



## Weed Out the Dross

by Sarah Tun

Writing is an art... and a science. Just like in gardening, you want to weed out the bad stuff so the good stuff can shine and breathe and spark a reader's imagination. It's obvious that writing is an art, but perhaps not so clear there is a science to the process of writing. The art of it is a creative process, which requires imagination and abstract thinking, the organisation of thoughts, and the ability to conceptualise in order to create a world that the reader can climb into and live in as he reads your words — whether writing fiction or non-fiction. But the science of the process of writing involves inviting others into your created world.

Writing is experimental with tests and results — aka getting others' feedback on what you've written — which is significantly helpful to the process.

The earlier in the process of writing a piece you can get feedback the better. The point isn't to hone a first paragraph or first chapter until your fingers are sore and then get feedback. No! It is best, I think, to complete and share your first draft with others to find out what they think of the characters, plot, idea behind the book. Writers think how something is written is most important, but I suggest that while the how may be the writer's focal point while we're in the process, it isn't the main purpose for writing.

The main purpose for writing is to share a story or point of view with others, to enhance their lives. We writers, when in the writing trenches, can forget that.

While it is significant that how we present our offering is of the best quality we can muster — and that usually takes a few re-writes — in the early stages, we can save ourselves a lot of grief and heartache if we simply put a rough draft in front of other writers or other people whom we trust and respect, to find out if the book or story is appealing. Incidentally, it also gets our juices going, to see if we really care enough about the book to spend months crafting it.

We can weed out the dross of our endless list of ideas and story-lines when we get feedback from reliable sources.

**Now, here's an offering... [So You Have a Book! Web-Ed](#)**

by Sarah Tun. [Here's a really short video about this class set for next Tuesday.](#)

Also if you have a story or first chapter or the outline for a book you're considering writing, and not sure if it's worth putting time and passion into, approach me and I'll offer some free feedback. Check out my [profile on Authors Community](#). See you at the Web-Ed!



**[So You've Got a Book Idea... Last Chance to Register!!](#)**

by Sarah Tun

**[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!**

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

(If the registration buttons don't work, [EMAIL](#) us your interest :))

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## **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!](#)

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### **Blog Highlights**

#### **[Authors Bio vs About Me](#)**

by *Belinda Forgy*

... it's a missed opportunity... in marketing... not just your book... but you as an author! We know why the bio is important to readers and agents alike; it builds authority and reputation. The tighter the facts, the quicker to read and decide. But what if they want to know more? Not about the book, the blurb covers that. And not about your qualifications, the bio covers that. But about you, the author.

#### **[How do you format your books?](#)**

by *Meredith Bond*

To me, formatting is the most fun part of self-publishing. If I were an artist or had more of an artist's eye, I might feel that creating the cover would be more fun, but sadly, I'm too left-brained for that. But formatting, that lets me be creative, detail oriented and fool with design.



Blog

Writers lead double lives  
with multiple  
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### Contest Winner is George Eckel!

George won the random drawing. George, you've got 1 week to [contact me](#)

{FIRSTNAME} Join the Forum if you haven't already!

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