

ISSUE #1 - BEGINNER

# indie

THE INDEPENDENT AUTHOR MAGAZINE

PROOFREADING  
VS EDITING

SUNDAY EMMANUEL  
NDIFREKE

BEGINNER  
ARTISTS

ADVICE FROM  
DASHIEDRAWS

STARTING A  
SERIES

INTERVIEW WITH  
JOSH HALL

# Welcome

Indie is an online magazine dedicated to the independent author and artist community. It features opening chapters, short stories, poetry, as well as advice, non fiction articles and book reviews. Here, there is something for every reader, and you're able to support a large amount of creators.



**Created by Alexandra Killworth**

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# CREATIVE WRITING

Featuring:

Samantha Jean

Nabeeha Asim

Alexandra Killworth

# CHANGE

SHORT STORY BY  
SAMANTHA JEAN

She stood there. Arms out perpendicular.  
With a rush of wind, and a shallow breath,  
she leaned back and fell. Hard.

It hurt less as a child. Weight. Momentum.  
That and the emotional baggage attached  
to her like a ton of bricks made for a not so  
soft fall on the seemingly soft grassy ground  
of North Lake Park.

The sky was clear, but her mind wasn't.  
Clouds breezed by struggling to find shape.  
It wasn't like the puppies and teddy bears  
cumulonimbus' used to make for her in her  
youth.

These days, she had trouble seeing anything  
at all.



**SAMANTHA JEAN**

@samanthajeon.writer

# FEAR THE DAY

POEM BY  
NABEEHA ASIM

Fear the day  
That leads us to our freedom  
Bound, not to our blood,  
But  
To the heavens above  
Fear the day  
You wake up  
Alone  
Dark  
Hurt  
Motherless  
Ignorant  
Fear the day  
You travel  
Heavy  
With the sins equivalent to the volume of the seven seas  
Fear the day  
Those seven seas split and swallow your seven deadly sins  
Fear the day  
Your deadly sins evaporate  
Taking part in the elementary cycle of life  
Lifting and getting lost in the skies above  
Navigating the slopes  
To the boundless  
Heavens above

# BEAUTIFUL BOY

POEM BY  
NABEEHA ASIM

Beautiful boy  
Used to look up at the sky  
And see the smoke filled  
clouds shade his streets  
Beautiful boy  
Felt the earth crackle beneath his feet  
And watched sunsets disappear for good  
Beautiful boy  
Resembles the stars  
No matter the size  
He gleams  
Beautiful boy  
With his hands to his heart  
Whispers to his dear  
Words that travel through the air  
Beautiful boy  
Watches earth diminish  
And has no remote control  
To switch off the TV  
Beautiful boy  
In beautiful lands  
With beautiful smiles  
oh how he is beautifully bred  
Beautiful boy  
Beautiful boy  
Beautiful boy



**NABEEHA ASIM**  
@just.nabeeha

# IMMUNITY

## OPENING CHAPTER

Polperro was once one of England's most beautiful villages; now, it's a rotting cemetery. Except, no holes are dug specifically for the dead, none are filled in. No gravestones adorn the decaying land. No one brings the white flowers to mourn the dead. Instead, there are piles and stacks in every corner. The playground, the schools, the hospital. Everywhere.

Yet, it has only been three years. I suppose mankind was doomed to end at some point, although no one expected it to happen so soon, or so suddenly.

Here I am, the last human alive in the country, as far as I know. Maybe even the whole world. Who knows? If there are any other survivors, I have no way of contacting them and I refuse to leave my home town.

If I can even call it a home anymore, that is.

Is home a place where you feel safe? Where people greet you with open arms? If that's the case, I can never call anywhere a home now.

My name is Charlotte Merione, but most people called me Charlie. I prefer that, although it doesn't matter anymore. I live in Polperro; my dad used to be a fisherman and worked for Chip Ahoy. My brother adored him, always saying stuff like, "I'm gonna be like daddy when I'm big and strong!". He even said that the day before he died. The day before they all died; mum, dad, Oliver, everyone. I guess I wasn't too close to them, maybe that's why I'm not feeling any loneliness.

I've always been an introvert, I've always preferred solitude. Or maybe it's just the thought of my dad's last screams of hatred-  
"Damn you", "Die with us already", "Help us live, you selfish brat!",  
"Go to hell, you-"

My eyes snap open when the water licks my toes. Sitting up, I hazily remember my surroundings. I seem to be lying on the rocky edges of Polperro beach. Not particularly safe, but oh well. Not particularly comfortable either. I quickly notice gravel stuck to my back. Brushing them off, I stand up, slightly wobbly. My dull eyes gaze around the deadlands.

