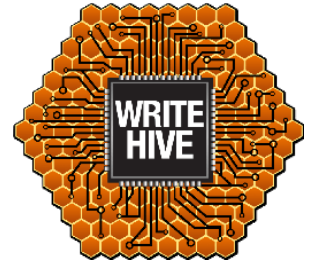


A gift from the WriteHive Mentors

Class of 2025



As part of our commitment to enriching and helping the writer community, the Class of 2025 WriteHive Mentors would like to ensure that every mentee hopeful (chosen or not) has the tools and resources to help them on the next step of their publishing journey.

We've also included tips and quotes to help keep you motivated because we believe in you and your work.

Your story is important, because you are important. Keep going – you got this.

"Don't define your own success by the things you see others achieving. It is very often outside your control, and you can blame yourself and your writing unnecessarily. This industry is very subjective, that you wrote a novel at all is incredible - don't let anyone belittle you for that, even yourself."

- E. J. Dawson, author of *Behind the Veil* and *Awakening*

Outline it Write

"Goblin method of outlining" by A. Z. Louise

<https://www.azlouise.com/p/the-goblin-method-of-kind-of-outlining.html?m=1>

Take Off Your Pants!: Outline Your Books for Faster, Better Writing by Libbie Hawker

<https://www.amazon.com/Take-Off-Your-Pants-Outline-ebook/dp/B00UKC0GHA>

"I wish someone had told me that outlining was going to help me IMMEASURABLY in my journey so I could have built that skill earlier on! Writing my self-pub stuff in between trad pub deadlines has forced me to get good at it FAST. My life would have been way easier if I'd gotten a head start on learning my best outline technique."

- A. Z. Louise, author of *Bitterbound* and *A Concrete Crown*



Push Past the First Draft

Story Trumps Structure: How to Write Unforgettable Fiction by Breaking the Rules by Steven James

<https://www.amazon.com/Story-Trumps-Structure-Unforgettable-Breaking/dp/1599636514>

"Storytelling and writing are two very different things. The best grammar in the world doesn't mean you're telling an effective, engaging story."

- K. J. Harrowick, author of *I Know Why She Stayed* and *Bloodflower*

"Reverse Outline" by Jeni Chappelle

<https://www.jenichappelleeditorial.com/post/evaluate-your-story-with-a-reverse-outline/>

"Readers don't care about how much you know or how intelligent you are. They are here for the story; therefore, every word you write should be in service of that story. Writing is an act of setting the ego aside in favor of what works on the page."

- Brenda Radchik, author of *Insects Don't Bleed* and *Quetzal Feathers*

The Six Step Revision Process by Miranda Darrow

<https://www.mirandadarrow.com/book/the-six-step-revision-process-revise-your-novel-from-first-draft-to-final/>

"How To Write Yourself an Edit Letter" by Rachel Griffin

<https://www.rachelgriffinbooks.com/post/how-to-write-yourself-an-edit-letter>

"Take risks. Write the things you think you can't. Even if you don't think you are skilled enough, I promise, the challenge will improve your craft and your story-telling ability. And who knows, it might even be the thing that gets the attention."

- Kimberly Lynn Hanson, author of *I Am The Devouring Dark* and *Swords & Stones*

"Write for yourself first. The moment you stop trying to please everyone else and start focusing on the story you want to tell, your voice becomes authentic, and that's when the magic happens."

- Tyler Wittofsky, author of *Coffee, Alcohol, and Heartbreak*

Structure Your Novel

"16 Ways to Plot a Book: From Circles and Snowflakes to Pyramids and Point Graphs"

<https://www.campfirewriting.com/learn/narrative-structure>

Romancing the Beat by Gwen Hayes

<https://www.amazon.com/Romancing-Beat-Structure-Romance-Kissing-ebook/dp/B01DSJSURY>

Plot Your Series - Structure Sheet by K. J. Harrowick

<https://kjharrowick.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Plot-Your-Series-Structure-Sheet.xlsx>

Save the Cat - Beat Sheets

<https://savethecat.com/beat-sheets>

Beats Lineup by A. J. Van Belle

<https://www.ajvanbelle.com/about-5>



"[It's a myth t]hat you're behind schedule if you haven't 'made it' yet (whatever making it means to you). You're right on time. In fact, all the time you spend building your skills behind the scenes will (1) make your work stronger once it reaches a wider readership and (2) make you a stronger person who's ready to handle success when it does come."
- A. J. Van Belle, author of *Crone Rising* and *Blood & Bone*

"Something I wish I'd been told (and reminded... over, and over, and over) is that there is literally no timeline to which you need to adhere. There is no one "right" path that lives on some nebulous timetable that you have to keep and compare with your peers. This is also decent life advice in general, I figure! No one path is the "right" path -- what's right is what works for you. I see this so often in my younger peers; brilliant writers in their early 20s, for example, who worry that they're "behind" in some way, or that they're "slacking" if they don't have x number of publishing credits, an agent, a deal, whatever the case may be. There's no schedule; there's no set course. You do what works for you, and you find your own way. Where everyone else is in the race will never, ever matter. In the most loving way, eyes on your own paper!"
- Megan Bontrager, author of *Eye of the Ouroboros*



