**Beyond the Query Letter: Links, Websites, and More!**

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**Finding the Right Agent:**

* [https://Querytracker.net](https://querytracker.net) -- Have to sign up, but it’s a database of agents that saves your queries and responses
* <http://agentquery.com> -- Very similar to QueryTracker, a database system
* <https://www.manuscriptwishlist.com> -- Helpful tips, videos and podcasts with agents, agent and editor profiles
* <https://mswishlist.com> -- Collection of agent posts about what they’re currently looking for.
* <https://agentquery.com/default.aspx> -- Database of Agents
* <https://jerichowriters.com/agentmatch/> -- Database of agents
* **Tumblr Tags:** Manuscript Wishlist, MSWL
* **Twitter Tags:** MSWL
* <https://twitter.com/inkyelbows/lists/agents-kidlitya-new-list/members> -- Public Twitter List of agents who take Children’s Books and YA
* <http://www.literaryrambles.com> -- Literary Rambles blog, agent spotlights
* Look at the back matter in books that you love to find those author’s agents (they usually thank them in the acknowledgments) and then follow them on Twitter.
* Look at the Twitter bios of your favorite author’s to see if they shout out their agent.
* Freelance Pitching Database (not agents, but magazines): <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/15qEh4PUWbaUEpwRQ-E1US4jkAakCJhGoWsqfXHp3LPk/edit#gid=0>

**Finding answers**:

* Many agents, (including me!), will spend some free time on twitter allowing authors to ask us questions. We’ll often post when and for how long it will happen, along with a hashtag. A great example is agent Jessica Faust with BookEnds, LLC who hosts #askagent on twitter where she answers questions posed about finding an agent.
* <https://pitchingshark.com> -- Specific questions answered about pitching
* CONFERENCES! You know, like this one!

**Twitter Pitching Calendar for 2019:**

<https://iwriterly.com/pitch-contest-calendar/>

* **Always use a qualifier:** i.e. #WF = women’s fiction, #YA = Young Adult, #A = Adult, #MG = Middle Grade, #SFF = Sci Fi and Fantasy This allows agents to narrow their searches, to find exactly what we’re looking for, and to be sure that YOU are being seen by the right agents!
* **Mix it up!!** Before the pitch day even starts, make sure you’ve varied your tweets about the same book. Have approximately three different pitch options and vary them throughout the day. Don’t repeat the same pitch 8x—we’ve read it already.
* A Twitter Pitch is just your **elevator pitch**. It’s the hook. Be sure to include the motivation, crisis and the secret.
* **Comp titles:** these are a great, quick way to pitch your book. I’m immediately grounded in what the book is, and it takes up very few characters in your tweet.

