oct. 8, 2023 2:30 pm

Millhopper Library, 3145 NW 43rd Street,
Gainesville Fl

Kathy Dobronyi, a passionate storyteller and writer, will speak at the Writers Alliance of Gainesville meeting on October 8, 2023, at 2:30 p.m. at the Millhopper branch of the Alachua County Library. Come join us! The program is free and open to the public.

Every writer has strengths and weaknesses in different areas. One writer can think up exciting plot twists for every scene but struggles with bringing characters to the page. Another writer presents sharp dialogue but isn't so great at creating settings. Dobronyi says she is guilty of being that sort of writer.

"In my last life," she says, "I was a high school drama coach who taught the development of morgue books to help create characters and scenes. With portfolios of pictures saved in folders, envelopes, or three-ring binders, morgue books help to bring abstract individuals and scenes to life." She also taught high school special education programs, introducing students to hands-on projects for language arts, history, communication, and drama.

Dobronyi was born at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, and baptized three years later at Fort Meade in Maryland. She was in Hawaii when it became our fiftieth state and in Vietnam when it became the American War Zone.

Her narrative memoir, *Under the Wings of a Good Luck Phoenix* shares her story of being one of 4,000 American civilians living in Saigon in 1963 when she was twelve.

She is now working on her first historical novel, *Echoes of War*, the story of Amos Hillyard, a seventeen-year-old boy, who was captured with thirteen other Quakers by the Virginia Militia in Winchester, Virginia, on September 23, 1777, on the eve of the Battle of Germantown.

**Under the
Wings of a
Good Luck
Phoenix**



Kathy Connor Dobronyi

Readings from WAG's Bacopa Literary Review

**Sunday, November 12, 2023
from 2:30 p to 4 pm.**

Millhopper Branch, Alachua County Libraries
3145 NW 43rd St. Gainesville, FL 32606

Join us for readings from the winners and published authors whose work was chosen for this year's Bacopa Literary Review. The winners of the contest were from all over the world, and obviously, they all can't be here. But our local editors will introduce you to their work and give you information about why they chose the works that they did. Every year, this event has become an unforgettable moment in WAG's literary history. Come on out and see what grabbed the attention of our editors.

Editorial Board

Editor-in-Chief: J.N. Fishhawk

Managing Editor: Tessa Walters

Fiction Editor: Alec Kissoondyal

Creative Nonfiction / Humor Editor: Stephanie Seguin

Poetry Co-Editor: Oliver Keyhani

Poetry Co-Editor: Reinfred Addo

Social Media Manager: Mary Ansell

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Fiction

Nancy Cook
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Emilee Prado

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Kathryn Ganfield
Kara Goughnour
Laurie Griffith
Sue Hann
Béalleka Makau
Donna Faulkner née Miller
Hailee Nielsen
Nina Prouty

Humor

Roberta J. Anthes
Norma Gardner
Mary Liza Hartong
Ellis Jamieson
Greg Landgraf

Visual Poetry

Sara Adams
Asma Al-Masyabi
Willy Conley
Michael Ensminger
Daniel Kent Foley
Scott Hamilton
Chaylee McCleese
Jennifer McGowan
Blake Sandberg

Chingshun J. Sheu
Karla Van Vliet
Gray Williams

Free Verse Poetry

Cavar
Pacella Chukwuma-Eke
Martins Deep
Barbara Westwood Diehl
Hollis Toussaint Druhet
Mackenzie Entead
Benedict Hangiriza
Catherine Harnett
Michael Milburn
August Reynolds
Michael Robillard
Steven Ray Smith
Anthony Watkins
Elijah Woodruff
Ali Znaidi

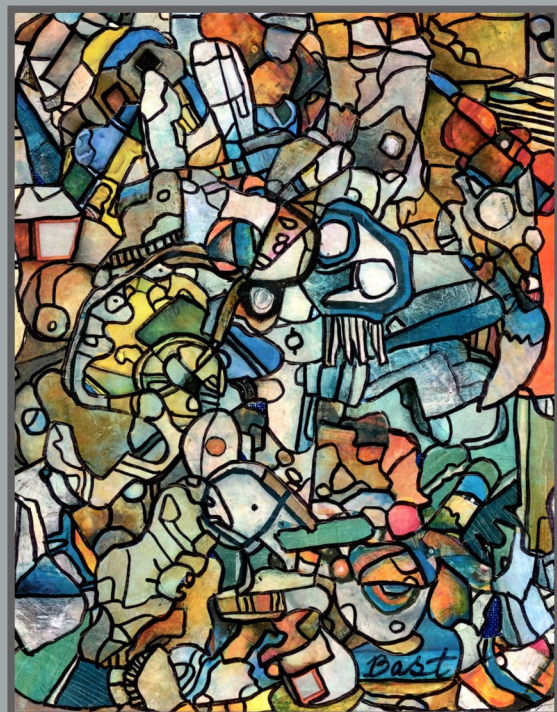
Formal Poetry

Tracy Davidson
Lynn Gilbert
Bénédicte Kusendila
LindaAnn LoSchiavo
Barbara A. Meier
Cassady O'Reilly-Hahn Drew
Pisarra
David Radavich
Joe Redd
Matthew J. Spireng
Angelica Whitehorne
Liam Wholihan

2023

BACOPA LITERARY REVIEW

WAG



BACOPA

LITERARY REVIEW 2023

 **Writers
Alliance**
OF GAINESVILLE

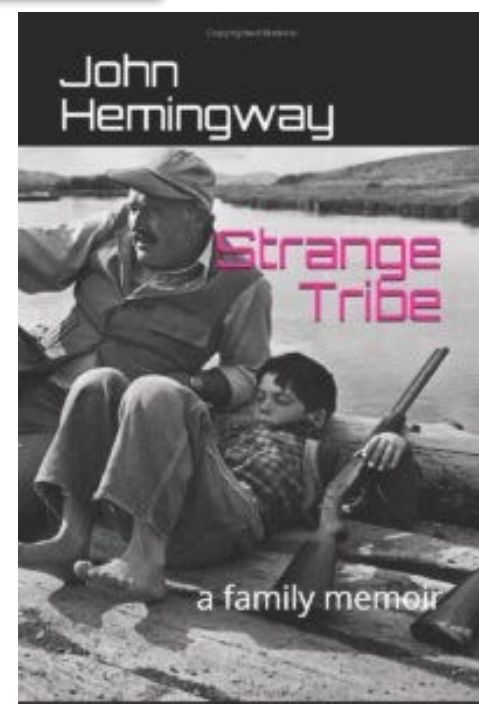
John Hemingway to Speak at Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings State Park.

