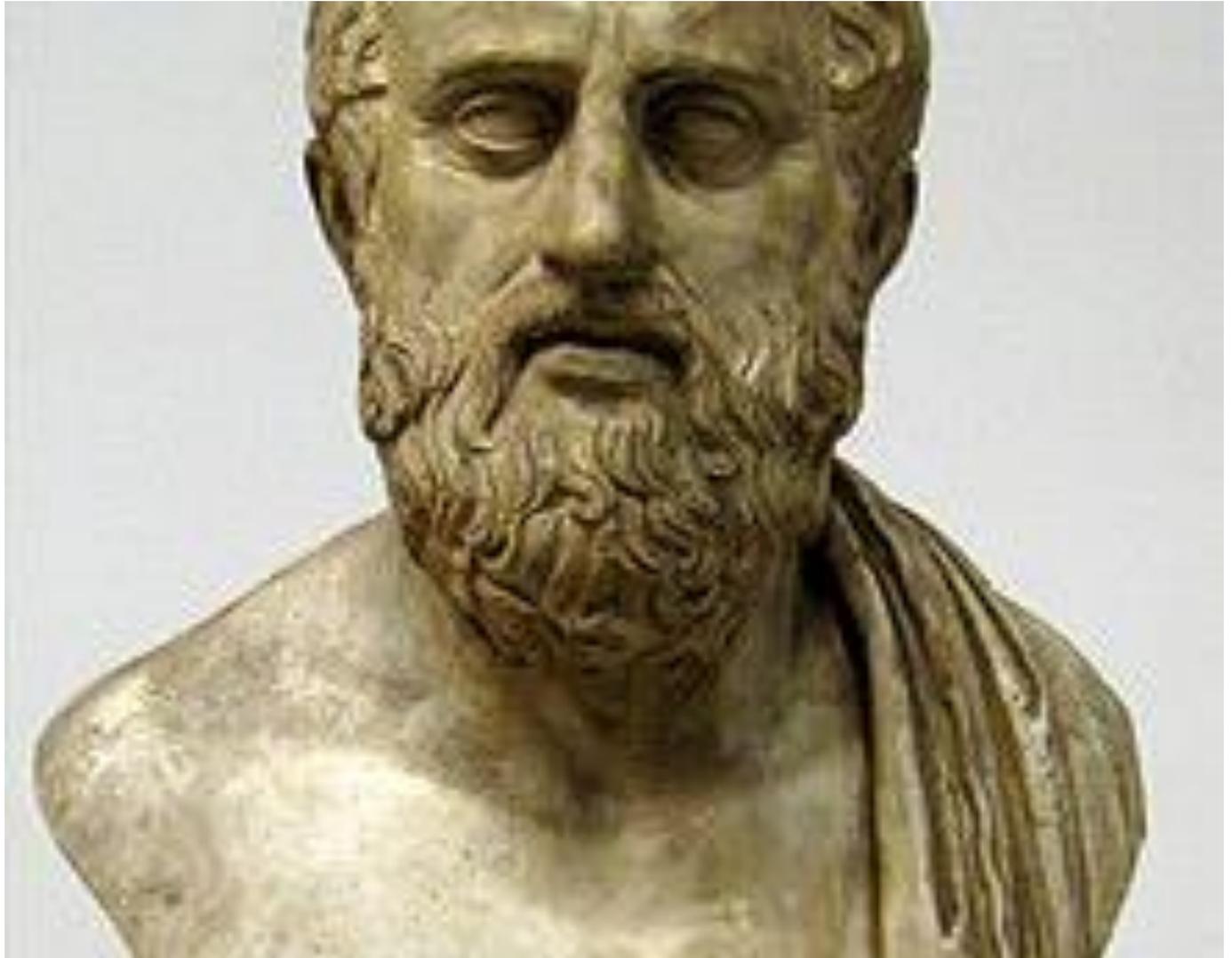


How to be(come) a Prolific Writer





