

JEANETTE WINDLE WRITING WORKSHOPS/BIO

FOCUS ON FICTION TRACK:

From an award-winning suspense writer whose life and novels transverse the planet's darkest corners, this multi-session fiction track takes a fun-filled and hair-raising romp through the author's own real-life experiences to teach a practical outline for creating a seamless fictional world, peopling that world with living, breathing characters, then interweaving plot lines, character, conflict into a powerful resolution.

1. **Writing Fiction Part One-World-Building: “A Firm Foundation”**

Any place, time, or setting carries the germ of a story. But how to weave a world, whether contemporary, historical, or fantasy, that you can see, smell, taste, touch, and feel? Learn practical principles of building a firm and authentic foundation for your fictional story.

2. **Writing Fiction Part Two-Character Development: “Can These Bones Live?”**

Are your protagonists skeletal stereotypes designed simply to move along your storyline or living, breathing persons you'd recognize immediately in a dark alley? Motivation, life history, personality are just some of the points that will help you add flesh and soul to the bare bones of your characters.

3. **Writing Fiction Part Three-Plot Weaving: “A Story to Tell”**

A compelling story lies not only in who, what, where, and when, but how and especially why. Interweaving plot lines, conflict, POV, dialogue, forward motion vs. flashback, character vs. action-driven are among the elements necessary to tell an effective story.

4. **Writing Fiction Part Four-Self-Editing: “A Tale’s End”**

Written the last scene and thought you were done? Not so fast! Is every plot thread tied up? Conflict resolved? Timelines and real-life details double-checked? Spiritual message crystal-clear? Here will be your chance for any unasked questions.

A STORY TO TELL: WRITING THE TRUE-LIFE/MEMOIR TITLE: Non-fiction biography is the bread-and-butter of freelance writing. Whether contracted to write someone else's life story or writing your own memoir/life experience, this multi-session track will walk you through the practicalities of interviewing and working with clients, researching background data, choosing and organizing what to include, balancing vivid storytelling with chronology, setting, spiritual application, and practical reader takeaway, then weaving it all together to create a compelling narrative readers just can't put down.

SO YOU WANT TO WRITE! (CONTINUING CLASS FOR BEGINNING WRITERS): How do I get started as a writer? Find material or choose a topic? Create a scene or compelling character? What is the meaning of such cryptic terms as “show, don't tell”, “passive vs. action”, flashback, deep POV, head-hopping? What are the

formatting and editing guidelines an editor will expect? How and where do I actually SELL my writing? These are some of the mysteries veteran author, journalist, editor, and writing coach Jeanette Windle will be clarifying in this continuing track designed for the beginning writer. ***This class is hands-on and interactive so bring pen-and-paper or laptop.***

HOOK THAT EDITOR! A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO THE EYE-GRABBING PROPOSAL You've written a great novel or non-fiction book, but the rejections keep coming. Maybe your book manuscript isn't the problem but your book proposal. After all, it is the first thing an editor reads! This three-part, hands-on continuing class will walk you through the steps of writing an editor-grabbing hook, bio, query, and synopsis, along with other book proposal elements, sending you home with an effective template for your current book proposal and all others to follow.

WRITING FOR THE YOUTH MARKET CONTINUING CLASS:

Young readers have interests and reading skills that differ from adult readers. This four-part class discusses the current youth market, including short stories, picture books, first chapter books, novels, biographies, information books (Pt.1), covers kid-friendly specifics for writing exciting YA/middle grade novels with application to any children's writing (Pts. 2-3), finishing with practical how-tos for YA biographies and other non-fiction (Pt. 4).

FOCUS ON JUVENILE FICTION CONTINUING CLASS (combines elements of both the Focus on Fiction and the YA Market continuing track with emphasis on writing fiction for juvenile/middle grades)

Young readers have interests and reading skills that differ from adult readers. This four-part class by the author of highly acclaimed juvenile mystery series, *Parker Twins Adventures*, covers kid-friendly specifics for writing exciting YA/middle grade novels with application to any children's writing. A fun-filled and hair-raising romp through the author's own real-life experiences and writing journey teaches a practical outline for creating a seamless fictional world, peopling that world with living, breathing characters, then interweaving plot lines, character, conflict into a powerful resolution.

CURRICULUM CLINIC: *Producing Biblically-Centered, Culturally Relevant Curriculum—It's Less Difficult OR Costly Than You'd Think!*

How to produce curriculum that is biblically-centered while culturally relevant? What are the necessary elements of a lesson? Must visual aids be costly or imported? What about application and listener response? Using teaching principles of the greatest Master Teacher Himself, Jesus Christ, and experience sourced from 75 years of children's ministry and curriculum development on five continents, this workshop breaks down into practical, cost-effective steps the process of writing and publishing curriculum that is both universal in biblical content, but tailored to local contextualization and cultural distinctives.

INDIVIDUAL WORKSHOPS:

1. The A to Z of Writing a Sellable Article: Where to find material or choose a topic? What makes an attention-grabbing lead and headline? What to include and how to organize? A great conclusion or just petering out? Taught by a twenty-year-veteran missions journalist and editor, this workshop lays out in practical steps how to turn out consistently exciting, tightly written articles, no matter your theme or subject matter.