November 4, 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm



On Saturday, November 4th, the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings State Park will host a Writer's Talk with John Hemingway, author of ***A Strange Tribe: A Family Memoir***. The book is an intimate chronicle of the tumultuous relationship between his father, Gregory Hemingway, and his grandfather, Ernest.

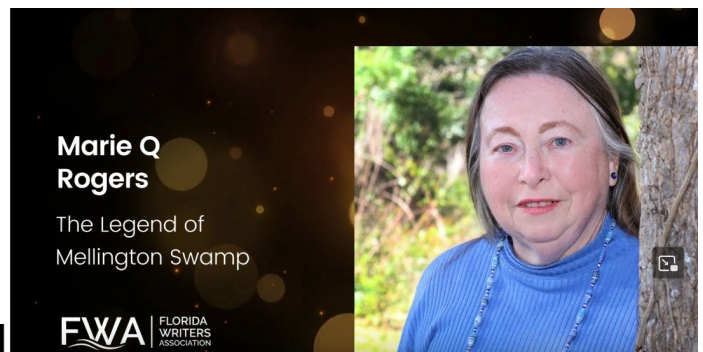
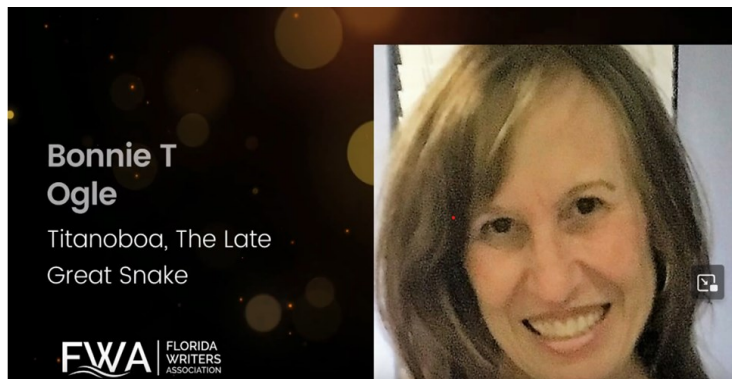
There will be a book signing at 1:30 p.m. followed by a presentation with questions and answers at 2:00 p.m.



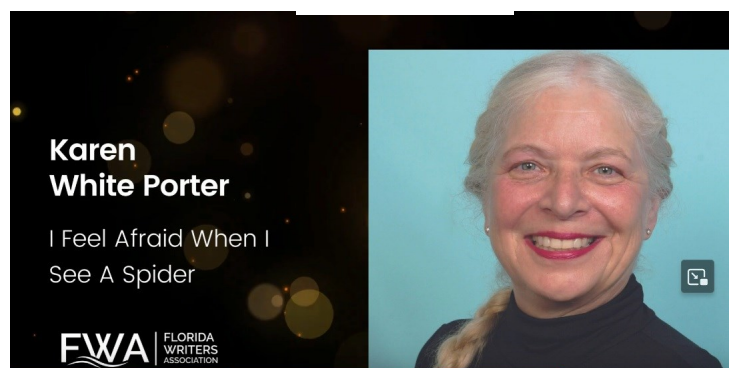
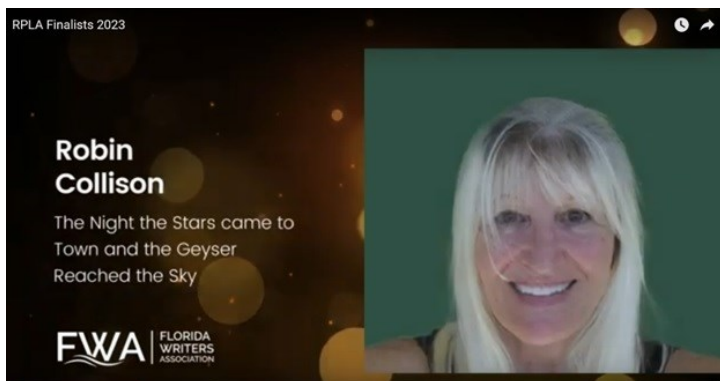
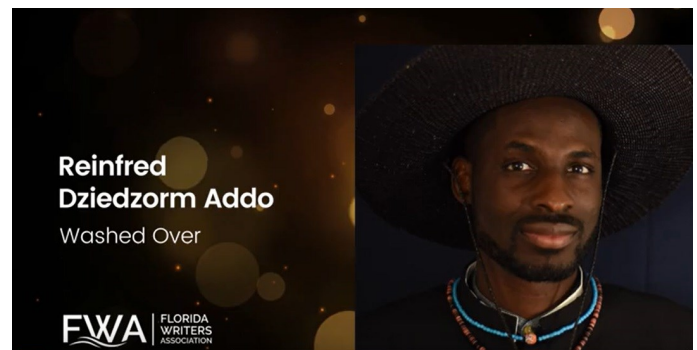
WAG BRAGS

From the Florida Writers Association:

Congratulations to our Royal Palm Literary Awards Finalists! We're honored and proud to support young writers through the Florida Writers Association program. At the annual Florida Writers Con 2023 event, we'll celebrate RPLA finalists at a special luncheon. Want to learn more about the Florida Writers Association program and how we support writers? Check out our website: www.floridawriters.org/



WAG congratulates all our local writers who are NextGen Finalists—onward!