That's what I call the world now. Deadlands. If there's bodies, it's a deadland. Simple enough. It's always felt like something out of a zombie film or a cheap horror movie, but the difference is that in real life, there are no walking corpses to keep you company.

Today is colder than usual and I can feel the wind starting to pick up so I slip on my flimsy jacket, although it doesn't do much good. I do up the falling-apart buttons and pull the sleeves over my frail hands.

I say it's colder than usual, but everyday is cold now. Most likely from the lack of global warming, although I'm not complaining. Checking the time, my watch says it's 3:17. Focusing on the sky, sun and clouds, it seems about right. I'm feeling peckish, though I've learnt to ignore hunger, so I ration my food. Thanks to that, I've lost a lot of weight. My rib cage has become visible again, I feel colder late at night and my bony hands make me feel uncomfortable, so I hide them with my sleeves. At least I'm building muscle now.

Not like it matters, I have the whole country to myself. But it's better safe than sorry.

I decide that I should go home. That's what I call it, anyway. It's not even my real home; I fled that place the day before the rest of my family died. I did come back though, however before then, I stayed (hid, rather) in a shed. That same shed is my home now. Thankfully, I never lost my keys, so I returned to gather a few belongings. Every time I returned, I would meekly surprise myself at how little I react to the horrors.

The shed itself is big and well-kept, due to my obsessive cleaning habits. Outside is a small patch of dirt once used for farming, although not very fertile. I decorated the inside with items from my room; some posters, books, photos, a lamp (which I soon realised was useless). Just little things. But since my old house is in Brent, I had to drag an old children's bed and a broken bookshelf to the shed from some nearby houses. Using some of the tools already in the shed, I fixed the shelf up to actually be useful. Not bad for someone my age.

From the beach I was at, it only took me five minutes to get home. I check the candle on my desk; a cold, black wick. The flame went out hours ago. Realising how dim the place is, my hand feels around the window frame for a string. My fingers find it and loosely grip around it and, as I pull, the curtains sway to the side, letting rays of sunlight dance around the room. I have to blink a few times from the sudden light.

Now that I can see, my eyes wander to my desk. I dragged this out from a nearby house, too. Or was it a restaurant? I can't remember now.

I pull out the chair from under and sit down, my hands floating above numerous sheets of paper, books and pictures in disarray on the desk. Most of the sheets are just little doodles from when I'm bored, or plans for what to do, now that I have the place to myself. Plans that will never be put into action.

Seeing as I have nothing better to do, I start to tidy up. Let's start with books. There's about four or five scattered around, so I pile them up in my arms and stroll over to the shelf. My books are always in alphabetical order, although I usually place them in the correct spot without thinking it through. It just comes so naturally to me.

I'm just about to place the first book, a Russian dictionary, when something in the back of my head tugs me back. I can't place it- something isn't right. I scan each shelf with intimidation, almost glaring. There's gaps in the shelf, which should be because I'm holding four books. I decide to count the gaps.

One, two, three, four- five.

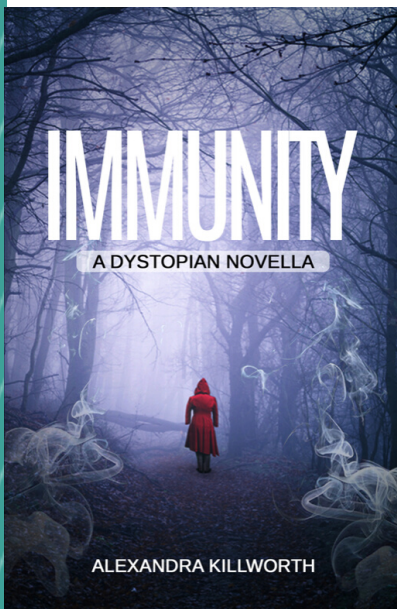
But which book is missing?

My hands start to tremble and I drop the books I'm carrying.

