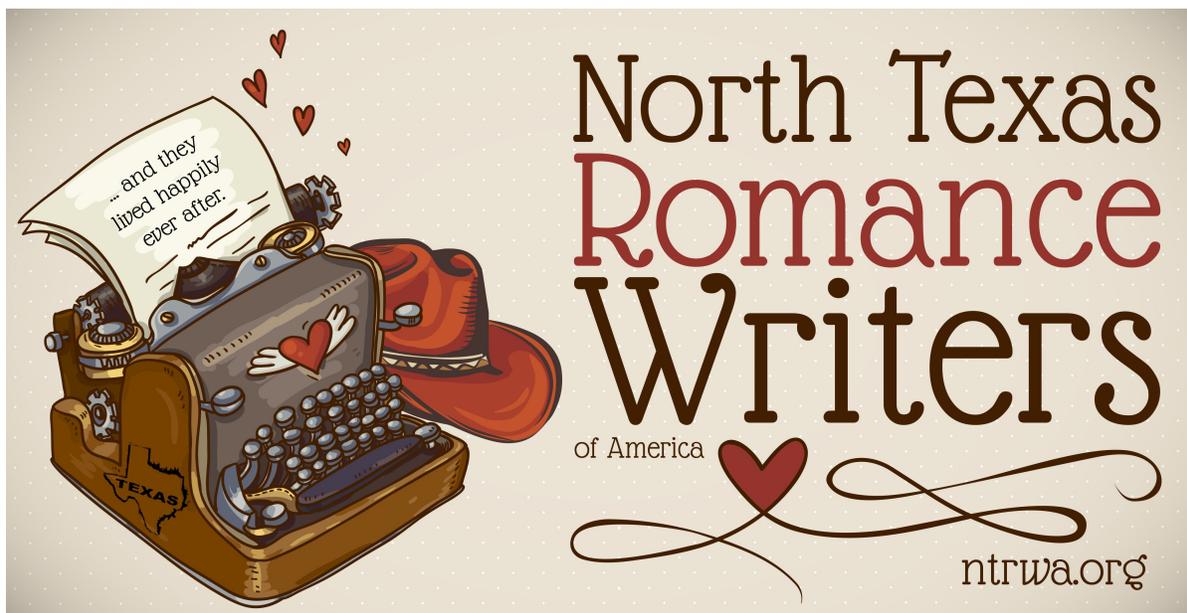


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The Heart to Heart
 NTRWA
 Founded March 1983
 Chapter 33, Region 5
 October 2020



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**Block-Busting: Putting the
 Joy Back in Writing**

At some point, almost all writers suffer from the inability to tell the story they want. Part of writer's block is a lack of joy in the process. So counselor Laurie Schnebly Campbell looks at the causes — including exhaustion, boredom and fear of success — and the benefits of this block. Writers take home new awareness of what works for them, and renewed inspiration for returning to the craft they love.

About Laurie



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Writing Incentives

Jen Fitzgerald

By-Laws

Carolyn Williamson

family that discussed psychology around the dinner table, so her favorite part of writing fiction is creating characters with likable, plausible personalities.



After six novels, including one that beat out Nora Roberts for "Best Special Edition of the Year," she began sharing her techniques with other writers -- and fell in love with teaching, both online and in person. In fact, she chose her website name so that groups would find it easy to Book Laurie (dot com) for workshops.

Laurie spends her weekdays writing for a Phoenix advertising agency. She also enjoys playing with her husband and son, recording for the blind at Talking Books, vacationing in Sedona, the Arizona red-rock town named for her great-grandmother, and working with other writers.

"People ask how I find time to do all that," she says, "and I tell them it's easy. I never clean my house!"



Amanda McMurrey

Crafting Attention-Getting Back Cover Blurbs

Join us at 10 AM to learn how to draw in your readers from the very first words they read...on the back cover.

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HI NTers!

I, like most of you, got an email recently from NaNoWriMo asking if I'm ready for November 1. Well, I wasn't exactly ready for October 1 but it came and went regardless. Time has been an especially puzzling concept over the last seven months. Days dragged while weeks, then months, flew by. In the early weeks of quarantine it was a challenge to distinguish one day from the next. Then, suddenly, it was July. Now, November 1 is staring us in the face.

During this time out of time, some people found it profoundly difficult to be creative, many others pushed through, keeping to their pursuits, finishing books and setting publishing dates. Those of you who kept at it are to be congratulated. Those of us who didn't, deserve a break, most of all from ourselves.

As a friend said, no matter how you react to the quarantine and its aftermath its okay, because its something we've never experienced before. It's not something we could have been prepared for. And even if we had advance warning how does one understand and prepare for something that has never been experienced?

It's impossible to know how we will react to a life-altering event. No matter what we think we might or might not do, we cannot know until we have lived it. As John Keats said: "Nothing ever becomes real till it is experienced."

