



NAME:	Alexandra Komissarova	
Profile: <i>(Tell us about yourself; how long have you been writing? What inspires you to write? how long have you been a member of Watford Writers? What are your favourite reads?)</i>	I am a Biology teacher working at a school in Watford. I have never written much before – I wrote my PhD thesis but that's about it. I started writing fiction in 2025 when I jumped in with a full-length traditional sci-fi novel. I have a very vivid imagination so a big part of the fun of writing for me is capturing what I see and feel on the page so that I can see and feel it... again! So I write mainly for myself. I particularly love reading science fiction of all kinds and am a fan of Star Trek.	
Main writing interests <i>(Novelist, Poet, Playwright, Biographer, Historian, Academic, Researcher, other etc?)</i>	Novelist I suppose, as that is almost the only thing I've written.	
Do you have a special place in which to write?	Not really, somewhere quiet will do. In the summer I really enjoy working in the garden.	
Do you have a preferred time of day for writing?	For writing new material I prefer late evening. I can imagine things more clearly then and can have long uninterrupted time thinking things through. For editing and polishing I prefer mid-morning with a coffee.	
Have you been published or have self-published? <i>(Please list your publications)</i>	No. I will give traditional publishing a go with my novel because... why not. But if this is unsuccessful, I will probably self-publish.	
Do you have any special techniques for writing? Specialist equipment or writing aids?	A lot of my best work happens when I'm in a hyper-focus state. This can be quite unpredictable but tends to come on when I am very enthusiastic about a subject or a new idea. However, I really enjoy thinking through the logic, characters and motivations when I write so that really helps with plot and direction. I try to imagine my characters as real people so that I can get a feel for what they might do or say in any situation.	

Have you been involved with any other writing activities? <i>(e.g. workshops, organising writing events, attending external workshops, retreats?)</i>	Well, I had a go at the writing competition with Watford Writers which was great fun and my first ever entry and win!
What writing project are you currently working on (or intend to start)?	I am currently working through an editing pass of my sci-fi novel 'House of Dareth'
Do you have other interests? and/or member of other groups/societies?	Lots. I love gardening, reading, hiking and cycling!
Do you have a website; Facebook, Twitter; Instagram? or write a blog?	Not really.
What message would you like to give to other writers / would-be writers?	Write the book that you want to read not what you think others would like. It makes working on it so much more fun!
Do you have favourite author or book?	I particularly like <i>Sarek</i> by A.C. Crispin, James White's <i>Sector General</i> series. And the work of Arkady and Boris Strugatsky, who I am fortunate enough to be able to read in the original Russian.