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The Heart to Heart

NTRWA

Founded March 1983

Chapter 33, Region 5

February 2021

Volume 39, Issue 2

CHAPTER MEETING INFORMATION

3rd Saturday of each month, via ZOOM

10:00am: Get Published! Workshop

11:00am: General Speaker

12:00pm: Business Meeting

2020-2021 BOARD

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Focus! That's what I keep telling myself, but I'm finding it so hard right now. Are you finding that equally difficult?

I used to be one of those people who had unrealistic expectations of myself. I used to overcommit. I'd make a to do list for the day that would actually take a week to complete. Then feel unproductive because it took so long to get all that stuff done. For the most part I've stopped all that.

What I realized is I didn't really give myself permission to just be. Perhaps that's why I'm having a hard time focusing. I'm a doer by nature and lately I haven't spent much time being. Learning that it's okay, necessary even, to be unproductive can be a hard lesson.

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Bylaws

Maybe you're feeling something similar. Finding it difficult to be productive. To meet deadlines. To complete your to do list. Or to write. So, maybe you need a little being time so you can get back to the doing.

To do that successfully we need to be intentional about it. Knowing we're going to give ourselves some time to do something fun or mindless makes a difference. Whether it's shopping online or watching a movie on a rainy afternoon or going to lunch with a friend. (It dawned on me this morning we can do that now!) Rather than stealing that time-like shopping, or watching a movie when you're supposed to be writing. It's important to know we're building that being time into our schedules.

Warning: clichés ahead:

It's like filling the gas tank. The car ain't going anywhere without gas. We aren't going to get our stuff done without some time without any stuff to do. Wow - that's a terrible sentence - but I kinda like it anyway, so I'm keeping it.

If the question is whether or not to be, my answer is: Yes be. Then do.

Celia



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Join us June 19, 2021 from 11-12:30 CST for C.S. Lakin discussing the 10 Keys Scenes that Frame Up Your Novel. Novels are made up of dozens of scenes, and regardless of genre, time-tested structure dictates what key scenes are needed and where. Most writers are familiar with some of those scenes: the Inciting Incident, the Midpoint, and the Climax, to name a few. But novelists need more than a few landmarks to find their way across the tricky terrain of novel plotting. In this course, you'll learn these crucial elements of novel structure: What the 5 major turning points are and where they're placed in your novel How to know exactly where to start your story and how to set up your premise What the ten key scenes are that serve as the framework for your novel What pinch points are and why you need them How to craft those essential twists and where they're placed in your story for greatest impact Why your protagonist's goal is the key to great storytelling What the six stages of character transformation are and where those specific scenes go About Susanne: C. S. Lakin is the award-winning author of thirty books and blogger at Live Write Thrive, a top-ten site for writers. She works as a copy editor and writing coach in the book publishing industry, specializing in manuscript critiques. Her writing craft book series, The Writer's Toolbox, teaches aspiring and experienced novelists how to write terrific stories. She loves nothing more than to help writers craft stellar novels and experience success and joy in their writing journey. * * * * * If you're not a member of NTRWA, but would like to hear our speaker, please pay and register. Please pay first: [PAY HERE](#). After making your payment, [REGISTER HERE](#).

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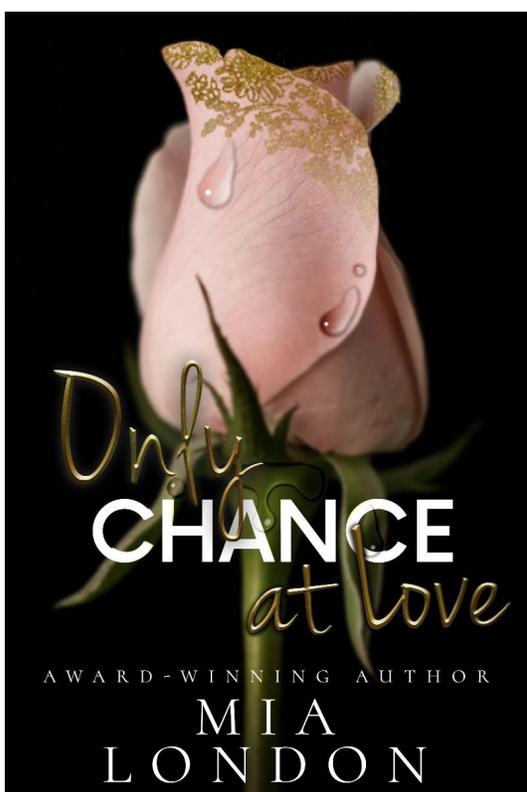
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featuring our President-Elect, Audra Lewandowski.

Audra will be sharing her tips and tricks for managing your social media postings, and will help you stay active online without losing your sanity!

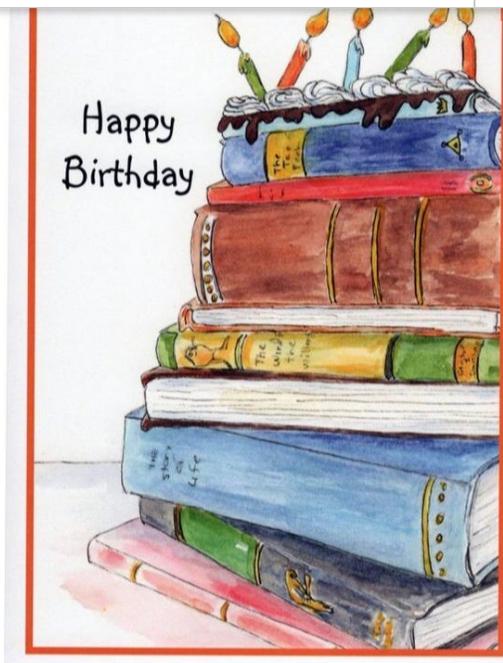
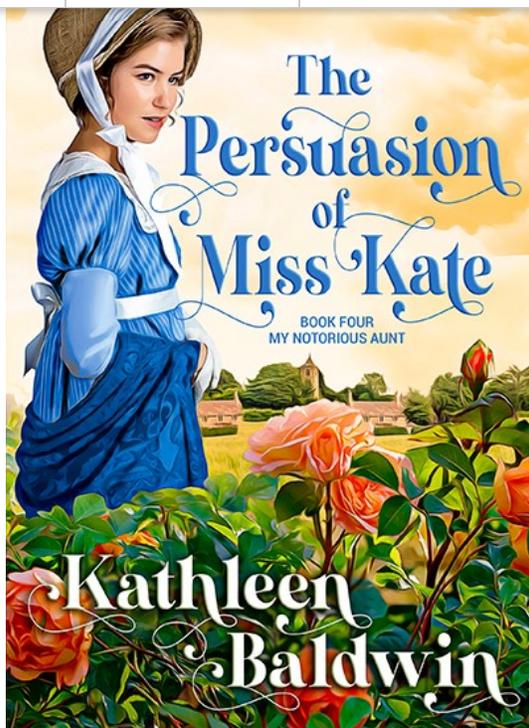
Get Published takes place VIA Zoom at 10am. Links are posted in our facebook group.



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**Winners for this year's
CAROLYN READER'S CHOICE
AWARDS have been
announced!**

Congratulations to the following
category winners:

Contemporary Romance:

The Bartender's Secret by Caro Carson

Historical Romance:

Felice by Kathleen Bittner Roth

Romantic Suspense:

Crossroads by Dianna Wilkes

Erotic Romance:



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Witches, Werewolves, and War: A Love Story by
Fenley Grant



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