Today is real and we are collectively and individually experiencing it. But the question is what are we doing with it? What do we want to do? What do we need to do? What are we ignoring or putting off? What are we accomplishing and celebrating? We might need to be productive or we might need to step back and relax. Both are important and necessary.

We can plan and attempt to be ready for writing daily in the month of November. Even if you've done it before, be open to this being a new and different experience.

Take a moment and check your calendar. What day is it? How many days will slip by until November 1 is here? Will you be ready to launch your next project?

Best wishes in your endeavors!

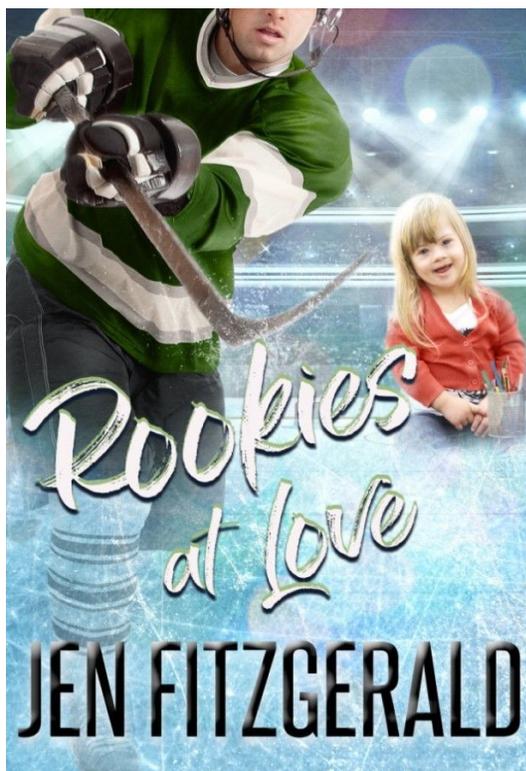
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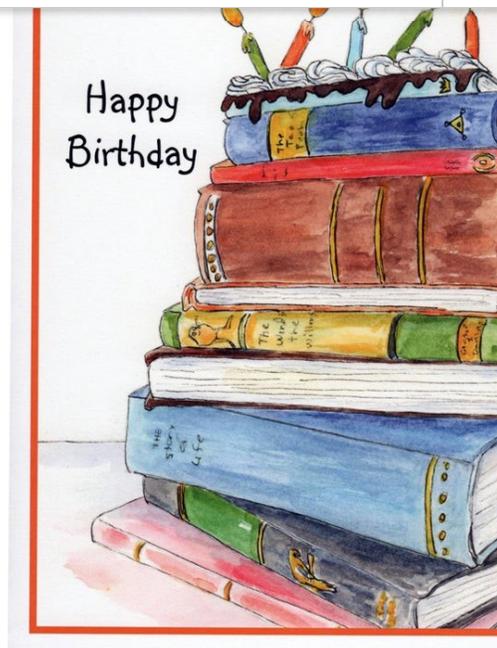
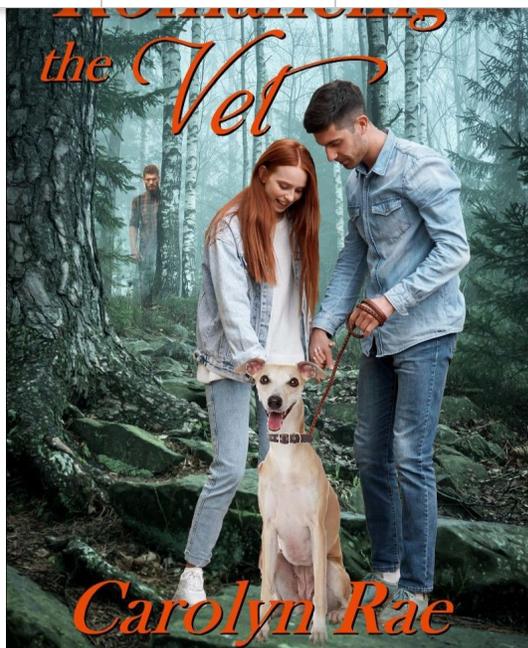
**Congratulations to our members with
October book birthdays!**



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The Giveaway Details

NTRWA will be sponsoring a book giveaway via Prolific Works to take place from November 1 to November 30.

- Due date to submit books is Monday, October 26.
- NT members may submit 2 titles, either previews or complete books.
- Friends of NT may submit 1 title, either a preview or a complete book.
- In order to participate, you must have a Prolific Works account. Prolific Works accounts are free.
- Requested files for giveaways are epub, mobi, and pdf. Only the epub is required, however, I strongly suggest you provide all three.
- Book descriptions allow a maximum of 800 characters.

The author invite link is here: <https://www.prolificworks.com/groupgiveaway/view/b4e003b61369a637a5c02504c1b5c628>

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT JEN FITZGERALD

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