Two of them hit my toes, but I don't flinch. I can feel my breathing becoming shallow, yet I don't notice one of my own hands feeling my throat. However, that's not why my breathing is slowing to a stop. For what feels like a hundred years but is only a brief moment, I feel as though my thoughts are detached from my body. As if I'm looking at myself from another point of view, from another person; and this person really hates me. Suddenly, other thoughts come into my head. Insanity is the first thing. Then hatred. Then loneliness. Then anxiety.

Even though everything is as still as it will ever be, unlike myself, I see the room spinning. It starts off slow, then gradually spins faster and faster until I can't even look up or down without falling over.

That's when everything goes black.



**'IMMUNITY' BY ALEXANDRA KILLWORTH**  
**YA DYSTOPIAN NOVELLA**

*'Gripping story that sucks you in  
and leaves you wanting more'*

# THE DEVIL CALLS

CASEY DENBY



Melanie Parker celebrates her 18th birthday on the day of her best friend's funeral. She struggles to take the ceremony seriously as it utterly fails to represent Cass truthfully. But it is an ending, a big, black full stop to Cass, a reminder that she is never coming back. That is until Cowan tells Mel he's been seeing a her ghost. The truth behind her death is soon uncovered and Mel and Cowan must work to prevent Cass's fate from happening to anyone else.

But it's all too soon before they are trapped too, being led down the same overgrown, rarely walked path as the others. They're unable to ignore the irresistible beckoning in their desperation to find the truth.

**The Devil Calls and they are powerless to ignore it.**

# INTERVIEWS

Featuring:  
Joshua Hall  
G.D.Bubb

# Starting a Series

Interview with Josh Hall

## **How did you come up with the idea for your book?**

I was scrolling through Facebook and came across some work by photographer Mike Brodie. The work showed freight train riders, and I just thought it was such an interesting world. I started with this idea of living on freight trains and it snowballed. Things I never thought of adding into the story are now pretty big parts of it!

## **Why did you decide to make it a series?**

The story of Liberate Me was always going to have a second instalment. A friend planted the idea to do more though, and I started thinking about where it would all go. Looking at things through a different lens, the Liberate Me world began to expand, so I went with it.

## **What's the hardest part of planning a series?**

The hardest part is consistency. Needing to keep the same details across the books is important, especially to help with immersion. At the same time though, I think of Bob Ross - "There are no mistakes, just happy accidents". Which is very true as some of the mistakes I've made, I have been able to work with, and have served the world building.

## **What's the most important part of planning?**

The characters would probably be the most important part of planning- they are there to be loved, hated, and everything in between. Keeping them worth following is extremely important, as they are the vessels connecting the reader to the world.

## **How long does it take to plan and edit your book?**

The planning phase is pretty quick for me. I keep the ideas I have in my head and just start writing. That's how things were for the first book at least- like I said, the Liberate Me world has expanded, and so I do try and plan ahead now.

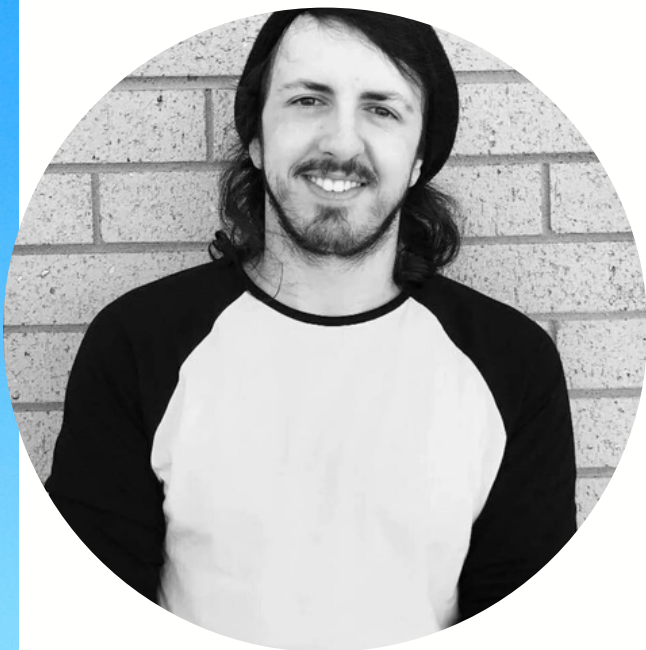
The writing and editing phases are definitely longer than the planning. Main characters, points of view, and events can, and have, changed in the story. This phase can take a few months because of needing to go back and heavily adjust some elements.

## **How do you keep yourself motivated?**

It was just incredibly fun. The whole process of creating a world, filling it with characters and giving it all history is an enjoyable process on its own.