**\*\*Check out Carly Watters’ blog for tips like this and more!**

**Twitter Hashtags with websites and explanations:**

* [**#PBPitch**](https://twitter.com/search?q=%23PBPitch&src=typd) is for picture book authors only. More info here: <http://www.pbpitch.com/>
* [**#KidPit**](https://twitter.com/search?q=%23KidPit&src=typd)is for ALL children’s literature genres (picture book, chapter book, early readers, middle grade, and young adult). More info here: <https://heidinorrod.wordpress.com/kidpit/>
* [**#AdPit**](https://twitter.com/search?q=%23Adpit&src=typd)is for Adult books only. This also includes the newer genre of “New Adult” which falls between young adult and adult literature. More info here: <https://heidinorrod.wordpress.com/adpit/>
* [**#SFFPit**](https://twitter.com/search?q=%23SFFPit&src=typd) is for Science Fiction and Fantasy Books only. Yes, you get to try and sum up your massive, intricate world in a single tweet. Good luck! More info here: <http://dankoboldt.com/sffpit/>
* [**#PitDark**](http://jasonhuebinger.com/pitdark/) is for authors who write darker themes. This pitch party is not limited to just horror though – dark fantasies, murder mysteries and more are included. More info here: <http://jasonhuebinger.com/pitdark/>
* [**#KissPit**](https://allthekissing.com/kisspitch/) is a new twitter pitch party that is specifically for romance writers. More info here: <https://allthekissing.com/kisspitch/>
* [**#ISWSGPit**](http://www.insecurewriterssupportgroup.com/p/iwsg-twitter-pitch.html) is from the creatively named “Insecure Writer’s Support Group.” I love their name so much. Makes me snicker every time. 2018 is their second twitter pitch party. One benefit to participating in newer pitch parties is your tweet is more likely to be seen. More info here: <http://www.insecurewriterssupportgroup.com/p/iwsg-twitter-pitch.html>
* [**#SonofaPitch**](https://twitter.com/search?q=%23SonofaPitch&src=typd) (also know as [#SOAP18](https://twitter.com/hashtag/SOAP18?src=hash))is a little different than some other pitch parties because it allows you to tweet a pitch every hour, where most pitch parties only allow you to send out two tweet pitches a day, per manuscript. There is also a three week build up to this twitter pitch party, where you can get feedback and possibly even have editors and agents requesting your stuff. This is currently only **open to YA, New Adult, and Adult novels right now.** She is considering including Middle Grade in 2018**.** You can learn more about this unique pitch party in a podcast [here](https://rrcampbellwrites.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Writescast-016-Son-of-a-Pitch-with-Katie-Hamstead.mp3) . You can also there more here (these are last years dates, link will be updated once she has posted this year’s information): <http://kjhstories.blogspot.com/2017/01/say-what-son-of-pitch-is-back.html>

**Example Twitter Pitches: (from Carly Watters website)**

*The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe:* When escaping WWII 4 children go to magical, tyrannical land through wardrobe to fulfill prophecy & save both worlds. #PitMad #SFF

*The Three Little Pigs:* Brothers devoured by a killer known as Big Bad Wolf, third pig fights for his life with a pile of bricks between him & death #PitMad #A

*Alice in Wonderland:* Girl abducted by rabbit from family picnic to fight war in magical dimension. When put on trial for her life, will she wake up? #PitMad #YA

**\*\*Anyone want to try? Grab your neighbor—work on this together! Like an elevator pitch, it helps to talk through it aloud!**

**Pitching In-Person**

*Conferences!* Like this one! Others conferences might include: Writer’s Digest Annual Conference, SCBWI conferences, both regional and NYC/LA, etc.

\*\*What NOT to do: Pitching agents in the bathroom or any other place where we’ve taken off our agent caps and become boring humans.

**Resources for Tracking Pitches (Spreadsheets)**

* [Agent Tracker Spreadsheet - Alyssa Hollingsworth](https://alyssahollingsworth.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Agent-Tracker-Spreadsheet.xlsx)[https://alyssahollingsworth.com/wp-content/uploads/.../Agent-Tracker-Spreadsheet.xls…](https://alyssahollingsworth.com/wp-content/uploads/.../Agent-Tracker-Spreadsheet.xls%E2%80%A6)
* <https://annieneugebauer.com/the-organized-writer-2/agent-query-submissions-chart/> (Agent responses spreadsheet)
* <https://www.mattbell.com/post/37081194562/submission-tracker-spreadsheet-template> Matt Bell Google Spreadsheet submission tracker

**Other social media:**

* Create an author page on Facebook and Goodreads
* Use Hootsuite and Tweetdeck to schedule tweets at peak hours scrolling hours
* Create a hashtag for yourself, your writing life. Example: #chreads (Carrie Howland reads) that people can start interacting with.
* **Hashtags on Instagram:** #bookstagram #bookish #bookworm #booknerd #bookphoto #theeverygirlreads #vscobooks #bookaddict #shelfie #bookriot #bookstagrammer #bookphotography #igreads #badassbookbabes #instaread #amwriting #writingcommunity #writers\_den #writerscommunity #writersofig #writersofinstagram #instapoetry #instaprose