**FLORIDA
WRITERS
ASSOCIATION**

WAG BRAGS

Congratulations to former WAG President Kimberley Mullens for having her play, "Single Black Female in the Navy," selected to be performed for the Tampa Bay Theatre Festival. She had a Sneak Peak at the Acrosstown Repertory Theater, and then her play was performed in Tampa Bay in Sept.

Great work,
Kimberley!

Meet the Cast



K. E. Mullins
Playwright/Asst. Director



Natalia Pegg
Director



**SNEAK
PEEK**

AUGUST 19, 2023 3PM



3501 SW 2nd Ave. Ste. O
Gainesville, FL 32607



Eboni Graham



Jacoby Robinson



Marlesia Barthelemy



Pang Thao



Nicole Sheray



Julio Larrieux



BilanWalker



Ke'schon Ross

Date: Saturday, September 2, 2023

Time: 6pm

Location: HCC Studio Theatre



Eventbrite



WAG BRAGS



Congratulations to Angela V. Woodhull on publication of her new book, *It's Raining Lawsuits in My Life and I Just Wanna Be... Angelina, the Polka Queen*.

As described on Amazon, "Get ready for a wild ride with "ANGELINA, THE POLKA QUEEN!" In this hilarious and action-packed quirky memoir, Angelina, a licensed private investigator and polka musician, finds herself embroiled in five bizarre lawsuits all at once."

Sounds like a fascinating book! (Available here: <https://www.amazon.com/Raining-Lawsuits-Wanna-Angelina-Polka-ebook/dp/B0CFDL5GFC/>)

W*R*I*T*E

tatata.store

NO MORE BOOKS!
NO, MORE BOOKS.



COMMAS MATTER!

WAG BRAGS

A great opportunity—get published on the WAG Blog:

Hoggetown Quill

Call for Submissions on Our New and Expanded Blog Topics

by Tamm Walters |

WAG wants to entice you—yes, YOU—to throw off your beach towel and wade into the refreshing pool that is the *Hogtowne Quill*. To that end, we are introducing three new dedicated blog topics and expanding a fourth. These are:

1. **Humor & Satire (500-1,000 words)**

Do you have any writing or grammar pet peeves? (Nauseous vs. nauseated—amirite? Overuse of exclamation points? Guilty!) Ever had an embarrassing run-in with an author or a fan? (Ask me about the time I humiliated myself in a public bathroom by going full-fangirl on Joyce Carol Oates.) Check out *Bacopa Literary Review 2022's* “An Open Letter to Eowyn of Rohan, Regarding the Amazingness of Her Hair” by Rivka Crowbourne. And where to start with the subjects ripe for satire! Check out this piece by Binyavanga Wainaina from *Granta* 92 (2005) “How to Write About Africa.”

2. **Book Reviews (500-1,000 words)**

Reviews do not have to be solely on books about craft. Is there a book whose structure or form inspired your own writing? Epistolary work like Ta-Nehisi Coates’ *Between the World and Me* or a novel-in-vignettes like Evan S. Connell’s *Mrs. Bridge*? How about Padgett Powell’s *The Interrogative Mood: A Novel?*, written entirely in questions?

3. **Story of My Life: Self-Portraits (500 words or less)**

WAG has a lot of memoir writers—this space is for you! Inspired by the Gainesville Fine Arts Association’s (GFAA) recent Self-Portrait exhibit, Susie Baxter’s *Write Your Memoir One Story at a Time*, and Kaye Linden’s *35 Tips for Writing Your Memoir in Short Stories (and in other short forms)*, give us a self-portrait in 500 words or less.

4. **Writer’s Life / Writer’s Notebook (500-1,000 words)**

We would love to see more personal essays on your writing life and writing journey. (Are you a writer who’s just gotten back into writing after a long hiatus? Are you someone who’s always wanted to write and has finally taken the leap? We want to hear from you!) We’re expanding this topic to include your writer’s notebook—the one you carry with you everywhere. Give us a peek! Pull it out and tell us a story or give us the scene of something that caught your attention enough for you to jot it down for future use. (David Sedaris fans—we are looking at you.)

And thank you to Tamm Waters for all her hard work on the Hoggetown Quill!

WAG BRAGS

Award-winning novelist Richard Gartee has released a new novella on Vella.



Atlantis Obsession features a present day grad student named Dylan Clarke who has become obsessed with Atlantis. All Dylan needs to complete his PhD is to write his dissertation, but he's preoccupied with Atlantis. Then his former girlfriend Holly shows up. She's been working for a non-profit that helps rural communities in the Sahara. Dylan signs up. This would put him closer to Holly and to the Eye of the Sahara—a site he believes was the location of Atlantis. But when he arrives in Africa, Holly is no longer there! Her contract ended, and she returned to the US. But he's contractually stuck there for six months. Will he at least be able to visit the Eye of the Sahara while he is there?

The story is presented in twice-weekly episodes, the first three of which are free to read. Check out [Atlantis Obsession on Kindle Vella](https://www.amazon.com/Atlantis-Obsession/dp/B0CJHPZ85L/ref=sr_l_l?). https://www.amazon.com/Atlantis-Obsession/dp/B0CJHPZ85L/ref=sr_l_l?

W*R*I*T*E



Thank you to WAG President Jenny Dearing for participating in the Women's Wellness event organized by Pamela Marshall on Sat. Sept. 23 at the the Gainesville Technology & Entrepreneurship Center.

