

**November 2009**  
**The President's Corner**  
**by Angi Platt**



"So 2009 is my year. It's my time to get that story on the page and finish projects that deserve to be finished. It can be your year too. Let's grab it together and do all we can to help ourselves further along the road to publication." *January President's Corner*

**Goals. Encouragement. Take Action. Keep Writing.**  
**Distractions. Recognition. Write some more.**  
**Submitting. Waiting. And the next step – Writing Again.**  
**And the next step—It's out of your hands.**

Writing is an art. And a business. Tell someone that you're a writer (especially a full-time writer) and what's a common reply? "I'm going to write a book when I have time." My mom is an artist. A very good, professional artist who has been paid for her work many times over. Why is it that when she says she paints, people don't reply... "I'm going to paint one day when I have time." ??? And we'd never think of saying, "I'm going to be a concert pianist one day."

Everyone has an imagination, making up those stories in their heads or different endings to movies. Unless you study the art and craft of writing a person doesn't completely understand what it takes to finish a book. Stories, yes. Manuscripts worthy of publication, no. So what's the point I'm trying to make? Well, after several years of writing and trying to explain to my mother why she likes my manuscripts and why they were rejected, it's still hard for me to understand.

Let's just say that I hope my writing craft has improved. The stories are the same to an untrained eye (my mother's). But the layering of emotion and character growth is something I've hopefully learned a little more about. I do all I can to write the best story. I keep learning about my craft and try to keep up with the business.

*BUT BUT BUT*

Getting published is out of our hands. Most of us can't perform in front of thousands and become more popular like a pianist. We can't hang our work in a gallery and hope someone will purchase it. Publication depends on an editor liking (make that loving) your work. Then it depends on marketing believing they can MARKET your book.

After you write the best manuscript you can. After you hone it, submit it, and an editor requests it...remember that it's out of your hands. You've done your job. Now do it again. Keep writing. Keep honing your craft. Keep learning more about the publication business. And keep telling your mom she has to be patient. out the publication business. And keep telling your mom she has to be patient.

JUST. KEEP. WRITING.

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