"Every word you write is a step closer to the story only you can tell. The world needs your voice—don't let doubt silence it."
- Mackenzie Carson, author of *Where We First Began*



Narrative Resources to Deepen Your Lore

"Hook Your Reader" by Carly Hayward

<https://booklighteditorial.com/blog/hook-your-reader>

"Character Motivation and World Integration" by Jen Davenport

<https://rewriteitclub.com/character-motivation-and-world-integration/>

"Writing continuously, every day, is actually really important for continuity and productivity. I'd heard that before, but it wasn't until I did it myself over long stretches that I appreciated what it does for me."

- Dave Dobson, author of *Flames Over Frosthelm* and *The Glorious (and Epic) Tale of Lady Isovár*



Story Genius: How to Use Brain Science to Go Beyond Outlining and Write a Riveting Novel (Before You Waste Three Years Writing 327 Pages That Go Nowhere) by Lisa Cron

<https://www.amazon.com/Story-Genius-Science-Outlining-Riveting/dp/1607748894/>

"Imposter syndrome is real, and it affects EVERYONE. Always be kind to yourself and give yourself grace. Sometimes it's easy to cheer our friends on without believing the same things for ourselves."

- Christy Curry, author of *Love Between the Spreadsheets* and *Love Between the Lectures*



Rivet Your Reader with Deep Point of View by Jill Elizabeth Nelson

<https://www.amazon.com/Rivet-Your-Readers-Deep-Point-ebook/dp/B007PUMQ1O>

"The Intersection of Voice and POV" by Michelle Barker

<https://darlingaxe.com/blogs/news/voice-and-pov>

Understanding Show, Don't Tell: And Really Getting It by Janice Hardy

<https://www.amazon.com/Understanding-Show-Dont-Tell-Getting/dp/0991536436/>

"Tenacity is your greatest asset, followed closely by flexibility. Work relentlessly, tirelessly on your craft. When you get a rejection, send out your work twice more. But also don't be afraid to pivot and experiment. Don't give up on what you love, but don't be too rigid to change it either."

- Jessica Lewis, author of *Nav's Foolproof Guide to Falling in Love* and *Bad Witch Burning*



Adding the Final Touches

Craft in the Real World: Rethinking Fiction Writing and Workshopping

by Matthew Salesses

<https://www.amazon.com/Craft-Real-World-Rethinking-Workshopping/dp/1948226804/>

"Learn to rest, not to quit. Writing can be so emotionally taxing, and it is a long game. So don't forget to take breaks as you need and take care of yourself."

- Hayley Reese Chow, author of *Idriel's Children* and *Into the Churn*



Every Thesaurus You'll Ever Need – Angela Ackerman

<https://writershelpingwriters.net/bookstore/>

"Writing Tools – Writers Helping Writers" by Angela Ackerman

<https://writershelpingwriters.net/writing-tools/>

"Don't be afraid to share your work with someone outside of your area of expertise. For example, my editor's day job is as a stage manager at a theater. She approaches my books very much from a theater mindset as a result. And discussing things as she sees them—which is a POV from which I have negligible expertise—gives me a ton of stuff to consider that I wouldn't have otherwise. It's also a reason I've sought out people who love horror and romance as beta readers despite my books being neither of those."

- S. Morgan Burbank, author of *Kotov Syndrome* and *Woodpusher*



Other Resources

"How to correctly format your manuscript"

<https://www.scribophile.com/academy/how-to-format-a-novel-manuscript>

Word Hippo

<https://www.wordhippo.com>

Word Removal Guide by J. R. Hart

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1luHONRyO71F6cZ55UuJEuzpouFzEMpkjX8IMbpeBEv4/edit?tab=t.0>

Writer Beware

<https://writerbeware.blog>

"Everyone started at a different spot for their writing journey. They also have different lives. One person's success isn't the same. Same with the definition of success."

- Laura Huie, author of *The Unchosen* and *The Sunset Sovereign*



"You cannot write for everyone. As amazing as it would be to get a ton of eyes on your work someday, the most important thing is to find your ideal audience and write for them. The more you know your audience, the less negative reviews or critique will hurt. Some is objective, but some you can simply dismiss by realizing your writing isn't for that person, and that's okay."

- J. R. Hart, author of *The Ex Emergency* and *Getting Off*



"Find your people! I was alone in my journey for a number of years. It was only in 2022 that I found an amazing writing group who welcomed me with open arms! I've learned so much from them and vice versa... So yes, find your community!"

- Arva Bhavnagarwala, author of *A Little Bit of Love*



www.writehive.org

WriteHive Mentorship Program