

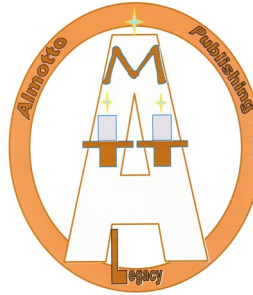
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Special points of interest

- Stayed tuned for information on our EIWL one day conference scheduled for September 17, 2022 in Pocatello .

President's Message on page 2



Almotto's Journey

After making the decision to publish my short stories into a collection, I began an interesting journey into the world of publishing. Originally, I was just going to create a booklet similar to my *Scribbling* poetry collection, mainly using Microsoft Word and hand formatting.

Once the formatting was complete, I had a cute booklet but too many pages for the handmade stapled booklet. Plan B began to look for a printer to bind the collection. The printer required a minimum of 84 pages so all previous formatting was obsolete.

The decision was made to include some poetry to get the additional content. I then set out to search for an ISBN and barcode. I learned that the *Scribbling* ISBN was not valid and that there are many sites willing to sell writers ISBN and barcodes but many are scams.

Eventually I found number of references to Bowker Identifier Service. Bowker seems legit and I am now the CEO of Almotto Legacy Publishing and have three books in various stages of publishing and several in planning stages. *Full Course* should be going to the printer by summer. *A Series of Unfortunate Vehicles* should, with any luck, be going to printers by Christmas. It is a frightening but exhilarating process.

Amy

Book Signing & Dinner with Brenda Baumgartner Stanley

Celebrating the newly released book —*Only in Darkness*

Thursday, May 19th @ 6:30 pm
Portneuf Valley Brewing
615 S 1st Ave., Pocatello, ID 83201

*Dinner and drinks available at your expense from the brewery's full menu.

2022 Storymakers Conference

May 12-14 2022
Provo, Utah.

The conference is live as well as virtual.

2022 PNWA Conference

Date: September 23-25th 2022.

Location: Hyatt Regency
Lake Washington

2022 Jackson Hole Writers Conference

June 23-25 2022

Winnie & Mo's Poetry Event

EIWL members had fun sharing their favorite poetry in celebration of National Poetry month. The book store was filled to near capacity. A wide range of poetry was read from light verse, slam poetry, to lyrical poetry. Other open mic events are scheduled but not poetry specific.

President's Message:

By Terri Robinson

It is not hard to find free writing advice – in fact, it may be much too easy! But really good free advice, not wrapped up in a scheme to sell a writing program or book, is a little harder. I was fortunate to stumble on a blog written by the late David Farland, author of more than 60 books, including the series *Runelords*, and a judge for the Ron Hubbard's Writers of the Future contest for science fiction.

David Farland, a pen name, but the one I knew him by, passed away suddenly this year after he fell. I learned much from his "talks," which is how reading his blogs and emails felt to me. He had a team of people who worked with him and this team is continuing his writing advice in blog, emailed newsletter and his writing programs, including *Apex Writers*, an intense writing club through paid membership. More information is available at David Farland, Story Doctor.

One of his recent newsletters included this list of 14 checks every novel should contain. I found it very helpful and I hope you will as well. Check out David Farland's newsletter for more great advice.

1. Resolve the main conflict--unless you are writing a story with an ironic twist or a somewhat ambiguous ending, the protagonist and antagonist can't both "win." Generally speaking, one will be defeated, and this resolves the conflict.
2. Conflicts from secondary plotlines will also be resolved. Some in the industry say it's best to resolve them before the story's climax, but it's okay to resolve them during the denouement as well.
3. Finish the protagonist's character arc. How did the protagonist change internally because of the journey? Illustrate that in the climax and falling action. If the protagonist refused to change, illustrate their steadfastness in the same places.
4. Drive home the thematic argument. (But remember with theme, it's always more important to *show* than to *tell*.)
5. The protagonist should almost always be the most active character.
6. The antagonist should be more formidable than what came prior.
7. Tie up loose ends.
8. The denouement should validate what changed because of the story and/or what remained the same despite the story.
9. Deliver what was promised to the audience (better yet, exceed their expectations).
10. Escalate the stakes and costs again.
11. Cross the most personal conflict with the broadest conflict
12. Call back or echo earlier moments of the story.
13. Mark the beginning of the last act with a positive turning point that arms the protagonist with new information or new means to take on or address the antagonist.
14. Make the denouement long enough to cover what is important, but short enough to stay interesting.

Critique Group Tools

Workshop AMY
Date 11/16/05

TITLE "Idle Threats and Monsters' Breath"

STRENGTHS

- ENDING; WORKS.
- ENVELOPE (LULU - colorful; witty; (suggests caps))
- "...BORN OF A DIFFERENT RECIPE." INDEED.
- "WHEN I HAVE TO CHANGE SOME WATER..." NICE LOCAL COLOR.
- "...THERE'S ALWAYS THE THING THAT LIVES IN THE ILLUMINATION CULTURE." DRS WITH A PLEASANT, HEREDITH.