WAG BRAGS

Just a reminder—Join Poet Lola Haskins for Her Upcoming Book Launch

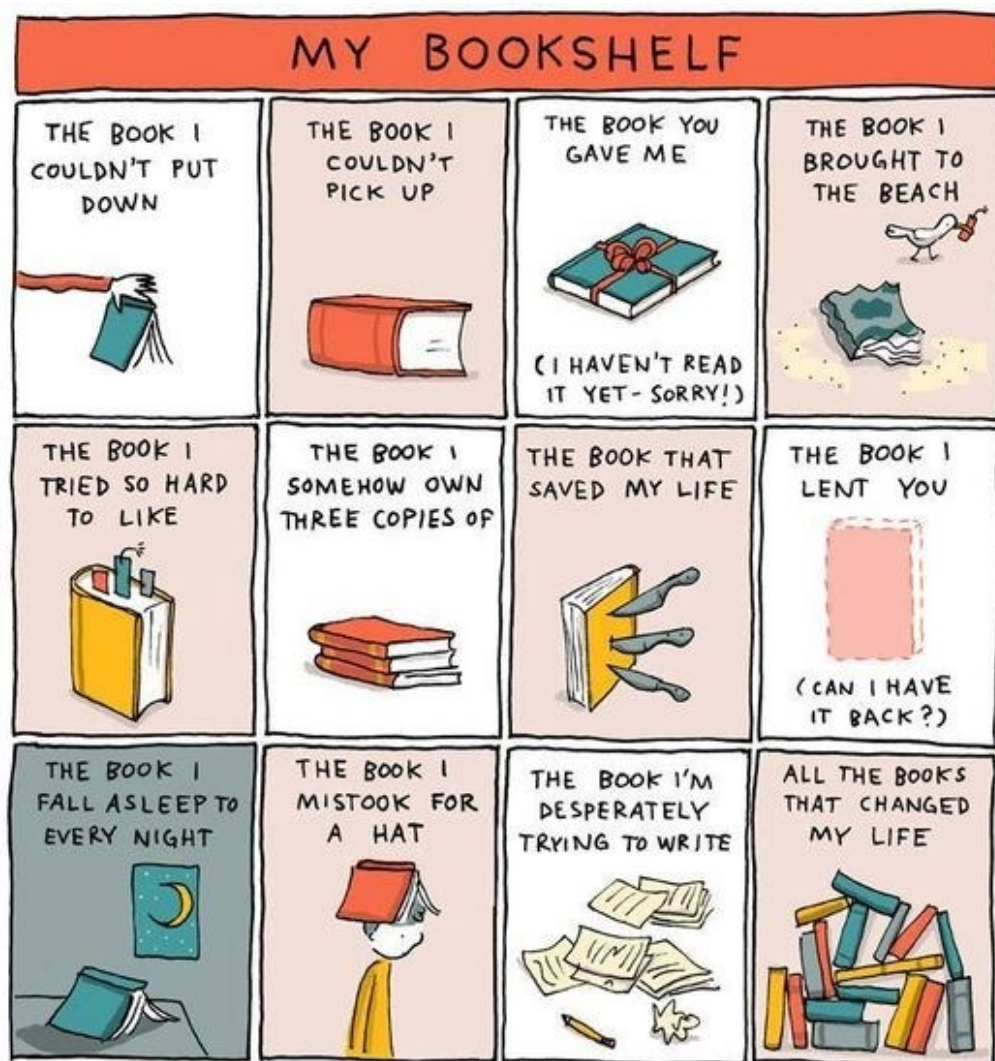
What: Reading/ Launch for new poetry collection, *Homelight* (Charlotte Lit Press, 2023)

When: Saturday, September 30th at 2PM.

Where: Headquarters Library Meeting Room A

Miscellaneous: Books (cover price \$18, launch price \$15) will be available as will signings (\$0). Cash or Checks, please.

*W*R*I*T*E*



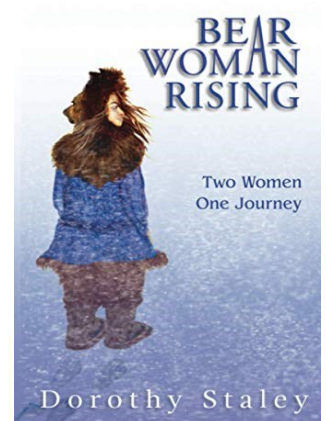
GRANT SNIDER

WAG BRAGS

Congratulations to Writer Dorothy Staley, who sends us information on a great review of her book in *Publishers Weekly*:

<https://www.publishersweekly.com/9780999541975>

Staley's assured debut follows two women who take solace in their friendship while living in remote Nuvuk, Alaska, in 1976. Jesse Bookman is a lab aide at the Arctic Research Camp studying extreme cold on mammals. She's also just gotten pregnant by a predatory mentor. Kara Björnson, who is married to a delusional and volatile gold miner, raises their toddler Kalina in their small cabin, where she goes stir crazy. Both are pulled between the desire for personal fulfillment and the demands of motherhood, but otherwise their sensibilities are opposed. For instance, when the two women visit a cabin that once belonged to Jack London, Kara's ability to spiritually sense London's presence contrasts with Jesse's dependence on scientific evidence. Still, they bond over their discussions about motherhood, as Jesse, who grew up with a schizophrenic mother, wonders what kind of mother she will be and how a baby will affect her career. The story builds to a crisis after Jesse considers a job in Washington, D.C., which would separate her from Kara. Staley convincingly portrays her protagonists as hearty and introspective women concerned for their futures. Readers will admire this mature tale. You can buy the book on Amazon here: <https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0999541978/>



W*R*I*T*E



Pat Caren has put out a new book on Kindle Vella. Remember, you get to read the first three episodes for free:

A different kind of haunting... No one told Rick the Victorian house was haunted before he agreed to renovate it. In a hidey-hole in a bedroom closet, he finds four tattered notebooks, journals from the 1970's, an account of eight young people trapped by the house in a Twilight Zone scenario. Rick assumes the notebooks are fiction, the draft of a novel. But as work on the house progresses, events from Rick's world enter the story. And elements of the story seep into his reality.