## What advice would you give to a beginner looing to write a book?

This may seem contradictory: There is no one way to write- but you still need to listen to other people's opinions on your work. You will probably have your own style of writing, which is great! But it doesn't mean every idea that comes to mind will be a winner. The artistic world is very subective and if you want to get better at your craft, it's important to hear different views.



## JOSHUA HALL

Joshua Hall is an indie author who loves to explore and create virtual worlds and characters. While he intended to join the Police Force, he has instead go on to continue writing and publish his first book: Liberate Me

[www.joshhall.com.au](http://www.joshhall.com.au)  
[@josh\\_hall\\_author](https://twitter.com/josh_hall_author)

# THE WRITING PROCESS

G.D Bubb

## **Where does your inspiration come from?**

I like to believe I can pick fibres out of anything, whether it be a walk into the city, washing up my morning coffee mug or even the sound of my cats running around. I do, however, draw a lot of inspiration from music. I spend so much of the day (where I can) with headphones on so I often hear a certain word or sound and then fixate on it, thus becoming a starting point or a premise for a piece and with a varied music taste I have plenty of opportunity.

## **How long have you been writing for?**

So, I started at 16 (so 9 years now) but I wrote maybe one or two pieces a year, so very vaguely and I had no idea that it was really a thing back then, but it really hit me in my late teens and didn't really take poetry seriously until maybe early twenties. I became an 'Instagram Poet', if you will, about 3 years ago. Going okay so far.

## **What made you want to start writing?**

Okay Alexandra, I'm going to be entirely honest with you and tell you I have no idea how I've ended up here... It's like one minute it's not a thing and then the next I've published a book. That's how I feel but to answer your question somewhat I think its being able to express anything. Like anything,

I have pieces of grief and the death of friends but I also have poems about being in the bath with my cat and one about lettuce. Writing can be anything you want it to be.

## **Do you have a specific writing process? Do you use schedules or write spontaneously?**

I'm going to answer these questions together as they both stem the same answer, everything I do is down to spontaneity and 90% of the pieces I write don't get edited and are written in about 5 minutes. That's just how I personally work, I'll be walking down the street and grab a concept and write it there and then. I could be mid conversation with my partner and then just ignore her as I'm writing. I like to be as raw as possible and as a writer I use potentially less creative writing skills than others but, that's how I like to write. Bluntly.

## **Do your poems link together, or are they all unique?**

No poem is unique, sorry to break that to you but this is 2020, everything I've ever written has probably been written by someone else BUT to not induce an existential crisis in myself on regards to my own work, some do follow the same theme and some are unique... I guess haha! Honestly, I'm like 600 poems deep in my career and onto writing my third book so half the time I've forgotten what I've written myself.

I do prefer some topics over the others so it's always interesting to try and find a new approach or direction, think out the box, you know?

## **What advice would you give to a beginner writer?**

Firstly, stop calling yourself an aspiring writer, if you write, you're a writer. Secondly, YOU are your own worst critic. Even if you have written pieces you are unsure of post them, release them for the world to read as the feedback can often be surprising as well as critical, take both with a pinch of salt and develop from what is given back. Some of the pieces I've been like "yeah no, but I want to post something" have achieved great results. Be confident enough to fail one a day. Thirdly, community is everything, social media has the power. I'm a British writer living in Calgary, Canada. I know poets down the road, back home, all throughout America, across India and Asia and those in Australia all thanks to the Instagram community. Make friends, join group chats and get involved as you never know who you'll meet and what opportunities will rise. I've ended up starting a two tiny multinational collaboration pieces because people I know wanted to get on board, this stems back to confidence. Fourthly and lastly, ask for help but you have to give to get back. This mostly correlates to social media but comment on other peoples work, follow them if you appreciate them and tell them when you connect with their work. This builds the connections and eventually you'll gain feedback and support without having to ask for it, but at first, don't be afraid to ask for some attention, just go about it the right way.