OPPORTUNITIES

- SPELL THINGS LIKE... AND YOU GET THE HOOKS OF (MEANING 1) "SUNGLASS" - SUPPLANTED BY YOUR FINAL "a good dog"

WEAKNESSES

- ESTABLISHING THE "FARM" ENVIRONMENT/SETTING EARLIER IN THE STORY.
- TITLE - DOESN'T QUITE LINK UP WITH STORY/ THEME.
- SOME SPOILING UP TENSES PROBLEM - NOTED. BETTER.
- "MINION" AS EUPHEMISM FOR KIDS, MIGHT BE EXPRESSED AS "LITTLE ANIMALS"...
- AN ANECDOTE ABOUT "CATS IN HIDE" SEEMS TO BE MISSING...
- "BARK WAS QUICKLY REMOVED..." PASSIVE VOICE CONSTRUCTION; BUT "EMUSION'S EASER THAN RECONSTRUCTION..." "LEAD" ME" AFFECTS ME JUST LIKE "A BAD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL"

PROBLEMS

- NO "FARM" SETTING ESTABLISHED; (APPEARS LATE).
- babygutter (of narrator's memory) - babygutter of her (your) children; unclear if it's one and the same person; "SUNGLASS" PARTIALS OF NAMED AFTER CHARACTER?

Inspired by Terri's April president's message, I am sharing a piece from my personal IWL archives. This is a critique form used by Gary Townsend at some of the IWL groups. I always found this form and Gary's critique's very helpful. Writers received some great input on their writing and it was nice to get both the strengths and weaknesses evaluated.

Amy

Hump

Editing Humor (Shared From Pinterest)

WELL-KNOWN EDITING SYMBOLS

- = DELETE
- = INSERT
- = CLOSE SPACE
- = START NEW PARAGRAPH
- = UPPER CASE
- = ADD SPACE
- = TRANSPOSE LETTERS
- = CHECK SPELLING

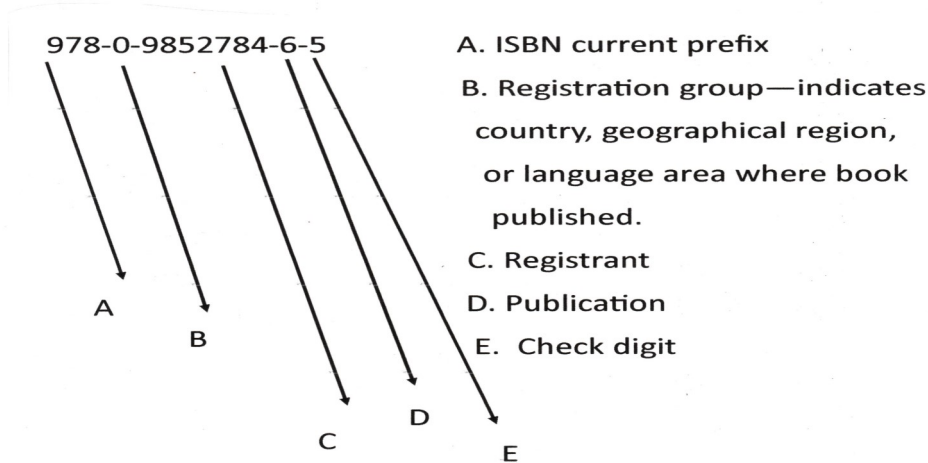
LESSER-KNOWN EDITING SYMBOLS

- = INSERT UNDER SHORT LEG OF TABLE
- = EXCESSIVE EXCLAMATION POINTS
- = ADD ADVENTURE
- = CHARACTERS SHOULD FIGHT
- = OOPS! ... COFFEE SPILL (MY BAD)
- = MOST EDITORS SAY "DON'T USE ADVERBS" BUT THIS IS A DAMN GOOD ADVERB
- = NEEDS MORE BOW-CHICKA-BOW-BOW
- = OH THAT'S A GOOD IDEA, I'M STEALING THAT!

Lesser-Known Editing and Proofreading Marks

- zz-z-z delete - no one cares
- mixed metaphor, eh?
- ★@! insert 4-letter word for emphasis
- remove permanently from your lexicon
- ∞ too long
- too silly
- you wish
- pls revisit your politics
- pls cut the crap
- pls paraphrase - obviously stolen from Web
- pls don't eat Pringles while you work

International Standard Book Number (ISBN)



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one spud short

Taco Potatoes

If you can't do it right...