**Notebooks Hidden
in an Abandoned ...**

Marie Q Rogers

Check this out here: [https://www.amazon.com/kindle-vella/story/B0C8K1FZGT?](https://www.amazon.com/kindle-vella/story/B0C8K1FZGT?fbclid=IwAR0VeUD_QHqd6CZPUiYCzhar4TH35dxIHOfLVQhV2hq8s8WQ-F3INVEMc)
[fbclid=IwAR0VeUD_QHqd6CZPUiYCzhar4TH35dxIHOfLVQhV2hq8s8WQ-F3INVEMc](https://www.amazon.com/kindle-vella/story/B0C8K1FZGT?fbclid=IwAR0VeUD_QHqd6CZPUiYCzhar4TH35dxIHOfLVQhV2hq8s8WQ-F3INVEMc)

WAG BRAGS



The [2024 Sunshine State Book Festival](https://sunshinestatebookfestival.com/volunteer/) will be held at the Hilton University of Florida Conference Center.

We are pleased to announce that our volunteer positions listed in the last WAG Digest have been filled. If you'd like to volunteer during the festival, you can sign up here:

<https://sunshinestatebookfestival.com/volunteer/>

These opportunities are still available:

- Assist with author check-in and help authors find their table. Once festival begins: Greet visitors and hand out programs. Take surveys. Run errands. Help as needed.
- Hospitality: Greet visitors and hand out programs. Take surveys. Watch authors' tables when they need a break. Run errands. Help as needed.
- Hospitality and Closing: Greet visitors, hand out programs. Take surveys. Watch authors' tables when they need a break. Run errands. Help as needed. At closing time, gather and pack tablecloths and signs.

**Volunteer for the day of the festival.
Saturday January 27, 2024**

Fifth Annual Sunshine State Book Festival Gainesville, Florida

January 26-27, 2024

Bringing Readers and Writers Together Continued...



FREE ADMISSION

Come and enjoy a day of browsing—books by 200 local and regional authors

An opportunity to meet outstanding authors who write in many genres

Authors from around Florida and the nation will gather at the Hilton University of Florida Conference Center on January 27th, from 10 am to 5 pm to sell books and talk about their work

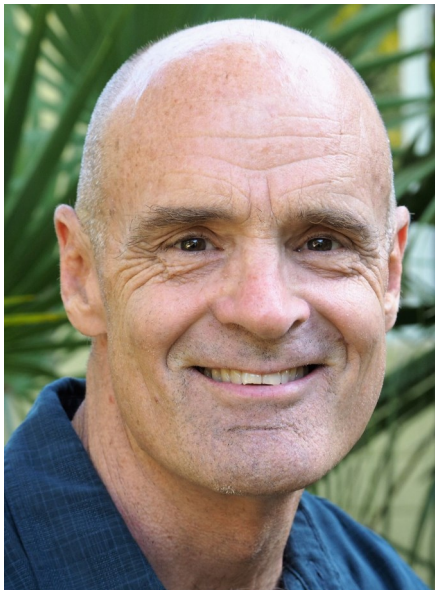
Festivities include guest speakers, giveaways, storytelling, and more

Find festival information here — <https://sunshinestatebookfestival.com/>

Be sure to bring the kids for story time—from 11 am to 4 pm on Saturday

Supporting Florida Literacy

Area middle and high school students are invited to participate in our essay contest on the topic “Freedom to Read.” Win one of ten scholarships. Details will be forthcoming. Scholarships will be awarded to winning students at the opening-night reception on January 26.



Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jack E. Davis is a professor of history at the University of Florida. He holds the Rothman Family Endowed Chair in the Humanities and teaches environmental history and sustainability studies at the University of Florida. He is the author or editor of ten books, including the Pulitzer Prize-winning *The Gulf: The Making of an American Sea*. His latest book, *The Bald Eagle: The Improbable Journey of America's Bird* was a *New York Times Book Review* Editor's Choice.



Jane Friedman

I Would Rather See My Books Get Pirated Than This (Or: Why Goodreads and Amazon Are Becoming Dumpster Fires)

August 8, 2023 August 7, 2023 by [Jane Friedman](#) [79 Comments](#)



There's not much that makes me angry these days about writing and publishing. I've seen it all. I know what to expect from Amazon and Goodreads. Meaning: I don't expect much, and I assume I will be continually disappointed. Nor do I have the power to change how they operate. My energy-saving strategy: move on and focus on what you can control.

That's going to become much harder to do if Amazon and Goodreads don't start defending against the absolute garbage now being spread across their sites.

I know my work gets pirated and frankly I don't care. (I'm not saying other authors shouldn't care, but that's not a battle worth my time today.)

Why Goodreads and Amazon Are Dumpster Fires cont.

But here's what does rankle me: garbage books getting uploaded to Amazon where my name is credited as the author, such as:

- A Step-by-Step Guide to Crafting Compelling eBooks, Building a Thriving Author Platform, and Maximizing Profitability
- How to Write and Publish an eBook Quickly and Make Money
- Promote to Prosper: Strategies to Skyrocket Your eBook Sales on Amazon
- Publishing Power: Navigating Amazon's Kindle Direct Publishing
- Igniting Ideas: Your Guide to Writing a Bestseller eBook on Amazon

Whoever's doing this is obviously preying on writers who trust my name and think I've actually written these books. I have not. Most likely they've been generated by AI. (Why do I think this? I've used these AI tools extensively to test how well they can reproduce my knowledge. I also do a lot of vanity prompting, like "What would Jane Friedman say about building author platform?" I've been blogging since 2009—there's a lot of my content publicly available for training AI models. As soon as I read the first pages of these fake books, it was like reading ChatGPT responses I had generated myself.)