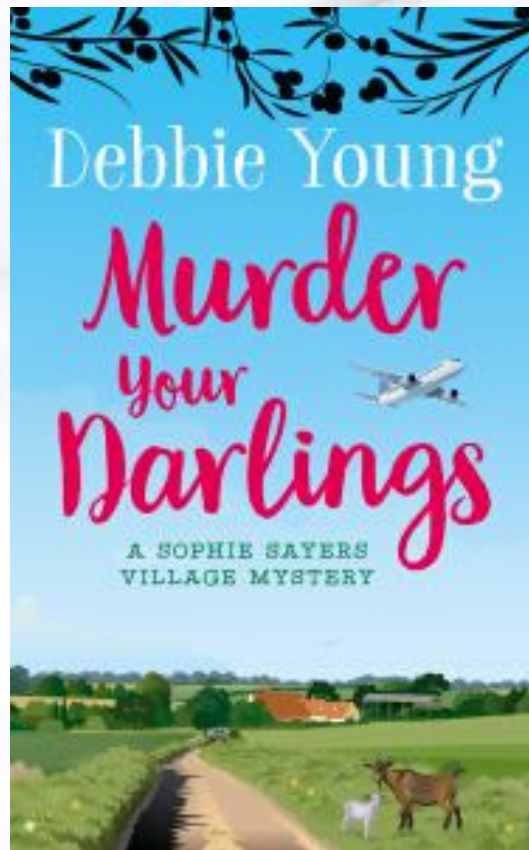


**G.D BUBBB**

@g.d.bubb

# MURDER YOUR DARLINGS

DEBBIE YOUNG



When Sophie Sayers joins a writers' retreat on a secluded Greek island, she's hoping to find inspiration. Away from her rural English comfort zone, she also takes stock of her relationship with her boyfriend Hector. But scarcely has the writing course begun when bestselling romantic novelist Marina Milanese disappears...

# ADVICE

Featuring:

Dashie Draws

Emmanuel Ndifreke

Harrie Williams

Alexandra Killworth

# BEGINNER ARTIST

Advice Panel with  
DashieDraws

## **How do I find my own art style?**

Finding your own style takes time, and naturally develops and changes as your skill increases. Don't stress early on as this is the stage of experimentation. Find artists you like and try out their techniques and aspects. Maybe you like how they use shading, colour, etc. With some trial and error, you'll have your own art style!

## **Do I need expensive art supplies?**

No. You can create beautiful works of art with the cheapest of materials. As you progress, you'll likely want better quality supplies, but that doesn't mean they have to be expensive. Only splash out on the supplies that really matter. Please do not feel the need to go and spend hundreds on your supplies!

## **Do you have to sell your art?**

Do not feel pressured into selling your work just because everyone else seems to be. Selling your art is something to try when you have honed your skills and decided this is a career path you want to take. If you don't want to sell your art, then don't! Especially if you see it as just a hobby.

## **How do I deal with criticism?**

This one is tricky, as it varies from person to person. A big thing to realise is the difference between constructive criticism, pointing out an area of improvement where it's needed, and destructive criticism, which is hurtful and rude. Only listen to constructive criticism.

Another helpful thing to keep in mind is that constructive criticism is not a personal attack. This can be hard to get your head around, as art is a personal hobby, however it is necessary to deal with that type of criticism.

## **What drawing habits should I do?**

Drawing everyday will help you improve at a great speed! But don't feel at all pressured to create a masterpiece every single day, a small doodle is perfectly good enough. No matter how good your memory, references are a must for accurate drawings. Taking breaks and making sure to look after your body is also important. Take breaks!

## **Do I need a website?**

You don't need a website unless you're wanting to be reachable online, freelancing or creating a portfolio and selling your work. Do some research on artists who are doing similar work and see if they have a website.

## **How do I get better at anatomy?**

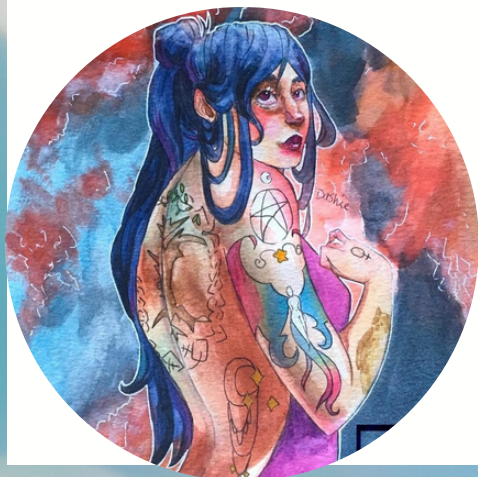
There's only one way to get better at anatomy, and that is using references. I advise using Google or Pinterest. Study a wide range of poses and body types. Tutorials for how fat and muscle works also helps.

