

Chapter 1 : 10 More of the Best Books on Writing

The Essential Guide to Freelance Writing answers all of these questions--and much more. From breaking in to navigating the basics of the business, this book is your.

Unfortunately, so have about eight gazillion other people on this planet. Therefore, you have to stand out from the crowd. You have to sparkle. How do you do this? In fact, only bright green novices attempt to write the whole thing before selling it. What you do need, however, is the IDEA for the great story. So, where will you find this Big Idea? This is how you will become an expert. Experts are in demand. What you have to do is sneak your stories into your areas of expertise. You are a potential expert in those areas. Jot these things down. Now comes the fun part: The biggest mistake you can make in pitching your story is being too general. In general, you will be expected to write somewhere between and words on your topic. Get out your trusty notebook. On the first page, write down a list of any and all topics that interest you. Need some ideas to get you started? Think through your whole day. What do you do from the moment you wake up until the moment you fall asleep? You turn off your alarm clock. An article about alarm clocks disrupting valuable sleep stages! Or waking up to music versus waking up to that annoying beeping sound. You brush your teeth. Maybe with your significant other. You go to work. This is the most obvious area of expertise. You just have to know you can get this information later. Next, you come home. Do you have kids? A wealth of article ideas. Write at least one page of general topics that interest you, then weed out the most interesting ones. Narrow it down to three or four. Then write those three or four topics on top of brand new pages. Now fill up those pages with specific article angles. Just write whatever pops into your head. If you need motivation, play it like a game of Scattergories. Set a timer for ten minutes. See how many ideas you can jot down before the timer sounds. Keep in mind that there are markets for almost any conceivable topic. You want to know more about these markets? These typically pay the best. Types of consumer mags: This is the area most writers try to break into. However, what they lack in moolah, they make up for in prestige. Often published by colleges and universities, their circulation is usually regional and low. They generally seek scholarly essays, intellectually challenging prose, poetry, and book reviews. Publishers will be impressed if you succeed in placing your work in one of the more prominent journals Cimarron Review, Ploughshares, and Story, for example. This is where your expertise can shine. There are trade journals for almost every line of work, from art dealers to truck drivers. In general, your written eloquence is not as important as your research and timely knowledge for these publications. Simply put, e-zines are simply magazines on the Internet. The only major difference is that articles for e-zines can usually run longer than print magazines. The most popular sites Lifetimetv. Topics stretch as wide as your imagination. Now that you know, learn how to contact them! There are tons of ways to find markets that are open to freelancers. If you were paying attention, you might notice that this very website is looking for writers! Finding places to submit your work is easy if you know where to look. Available at any major bookstore, this is an annual compilation of more than 2, magazines, 1, book publishers, and even specialized markets like greeting cards, script writing, and syndicates. The next best tools are online. Freelancing4Money puts out a jam-packed e-zine filled with freelance opportunities. Writing For Dollars has a biweekly newsletter with market guidelines, and a searchable database on the website. And Writers Weekly lists calls for writers and market guidelines each week. Try specifying if possible; add words that fit your needs. So, your next assignment is this: That will now be known as your Big Idea. Pick the markets that best fit your idea. Find out if you can get a free or discounted sample copy. Writers often can, if you specify that you would like to query them in the future. Do your best to read at least one copy of whatever magazine or journal you plan to query. Check your library for copies if you prefer not to go broke researching. You want to tease and tantalize. To illustrate the components of a killer query, here is an example of one of mine using fictitious contact info—sorry! Colons are used in formal letters. Commas are used in friendly letters. Think company cars, expense accounts, and a spacious office with bay windows. Who do you picture running a business this successful? This company was the brainchild of three Boston University sophomores whose ambitions led them to thriving careers before they had diplomas to hang on the wall. The rest of the first

paragraph should give a concise description of the focus of your proposed article. In this case, I was targeting a college magazine, so I made sure to emphasize the relevance to their subject matter early in the letter. The three met in the freshmen dorms, then moved into an apartment together. She sought help designing a website; Strader volunteered, and Net One was born. Again, concisely, get a little deeper into the content of the article. What is special about your story? In this case, I wanted to emphasize that these guys were college buddies who started a booming business by branching out from their humble beginning. I wanted to show that I had already spoken to these guysâ€”they happen to be friends of mineâ€”and that they would be upbeat and inspirational people to interview. These guys are big up-and-comers! It neatly ties up the opening sentence, which promised an article about guys who have a spacious office, expense accounts, and company car. Now the editor has a reason to believe that these guys actually are that successful. I am a full-time freelance writer, and my works have been recently featured in such publications as Magazine, College Bound! Notice I mention the most relevant magazines first. Just shut up about it. Also, do not get into a diatribe describing how you edited your high school newspaper. Just a quick list of relevant writing background. See below for info about clips. I can provide documentation and interview notes for easy fact-checking, and could submit the completed article within two weeks. Some people like to suggest a time frame, others let the editor do it. In general, the editor will tell you when the article is due, regardless of your preferences. I look forward to your response.

Chapter 2 : 13 Top Books on How to Freelance as a Writer

The Essential Guide to Freelance Writing can save you tons of time, help you earn more money, and keep you out of trouble while you're doing it. If you grab a copy and read it, you'll be well equipped to dive into the wonderful, lively, rewarding world of freelance writing."

Chapter 3 : The Essential Guide to Freelance Writing : Zachary Petit :

"An essential read for freelance writers." â€”The Writer magazine Starting Your Career as a Freelance Writer, Third Edition, offers a step-by-step guide to launching a successful freelance career.

Chapter 4 : Lance Longwell (Author of The Essential Guide to Driving Abroad)

In the Essential Guide to Freelance Writing, Zachary Petit gives the basics of how to get started in freelance journalism in a tight, concise manner. He covers all the basics a budding writer should know, detailing both how to write and how to sell a variety of articles to the most preferable markets.

Chapter 5 : The Essential Guide to Freelance Ghostwriting

The Essential Guide to Freelance Writing answers all of these questions--and much more. From breaking in to navigating the basics of the business, this book is your road map to a fruitful and rewarding freelance life.

Chapter 6 : Gain an edge in the very competitive freelance market! | WritersDigestShop

The Essential Guide to Freelance Writing is an A-Z on everything you need to know to write for magazines, from how to query to best practices for breaking in to what to be expect to be paid to working with editors to not going insane doing it all.

Chapter 7 : The Essential Guide to Freelance Writing (ebook) by Zachary Petit |

The Essential Guide to Freelance Writing is a how-to manual on the subject by author and editor Zachary Petit. The

DOWNLOAD PDF THE ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO LANCE WRITING

book discusses all of the fundamentals of freelance writing that an aspiring writer needs to know.

Chapter 8 : The Beginner's Guide To Freelance Writing

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