2. Using the Six Senses Purposefully in bringing setting and story alive. Whether writing fiction or non-fiction, effective telling of the story is what transports your reader into the world you want to share. And this is done most effectively through the six senses: sight, sound, smell, touch, taste, and that all-important sixth sense of the writer--emotion. Bring pen, paper and creativity because this will be a hands-on exercise.

3. Writing an Eye-catching Proposal: You have ten seconds to catch an editor's attention, two minutes to keep it, so make that proposal count! A practical guide to writing a professional and attention-grabbing proposal. Offers clear explanation and solution to short proposal vs. long proposal issue.

4. Writing the Personal Experience Story: Your life, or those of people around you, is filled with personal experiences and compelling stories that can be turned into marketable articles, devotionals, how-to pieces, even an entire book. Learn how to turn your experience into compelling story through use of fiction narrative techniques, then turn that story into a publishable piece of writing.

5. Life's Good, Bad and Ugly: Making Fiction Ring True: Writers can only breathe reality into their words if they know intimately of what they are writing. From an author who has been there and done that, learn how to use the good, bad, and ugly of your life experience to give your fiction the touch that will grab editors' attention and make your story ring true to readers.

6. Crafting the Political Suspense Novel: From a novelist who has had government experts ask how she knows so much, learn the tools to research and write a well-crafted political-suspense plot that is indeed truth as well as fiction.

7. Candid Confessions of a Novice Novelist: Want to avoid the red ink of that editor's pen? From Jeanette Windle's own writing and editorial experience, a hilarious romp through the most common mistakes of the beginning fiction writer and how to avoid them.

8. CIA 101: Investigative Techniques from the Trenches: Learn the investigative techniques by which political/suspense novelist Jeanette Windle has created fiction realistic enough for government agencies to question whether she obtained classified information.

9. Hook That Whale! Reeling out that perfectly honed hook for query or proposal may be all you're lacking to land a whale of an editorial contract. Planning on indie publishing? Tweak it a little further, and you'll have your elevator pitch, back cover copy, product description, and general marketing pitch as well. This will be hands-on, so here is your opportunity to bring your best query hook/elevator pitch (25-100 words) along to share. AND plan to work on a perfect pitch for your current fiction WIP.

10. A Story to Tell—Your Own or Another's: Writing the True-Life Experience

Title: Non-fiction biography is the bread-and-butter of freelance writing. Whether writing your own memoir or someone else's life story, this workshop will walk you through the practicalities of breaking down, organizing, and weaving into story form a compelling life narrative. Not writing a full book? Principles apply as well to the personal experience short story/article.

11. Weaving True Life Faith and Heroism into Culturally Relevant Children's

Curriculum: Children worldwide know of Hudson Taylor or Corrie Ten Boom. With reason, but every national church has its own pioneers of the faith and true life tales of God's working and miracles. Chronicling such stories not only prevents local church history from being lost, but provides an invaluable resource for children's ministry. This workshop offers a practical outline for adapting true life biographies and stories of God's grace, adding strong biblical application and other elements necessary to create culturally-relevant children's curriculum.

12. Writing to Touch the World (Keynote): An author whose ministry and novels transverse the planet's darkest corners, ECPA Christian Book Award and Christy Award finalist Jeanette Windle shares from her own walk through life's storms how every writer's unique journey with God can become a message that will touch and change this world.

SHORT BIO: As daughter of missionary parents, award-winning author and journalist Jeanette Windle grew up in the rural villages, jungles, and mountains of Colombia, now guerrilla hot zones. Her detailed research and writing is so realistic that it has prompted government agencies to question her to determine if she has received classified information. Currently based in Lancaster, PA, Jeanette has lived in six countries and traveled in more than thirty on five continents. Those experiences have birthed 16 international intrigue titles, including bestselling Tyndale House Publishers release *Veiled Freedom*, a 2010 ECPA Christian Book Award and Christy Award finalist, sequel *Freedom's Stand*, a 2012 ECPA Christian Book Award and Carol Award finalist, and *Congo Dawn*, 2013 Golden Scroll Novel of the Year.

SHORTER: Award-winning novelist, investigative journalist, editor, and collaborative writer Jeanette Windle grew up in the Amazon's guerrilla hot zones, has lived in six countries and traveled in more than thirty. Those experiences have birthed sixteen fiction titles, including bestselling *Veiled Freedom* (2010 ECPA Christian Book Award/Christy Award finalist) and *Freedom's Stand*, (2012 ECPA Christian Book Award/Carol Award finalist), as well as such non-fiction collaborative titles as *Forgiven: The Amish*

Schoolhouse Shooting, a Mother's Love, and a Story of Remarkable Grace (2016 ECPA Christian Book Award/Christian Retailing Best Awards finalist) and *All Saints*, also a Sony Affirm movie.

SHORTEST: Award-winning novelist and missions journalist Jeanette Windle has lived in six countries and traveled in more than 30, authored 16 fiction titles, and mentors writers on five continents. Jeanette's detailed research and writing is so realistic it has prompted government agencies to question if she received classified information.