## **How do I stop hating my work?**

Criticising your work in a positive way and seeing the need for improvement is necessary to progress, because if you think there are no flaws you won't move forward.

The biggest step that helped me was stopping comparing myself to others. It's hard to do but worthwhile for your mental state! Everyone is at different levels of improvement and everyone is on their own path.

**I hope that some of this advice will help set you on track to become the artist you want to be! - Dashie Draws**



## **DASHIE MARCELLA**

Dashie Marcella is a young emerging artist in England. Their work spans across many mediums, specialising in exploring the female form, in all of its surreal and beautiful ways.



# PROOFREADING VS EDITING

Emmanuel  
Ndifreke

Just finished writing your dissertation or essay? Congratulations! However, there's still a little way to go before you can hand it in. It's always essential to check over any piece of work to make sure you have the best chance of success. But should you edit your essay, or proofread it, or both? Many people use these terms interchangeably, however proofreading and editing don't quite mean the same thing - and they won't produce the same results. Proofreading is the correcting of surface errors such as grammar, spelling and punctuation. While it still requires a nuanced understanding of the English language, it differs from editing, which seeks to improve the overall quality of writing by enhancing flow, readability and structure. Here's a deeper look at what each involves.

## PROOFREADING

Proofreading is often considered a science. Proofreading checks work to identify all errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar. It also picks up instances of inconsistent terminology, formatting and referencing. Proofreading tends to result in minor, aesthetic adjustments to text rather than big changes. However, proper proofreading still requires specialised knowledge and experience to be effective (and certainly goes far beyond what your computer's spell-checking software can do).

This is because the human brain is very good at correcting errors automatically, so when you look at a piece of writing you may not register its mistakes, especially when it comes to your own work. We've all seen those memes where some letters are jumbled up inside words, but you can still somehow read them! Any assignment should include a proofreading stage to ensure it is error free before it's marked.

# EDITING

If proofreading is a science, editing is an art. Editing is the process of improving the overall quality of writing to make an essay the best it can possibly be. It uses much more creativity and often considers the feelings of the work's audience. As such, editing can cause extensive changes to text, bringing up questions such as:

1. Have you chosen the most appropriate words to convey your meaning effectively?
2. Have you used the passive voice?
3. Is the tone right for the audience?
4. Are there unnecessary words or overlong sentences?
5. Can the structure of the essay be changed to make the argument more persuasive?

Editing is all about making sure the meaning and ideas in a piece of work are conveyed in the best possible way, for the audience. Editing might also involve looking more closely at the content itself, using specialist knowledge of the subject to clarify text, and often check facts as well. In addition, it's another chance to look closely at spelling and grammar, just as with proofreading.

When editing your own work, it's best to put it aside for a day or two so you can look at it with a fresh perspective.

Otherwise, you are usually too attached to the assignment to be able to make objective decisions about the words on the page and the structure that you've used. A popular technique of the drafting process is to edit first and proofread last, as a final, final step before you hand in your work. And definitely reach out for help during this process, if you can. A second set of eyes can be invaluable, for both editing and proofreading.

# WHAT IT'S LIKE AS A BEGINNER

Harrie  
Williams

**My name is Harrie Williams and I have self-published two books. However, I would totally still consider myself as a Beginner Writer. I'm still inexperienced and naïve in terms of the publishing community but I can definitely tell you about my experience with writing a book.**

I have been writing for as long as I can remember. My very first stories were usually only a single page of scribbled chaos. My mind has always been overflowing with ideas and stories and getting them down was the best way for me to explore my own thoughts and feelings as well as engage with fantasy worlds.

I often re-read earlier stories that I wrote when I was younger with a mixture of nostalgia and cringe. I find that the basis of the ideas is brilliant, but the exact mechanics of the story and the way it is written leaves a lot to be desired. But it's okay if you're not happy with what you write originally! Things are rarely perfect first time round. I find that just getting the body of your ideas down on paper is enough. Editing can come later and, although not the most thrilling part of writing, is really important.

What is it like writing a novel? Personally, I am very erratic. I write when the mood takes me which isn't very productive. I really struggle to force myself to write when I have a block, but really, an hour a day will be beneficial even if it's just exploring your characters or a setting. This usually leads to further inspiration!