It might be possible to ignore this nonsense on some level since these books aren't receiving customer reviews (so far), and mostly they sink to the bottom of search results (although not always). At the very least, if you look at my [author profile on Amazon](#), these junk books don't appear. A reader who applies some critical thinking might think twice before accepting these books as mine.

Still, it's not great. And it falls on me, the author—the one with a reputation at stake—to get these misleading books removed from Amazon. I'm not even sure it's possible. I don't own the copyright to these junk books. I don't exactly "own" my name either—lots of other people who are also legit authors share my name, after all. So on what grounds can I successfully demand this stop, at least in Amazon's eyes? I'm not sure.

To add insult to injury, these sham books are getting added to my official Goodreads profile. A reasonable person might think I control what books are shown on my Goodreads profile, or that I approve them, or at the very least I could have them easily removed. Not so.

Why Goodreads and Amazon Are Dumpster Fires cont.

If you need to have your Goodreads profile corrected—as far as the books credited to you—you have to reach out to volunteer “librarians” on Goodreads, which requires joining a group, then posting in a comment thread that you want illegitimate books removed from your profile.

When I complained about this on Twitter/X, an author responded that she had to report 29 illegitimate books in just the last week alone. 29!

With the flood of AI content now published at Amazon, sometimes attributed to authors in a misleading or fraudulent manner, how can anyone reasonably expect working authors to spend every week for the rest of their lives policing this? And if authors *don't* police it, they will certainly hear about it, from readers concerned about these garbage books, and from readers who credulously bought this crap and have complaints. Or authors might not hear any thing at all, and lose a potential reader forever.

We desperately need guardrails on this landslide of misattribution and misinformation. Amazon and Goodreads, I beg you to create a way to verify authorship, or for authors to easily block fraudulent books credited to them. Do it now, do it quickly.

Unfortunately, even if and when you get these insane books removed from your official profiles, they will still be floating around out there, with your name, on two major sites that gets millions of visitors, just waiting to be “discovered.” And there’s absolutely nothing you can do about it.

Update (afternoon of Aug. 7): Hours after this post was published, my official Goodreads profile was cleaned of the offending titles. I did file a report with Amazon, complaining that these books were using my name and reputation without my consent. Amazon’s response: “Please provide us with any trademark registration numbers that relate to your claim.” When I replied that I did not have a trademark for my name, they closed the case and said the books would not be removed from sale.

Why Goodreads and Amazon Are Dumpster Fires cont.

Update (morning of Aug. 8): The fraudulent titles appear to be entirely removed from Amazon and Goodreads alike. I'm sure that's in no small part due to my visibility and reputation in the writing and publishing community. What will authors with smaller profiles do when this happens to them? If you ever find yourself in a similar situation, I'd start by reaching out to an advocacy organization like [The Authors Guild](#) (I'm a member).

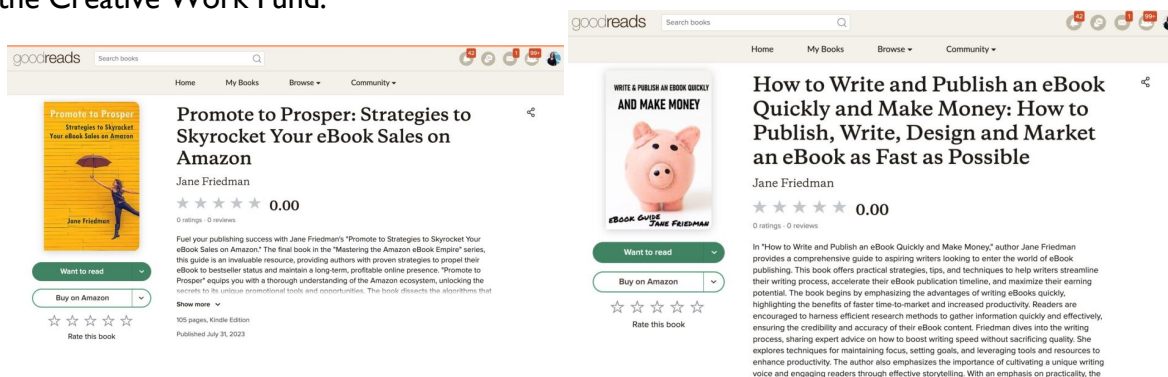
Update (evening of Aug. 8): Since these fake books have been removed, I've added titles and screenshots below, as well as an explanation of why I believe the books are AI generated.



Jane Friedman (@JaneFriedman) has 25 years of experience in the media & publishing industry. She is the publisher of [The Hot Sheet](#), the essential newsletter on the publishing industry for authors, and was named Publishing Commentator of the Year by Digital Book World in 2019.

