Your Writing Plan

Worksheet

On a separate sheet, work on a writing plan for your future projects. Take time to dream, plan, and experiment—and not be hard yourself. Consider this a first draft, full of potential but not a document to follow stridently. You can eventually transition it into something workable for your evolving life and dreams.

Review Your Mission

1. Refer to your earlier worksheet and write out your mission as a writer. Make adjustments that might feel necessary.
2. As a review, how does this mission fit into your overall life?

Consider Your Goals

1. Refer to the earlier worksheet, and list your goals as a writer. Number you goals in the order you want to accomplish them.
2. For each goal, who is your reader? Be as specific as possible. How are you qualified to write for this reader?
3. For each goal, what specific action steps do you need to accomplish? Remember to list the research and other pre-writing steps.

Organization and Learning

1. To accomplish your goals, how will you organize your writing life?
2. How will you make room in your life for writing? What do you need to eliminate so you can write?
3. When will you write? How long or how much?
4. How can you organize a space devoted to writing?
5. What minimal writing supplies or resources do you need to acquire?
6. What additional learning could you investigate and intake? Include research, conferences, writers’ groups, talking to authors, finishing the worksheets, and more.

**Personal Considerations**

1. What fears and foes do you need to confront about writing? How will you do this?
2. Do you have time-management challenges? (Most of us do.) What are they? How can you improve your time management so you can write? Or when you’re working on a writing project?
3. How can you ensure you’ll actually start (or continue) writing regularly?
4. How will your define writing success?

**Getting Support**

1. Who could join a prayer team to intercede for you and your writing projects? How and when will you ask them to join? How often will you write to them with prayer requests?
2. What other writer, aspiring writer, or writing coach could be your support partner? How and when could you ask this person?
3. Would you benefit from an accountability partner or group? Who could this be?
4. How could you gain support from your family and friends?
5. How can you encourage yourself as a writer?
6. How can you nurture your creative soul?

**Spiritual Considerations**

1. What would you like to say to God about your writing dreams? Write it out.
2. How can you spiritually feed your writing life?
3. Do you harbor any spiritual barriers toward writing? If so, how you can resolve this?
A Specific Project

1. Choose one specific writing project to begin working on, or to continue. Briefly describe it, including your readership.
2. Briefly outline the project. For example, the points you’ll include in an article or the chapters you’ll write for a book.
3. What action steps will you take to begin (or continue) this specific project?

Your Writing Plan

For your selected project, create a writing plan for the next six months to a year. What will you accomplish each month? This includes learning, planning, writing the project, writing a query letter or book proposal, finding an agent, if needed, and other aspects of the writing life.

It’s best to keep your actions simple and attainable. One action a month can be enough. Also, consider your schedule and the holidays. For example, don’t plan a book deadline for December.

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