I would recommend taking advantage of people offering help! There are countless blogs, Instagram accounts and facebook pages online as well as classes in the real world. I have learnt a lot about how to improve my writings from some of these. Also, some bookshops do 'meet the writers' and panels and they're always fun to attend as well as helping you learn other people's styles of writing.

Fundamentally, how you write is entirely down to you. Every piece of writing you produce is unique and special. However, not every one will agree. Unfortunately, beginner writers need to learn to accept rejection. With my first book I sent it to several publishers before I settled on self-publishing through amazon. Every. Single. One. Rejected. But that's okay. Critique helps writers to grow and develop into the best versions of themselves.

So, you've just written your first or second book, and you're not sure where to go from there. A year ago I was in your shoes. However, it's not as daunting as you may think.

## **1-Networking**

This is key because the writing community is quite tightly knit. Almost everyone is lovely and you're bound to make some really good friends. While it's nicer to have friends with authors who write the same genre as you, don't feel limited, you can talk to everyone. This is important for a few reasons. For one, on social media, you'll have a consistent audience. Secondly, you can approach them to ask for reviews (in exchange for an ARC) or to be a beta reader or critique partner. Thirdly, word of mouth. It doesn't take much for one success to spread through the grapevine once you've got a good collection of friends in the writing community.

## **2- Contact Indie Bookshops**

Since it's unlikely you'll get your book onto a mainstream bookstore's shelves, aim for indie bookstores. These shops are usually much more open to supporting smaller, local authors, so see if there's any in your area. If they agree to stocking your books, you'll have to come to some sort of deal regarding money, but once they're in any bookstore you can start promoting on social media.

## **3- Utilise Social Media**

When going through social media, the last thing anyone wants is someone constantly saying 'Buy my book!!!' over and over. You should be on at least 2 social media sites and keep them updated regularly. Be personal if you're comfortable- share a selfie or two, or a picture of your cat, whatever you want. Let your audience into your everyday life and let them see why you're relatable. People like to talk to people that get them. If every one of your posts is about buying your books, you come off as desperate and trying too hard.

## **4- Use Targeted Ads on Facebook**

If you use Facebook, definitely use targeted ads. This means establishing a clear, concise audience that the advert will be aimed at. Firstly, the advert itself should be the blurb of the book (maybe followed by a review) and the link/picture. Cut to the chase, make people interested. Narrow down who would be interested. Is it young adult? Or is it Historical? If so, target people who like *The Witcher*, *Game of Thrones*, and so on. .

## **5- Contact Local Schools**

Speaking of school, this one is good since everyone has contacts. If possible, contact your local schools- bonus points if it's one you went to! This works out me personally since I'm young and my old secondary school is quite tightly knitted. You can do a creative writing workshop, or a talk about the life of an author, or if the audience is more intellectual you could even go into the nitty gritty bits of publishing and marketing and whatnot. Choose a talk that fits you.

## **6- Contact Local Newspaper**

If you have a local newspaper, try and contact them about your book launch. Now's not the time to be hugely humble, you have to really sell yourself. Any past achievements, good reviews or awards should be mentioned here- after all, newspapers want people to pay attention. Some places might not bother, but definitely give it a shot. It's always nice to see your face in the local newspaper!

## **7- Play to your Uniqueness**

What I mean by this is, if there is something unique or different about you, utilise it. For example, I am a mentally ill autistic female writer. A fairly big minority. Therefore, it gives me a unique insight and experiences that help me write different stories. I'm also very young for a writer, so it's easy to make headlines such as 'Youngest author in Gloucestershire' and I can use that title to target schools for talks and workshops.