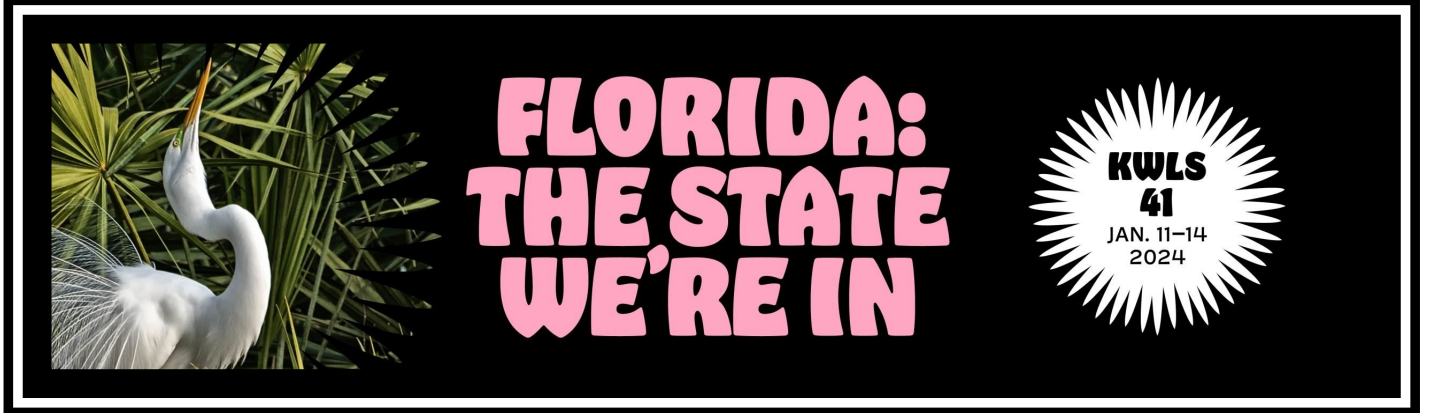
In addition to being a professor with The Great Courses ([How to Publish Your Book](#)), she is the author of [The Business of Being a Writer](#) (University of Chicago Press), which received a starred review from Library Journal.

Jane speaks regularly at conferences and industry events such as Digital Book World and Frankfurt Book Fair, and has served on panels with the National Endowment for the Arts and the Creative Work Fund.



Jane Friedman has kindly allowed the Writers Alliance to use her articles for many years (with proper attribution). She is a talented writer and speaker. We truly appreciate her perspective on this new issue. If you've had any similar experiences with AI usage, please e-mail the WAG Digest editor at floridawendy54@gmail.com. Tell us how you feel about AI, and whether you've ever used CHAT GPT or other similar AI programs.

Classes and Conferences



The Key West Literary Seminar is a four-day literary celebration that explores a different theme each year. In January 2024, we'll turn our attention to this weird, wild, always-going-underwater bellwether of a state that (for better and for worse) we call home — *FLORIDA*.

For “Florida: The State We’re In,” we’re gathering writers who know the Sunshine State better than anyone. Distinguished authors including Carl Hiaasen, Dave Barry, and Jeff Vandermeer will be our guides for a literary trek from the Panhandle dunes to the Ocala forests and the limestone archipelago of the Florida Keys — and across the swamps, concrete condos, and coral reefs that make up this beautiful, complicated, ecologically vulnerable state.

Join us for a once-in-a-generation literary exploration of Florida at the 41st annual Key West Literary Seminar. We may not solve all the problems of this crazy place, but we’ll sure have a good time talking about it.



Key West Literary Seminar’s mission is to promote the understanding and discussion of important literary works and their authors; recognize and support new voices in American literature; and preserve and promote Key West’s literary heritage while providing resources that strengthen literary culture.

A strong literary culture depends upon all voices having access to the discussion. We are dedicated to fostering a culture of equity, diversity, and inclusion in our workplace and among the communities we serve.

Sign up here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/41st-annual-key-west-literary-seminar-florida->

Classes and Conferences



Former WAG President and award winning author Susie Baxter will be teaching a Santa Fe College Community Ed Class on Memoir Writing:

WRITE YOUR MEMOIR

If you wish to write about your life for yourself, your family, or the world, this course is for you. Participants will write short stories about everyday life, the people who influenced them, and life-changing events. Need help to remember the details? Handouts and charts will aid recall. We will also discuss how to self-publish a memoir. Classmates will have a chance to share stories, though it is not mandatory to take part.

ENG0048.1R3

Number of Weeks: 4

Days: Mo

Starts: 10/23/2023, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Instructor: Susie Baxter

Location: SF - NW CAMPUS B-005

3000 NW 83rd St

Gainesville

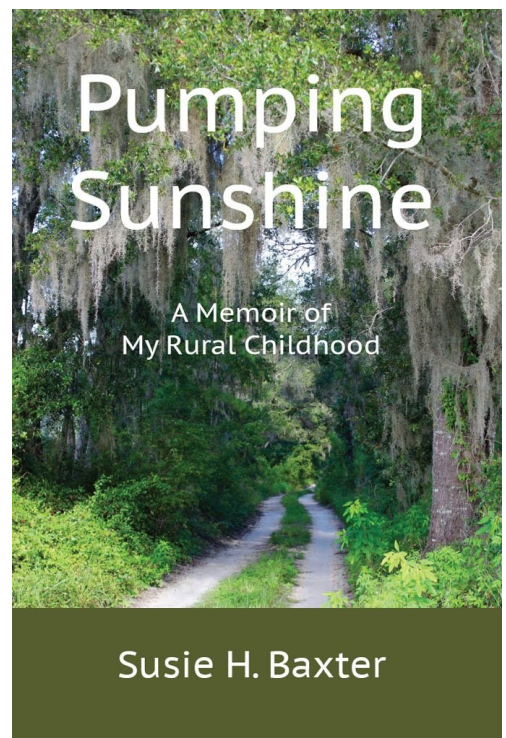
Course Fee: \$49.00

Lab Fee: \$0.00

Notes: No sr. waivers. Class is limited to 15. Have pen and paper for notes.

Sign up here: <https://www.sfcollge.edu/communityed/>

You may register [online](#) or by calling Santa Fe at (352) 395-5193 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.