By Merle Kearsley

Liz put down her book and answered the ringing phone. "Hello?"

"Liz, this is Meg. The other night when you served those potatoes for dinner, were they from one of your secret recipes?"

"The Taco Potatoes?"

"Yes."

"That recipe is no secret. I got it out of the local newspaper."

"Max sure did like them and wants me to make some. Would you give me the recipe?"

Liz proceeded to give Meg the instructions for making Taco Potatoes.

* * * * *

A few days later, Liz received another phone call from Meg.

"Liz, I made those potatoes last night and Max said they didn't taste as good as yours. Are you sure you

gave me all of the ingredients?

Can we check out the recipe again?"



"Yes. Start with four medium potatoes; peel and slice them a quarter inch thick. Cover them with cold water and let stand for a half an hour or longer, then drain and rinse well."

"I didn't soak them, that's silly. You can use potatoes right away."



"Butter a nine by fourteen inch baking dish and layer the potatoes in it. Drizzle a fourth cup of melted butter over them."

"Butter? That's too expensive. I used margarine. We can't tell the difference."

"Bake them at three hundred-fifty degrees for forty-five minutes, or until tender."

"I did that."

"While the potatoes are cooking, sauté a half-cup chopped onion and bell pepper in a frying pan."

"We don't like peppers, so I left that out."

"Crumble a pound of ground meat into the skillet and cook until the red is gone. Add a package of Taco mix and a half-cup of water."

Simmer over low heat for five minutes."

"I was out of Taco mix, so I used a package of Enchilada mix. They're both Mexican seasonings, so it shouldn't make any difference."

"When the potatoes are done, spoon the meat mixture over them and put them back in the oven for fifteen minutes. Remove them from the oven and spread a cup of grated, mild cheddar cheese over them."

"We like sharp cheese, so I used that."

"Serve hot, and enjoy."

"Well, I'll try it again tonight, and if it doesn't turn out like yours, I'll know you're holding back on one of your secret recipes."

Merle Kearsley lives in Idaho Falls.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY DICK LEE

Back Story— Meet Pat Doak

By Rhonda Cullen and Sandi Warburton

ic At Her Fingertips

Sunday, September 7, 1969



A New Tomorrow

BY PATTY ANN DOAK

Today, today has come and gone,
A new tomorrow now is born,
The silver skies are kissed with dawn,
I pray that peace will soon be won.

May all the world trust, be friends,
And know a love that never ends.
May fighting cease and be no more
And not a soul will think of war.

I pray for peace across the sea,
And also here where peace should be.
Grant freedom skies for everyone.
Bless every husband, father, son,

Who has to fight for freedom sake.
With gun, and sword, and cannon, rake
The garden free of thorns and weeds,
And tend to all the special needs

Of those less fortunate than we.
I pray that every one will see
A vision of a better place
With peace for all the human race.

Patricia was born in Oklahoma in the 1930s during the great depression and the epic 'Okie Migration.' She tells of adventures hopping trains and hitching rides from Oklahoma to the west coast with her little brother, scatterbrained dad, and ever watchful and protective mom. Eventually, the family found a home and community in Sam's Valley, Oregon. Patricia showed an early talent for writing little stories and poems. She had written a little jingle for a contest, although she didn't enter the song because she didn't think it was good enough. A neighbor had heard little Patty singing the jingle on the playground and entered the jingle into the contest. Which – you must have guessed – won first place. Patricia continued to enter contests and write songs, poems, and short stories. She entered a piece in the Idaho State song contest for the 76th centennial and received an honorable mention. Patricia had one song published on a recording for a new country singer named Allen King Keller. He never became very well-known, but her song, #7 on side one, is called "Giddy up Semi." The song is reminiscent of the many trucker songs of the mid-'70s. Patricia continues to write songs and poems actively and always includes a new little ditty with each birthday and Christmas card to her kids, grandkids, and great-grandkids every year. Her writing tends to ere on the side of whimsical and light-hearted. However, the love she has for writing shines through and is felt by the reader. Patricia is sharing a journey that used to be just hers with her writing, whether to bring a smile to loved ones, share her devout spiritual beliefs, or tell her life story. Patricia's most recent writings show the same presence of mind, sense of humor, sparkling eyes, and love of music and writing and are still just as strong today as they were in the early years.

IDAHO STATE SONG

We raise big potatoes
Sugar beets by the ton
Gold and silver in the mines
Enough for everyone

You could be a millionaire
That's easier said than done
But come and see us anyway
And join in all the fun

The sun comes down the mountain
And shines on hill and plain
I'll tell you folks a picture
Like this you've never seen

When you take your vacation
And have no place to go
Pack your bags and hurry down
To good ole' Idaho

P. Doak