

The logo for 'Authors Community' is written in a large, black, cursive script. A thick, black, wavy line starts above the word 'Authors' and loops around it, ending above 'Community'. To the right of the text is a detailed illustration of a fountain pen nib, with several black ink droplets falling from it.

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WTF fun fact #525

"Nigglywiggly" is the actual name
of the little paper flag thingy
sticking out of the top of
Hershey's kisses!



wtf-fun-facts.tumblr

Fun-Fact'd Bio and Media Kit

by Gina Burgess

[Credit to Joan Stewart for this idea, which is one of the greats of 2017, and she gave me permission to put the idea here.]

Ever read your bio or About Me page to yourself out loud? Admit it. It's 99% Yawnsville, Boredom State. Sure you really do need to let people know all about those credentials, especially if you write non-fiction. You've got to let people know you know what you are talking about. But, (this works for fiction, too), you also need to catch the interest of those who are writing about you in the book blog tours, or journalists book reviewers, an especially potential readers. People love to laugh, ooo, ah, and be surprised.

Inserting a special paragraph, or even a special page as Joan suggests, with 5 or 10 fun facts will raise eyebrows and spark interest to read further.

Here are some examples of fun facts about other authors:

- Alexandre Dumas (Count of Monte Cristo, Three Musketeers) fought his first duel at age 23. During the course of the duel, his trousers fell down.
- Before settling on the pen name Mark Twain, Samuel Langhorne Clemens signed his writings with the pseudonym 'Josh'.
- Jean-Dominique Bauby 'dictated' his book *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*, about his life following a stroke, by blinking his left eyelid.
- Detective fiction author Dashiell Hammett started out as a private detective; his first case was to track down a stolen Ferris wheel.
- When he worked for Faber, T. S. Eliot liked to seat visiting authors in chairs with whoopee cushions and offer them exploding cigars.
- A young Samuel Johnson was turned down for a teaching job because it was feared his 'way of distorting his face' would scare the pupils.
- On his marriage document in 1582, William Shakespeare's name was spelled

'William Shagspeare'

- C. S. Lewis coined the word 'verbicide' to denote the killing of a word or the distortion of its original meaning.
- Writer of westerns, Louis L'Amour, received 200 rejections before he was published. His novels have now sold 320 million copies worldwide.

Joan mentions a few uses for your fun facts:

"You can weave fun facts into your bio, but I recommend you offer them on a separate page in your online media kit and link to them from the bio, so they stand out.

Some facts can be short enough to be tweets. Others can be paired with whimsical stock photos and shared on social media. How about creating an entire Pinterest board of fun facts about you?

Radio and TV talk show hosts can steal fun facts and turn them into questions for interviews. Be sure to take them with you to the studio when doing interviews.

You can use relevant fun facts when pitching journalists.

They're also ice-breakers when someone who doesn't know you reads your media kit and wants to contact you."

So what are some fun facts about you? Who has the most fun fact? The most unusual or quirky? Join us in the forum to discuss this great idea.

[You need to [register on our website](#) before [joining the forum](#). We have a two step registration to keep our forum safe from all the trolls and goblins.]



Got Something to Share?

If you are a [registered member](#), we'd love for you to share an article for the newsletter? Want to share a blog post? [Email me your pitch](#) and share your expertise with 17,000 folks.

life hacks #607

Eating chocolate while studying will help the brain retain new information more easily, and has been directly linked to higher test scores.

@1000LifeHacks
1000LifeHacks.com

Yes! Chocolate is the perfect food for work!



So You've Got a Book Idea... Last Chance to Register!!

Join Acclaimed Sarah Tun for this great We-Ed class.

Check out Sarah's teaser video. She tells you exactly what this web-ed covers.
LIVE! Tuesday, November 14th at Noon Eastern/ 11 am Central/10 am Mountain/9 am Pacific. Sarah will be recording from the UK which is 5 pm.

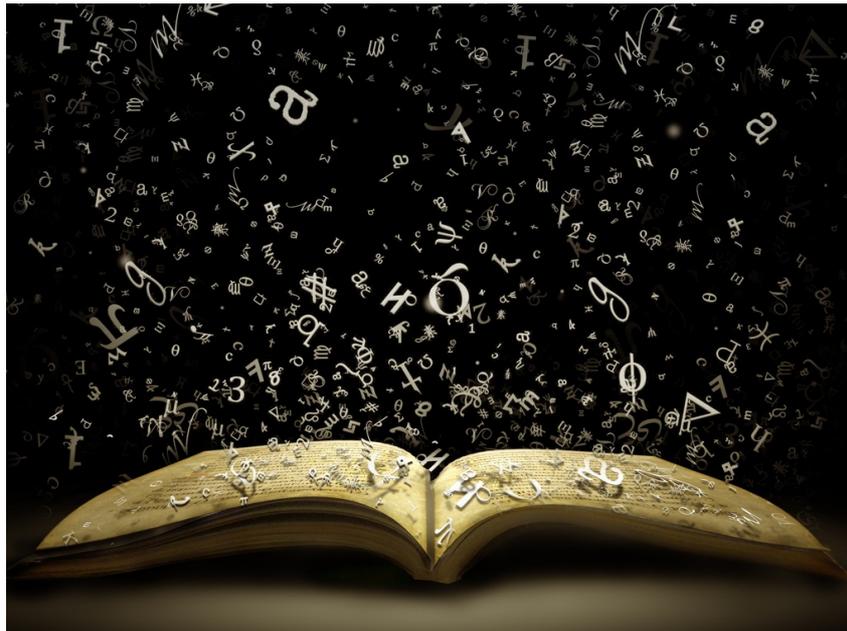
Deadline is 11:59 PM Central time, Monday, Nov. 13!

Sarah is a Writing Coach, Audio Book Recorder, and provides Manuscript Critiques. In this web-ed class Sarah teaches you **how to go from idea to finished first draft, including do's and don'ts.**

She'll cover:

- Find your Focus
- Find your Writing Time
- Brainstorm
- Create the Outline
- Write the Preface
- Smile!
- Write Chapter 1
- Follow the Pattern
- Keep your Focus
- Review

{FIRSTNAME} Register Today! Web-Ed Events



Memories, Memories Web-Ed Class

LIVE! November 30th 11 am Eastern/10 am Central

by Kathrin Herr

[Message from Kathrin about this fascinating Web-Ed class!](#)

{FIRSTNAME} Register today! Web-Ed Events



Forum News

[Meet Our Members lots of authors and service providers to meet!](#)

[What's the Best Advice you ever received as a newbie writer? Got some advice for newbies? Please share your wisdom.](#)

[Have you targeted your market?](#) What's the best way to target your market? Know something that works? Share it with us today.

[Would you like to be a vendor? Would you like to teach others your expertise? Check out what we're looking for...](#)

Forum Discussions

Blog Highlights

[What's the most terrifying word for an author?](#)

by Gina Burgess

Nope it isn't writer's block. That's two words. According to a mountain of studies it's networking. Of course there isn't a separate study done just on authors, but studies have included thousands of people in all different walks of life. Networking seems to either instill excitement of discovery in some people or fear of inauthenticity in others.

[What is inbound marketing?](#)

by Tamy Bond

Simply stated, Inbound Marketing is attracting business by connecting with people. The driving factor is to get noticed by creating interest rather than showing a product. Inbound Marketing targets potential customers as well as loyal fans.



Blog

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