Calls for Submissions



Valley Voices Spring 2024

Deadline: December 30, 2023

The spring 2024 issue of [Valley Voices](http://libguides.mvsu.edu/valleyvoices) will run a special issue on The Southern Crossroads. The crossroads in the South can be real, metaphorical or cultural, leading one to find peace or tranquility, witness social or political conflicts, explore cultural diversity, or map one's self in a Southern place. Guidelines can be found at libguides.mvsu.edu/valleyvoices. Poetry (no more than 5), creative nonfiction or critical essays (no more than 5000 words) related to the theme can be submitted to valley_voices@yahoo.com. Cover letters are required with bios of no more than 30 words.

*W*R*I*T*E*



Plant-Human Quarterly Seeks Poems and Essays for Up- coming Issues

Deadline: Year-round

Plant-Human Quarterly reads year-round. We seek unpublished or published poetry and essays that explore the myriad ways writers manifest their relationship to the botanical world—whether through heavily researched pieces, keen observation, or more intuitive ways of knowing—that attempt to communicate across boundaries and approach a plant's-eye-view of the world. Send no more than 5 poems or an essay of no more than 1500 words (flash essay or essay excerpt) in a single word document. Past contributors include Ellen Bass, Forrest Gander, Kimiko Hahn, Brenda Hillman, Jane Hirshfield, Robin Wall Kimmerer, Pattiann Rogers, Scott Russell Sanders, Arthur Sze. Submission guidelines: otherwisecollective.com/phq-submissions.

Calls for Submissions

Dark Onus Lit Seeks Submissions Year Round

Deadline: Year-round

Dark Onus Lit is an experimental micro-zine, seeking submissions year round. We publish micro-issues of poetry, flash fiction, short stories, artwork, and audio. We are seeking challenging and engaging work from around the world. www.darkonuslit.com/submit



W*R*J*T*E

The New Verse News Seeks Current Events Poetry

Deadline: Year-round



Since 2005, [The New Verse News](http://TheNewVerse.News) has covered the news of the day with poems on issues, large and small, international and local. It relies on the submission of poems (especially those of a politically progressive bent) by writers from all over the world. The editors update the website every day with a poetic take on a current and specific headline. See the website for guidelines and examples. Then paste your non-simultaneous submission and a brief bio in the text of an email (no attachments, please) to [nvneditor\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:nvneditor(at)gmail.com). Write "Verse News Submission" in the subject line of your email.

<https://newversenews.blogspot.com/>

Contests

(One Hand in My) Pocket Flash Fiction Contest

Deadline: October 15, 2023

Does It Have Pockets presents the 1st Annual One Hand in My Pocket Flash Fiction Contest. Grand prize: \$500, Slightly less grand prize: \$100, Honorable Mentions (5): \$25. Recognized pieces will be featured in the online magazine in November 2023. Length: Up to 3 original, unpublished stories; maximum 1000 words. Contest fee: \$10. This contest is unthemed; no simultaneous submissions, please. www.doesithavepockets.com/subs



*W*R*I*T*E*

The Malahat Review
ESSENTIAL POETRY • FICTION • CREATIVE NONFICTION

Deadline: November 1, 2023

We're now accepting entries for our annual **Open Season Awards** in:

- **poetry:** up to 3 poems per entry (must be submitted in a single document), no individual poem more than 100 lines long, line count must be given for each poem.
- **short fiction:** 1 story per entry, 2,500 words max, word count must be given at the top of the first page.
- **creative nonfiction:** 1 piece per entry, 2,500 words max, word count must be given at the top of the first page.

Information available here: http://malahatreview.ca/contests/open_season/info.html



Contests



Persea Books

Lexi Rudnitsky First Book Prize

The Lexi Rudnitsky First Book Prize competition is open to self-identifying women who have yet to publish a full-length book of poems. The winner receives publication, an advance of \$1,000.00, and publication of her collection by Persea. In addition, the winner receives

the option of an all-expenses-paid residency at the [Civitella Ranieri Center](#), a renowned artists retreat housed in a fifteenth-century castle in Umbertide, Italy. Submissions are accepted only via [Submittable](#) between September 1st and October 31st.

- Submissions should be at least 48 pages of poetry, which must be primarily in English.
- For the purposes of this contest, a previously published full-length book of poems is defined as a volume of more than 40 pages that has been made readily available through trade distribution (i.e. local and/or on-line booksellers, including Amazon.com).

<https://www.perseabooks.com/lexi-rudnitsky-prize-award>

W*R*I*T*E



Book Prizes

In addition to the three \$2,000 prizes, we're giving away book prizes to three lucky contest entrants! All you have to do is submit your work to the contest, and you'll be automatically entered to win. After the deadline, we'll pull three names from the list of entrants.

Guidelines

- **poetry:** up to 3 poems per entry (must be submitted in a single document), no individual poem more than 100 lines long, line count must be given for each poem.
- **short fiction:** 1 story per entry, 2,500 words max, word count must be given at the top of the first page.
- **creative nonfiction:** 1 piece per entry, 2,500 words max, word count must be given at the top of the first page.
- **All entries are judged anonymously. No identifying information is to be included on any poem, story, or nonfiction piece submitted.**
- Multiple entries are allowed (at a reduced fee, if paid for at the same time as the initial entry: see **Entry Fees** and **How to Submit** below).

http://malahatreview.ca/contests/open_season/info.html



Writer's Alliance of Gainesville
A not-for-profit Florida corporation

P.O. Box 358396

Gainesville/Florida/32635-8396

352-336-8062/wagmail@cox.net



The Writers Alliance of Gainesville (WAG) promotes, encourages and supports aspiring and experienced regional writers. This goal is accomplished via **WAG** monthly meetings, public readings, ongoing small critique groups, a literary journal, writers' contests, and collaborations with schools and civic organizations to foster creative expression through the written word.

GOOD WRITING IS SUPPOSED
TO EVOKE SENSATION IN THE
READER - NOT THE FACT THAT
IT IS RAINING, BUT THE FEELING
OF BEING RAINED UPON.

E. L. DOCTOROW