## **8- Put copies into charity shops**

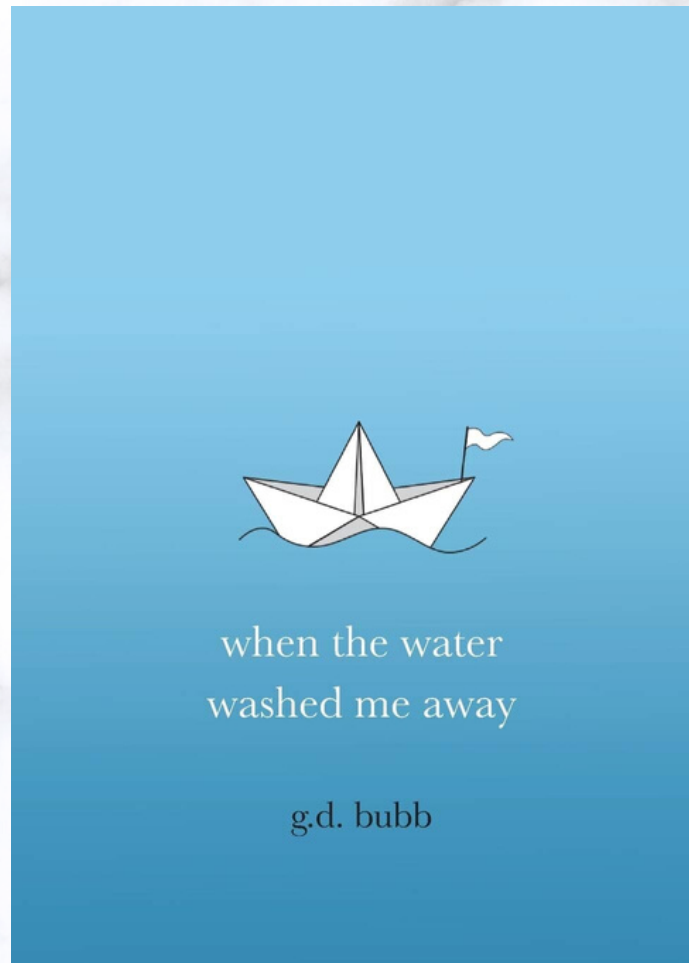
Not everyone has spare copies of their books lying around, but if you do, consider donating them to a local charity shop. You won't get money obviously, but loads of people visit charity shops for cheap books daily. And who knows, if someone buys it and likes it, they might check you out on social media! It's a shot in the dark but it can play off. At the very least, your book is out there and in new, different places and getting exposure.

## **9- Do Giveaways**

Everyone loves a giveaway. If you do a giveaway of one of your books, plus maybe something else (if you're an artist, you could do prints of your work!) it means that even people who haven't had the chance to buy a book can get involved. Make sure it's signed too- everyone loves a personal message! Almost anyone will take part in a giveaway if possible because there's no risk, you just have to sell the giveaway right.

# WHEN THE WATER WASHED ME AWAY

G.D. BUBB



G.C Bubb's debut book is a raw look into the emotions felt in life, taking in the sudden twists and turns and how we learn to adapt and manage the situations we face.

With themes such as heartbreak and loss, the effort of balance captivates and maintains energy through its pages.

# COMPETITIONS

## LITERARY TAXIDERMISTRY SHORT STORY

- Short story submission of up to 2500 words
- Deadline is 4th June at 12 PM PST
- Opening and closing lines are chosen from another piece of literature

## THE BOOK PIPELINE:ADAPTATION

- Looking for published books, graphic novels, and short stories for film and TV adaptation
- Early deadline of 20th May

## THE BROKEN CITY

- 3000 words on the theme 'Wild West'
- Deadline is 1st May

## COUNTERCLAIM

- 10 pages of fiction, non fiction or poetry on 'new beginnings'
- Deadline is 1st May

## ERBACCE PRIZE FOR POETRY

- 5 pages of poetry
- Prize includes:1st prize: A publishing contract with erbacce press + a perfect-bound collection of poetry + 20% royalties / 2x runners-up: either a perfect bound book or a high quality chap-book under similar terms as the winner
- Deadline is 1st May

# THANK YOU

This is a project I've wanted to pursue for quite some time now. I'm proud with the final product, but I couldn't have done it without the help and support of so many amazing writers and artists.

So I'd like to say thank you to everyone who contributed, supported me and have read this magazine. If you enjoyed this first issue, please check out everyone featured, since they took the time to help me out with this magazine.

The next issue will be on Diversity! So if you are part of a minority group (BAME, LGBT, disabled, etc) and would like to get involved, please contact me.



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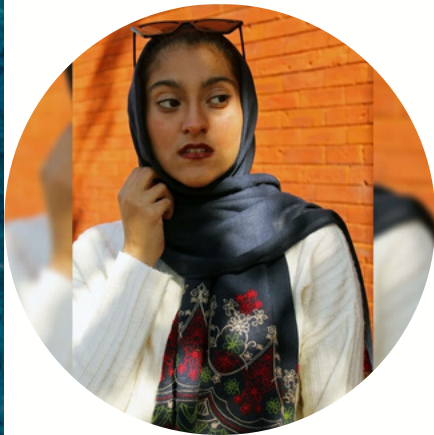
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