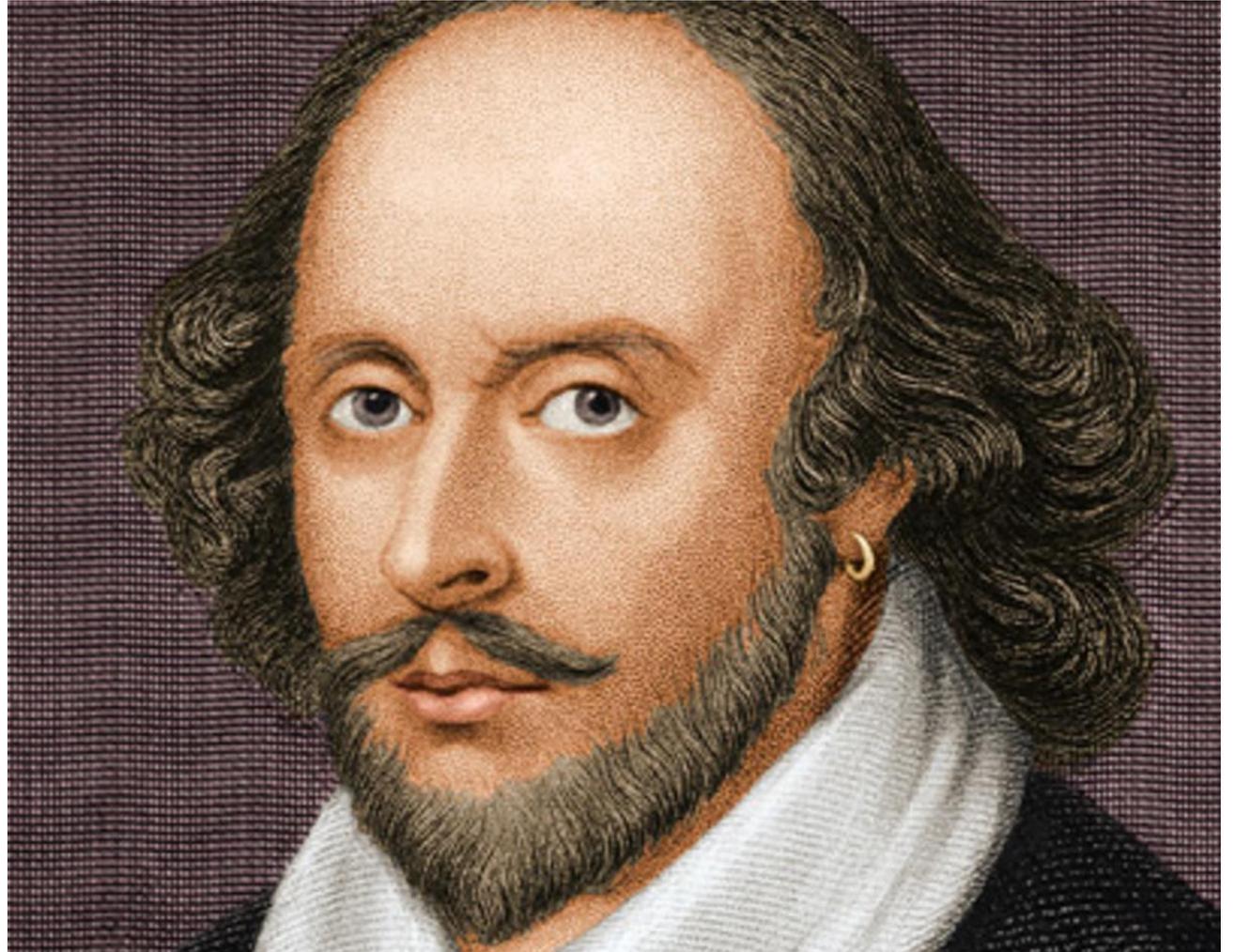
Sophocles
123 plays



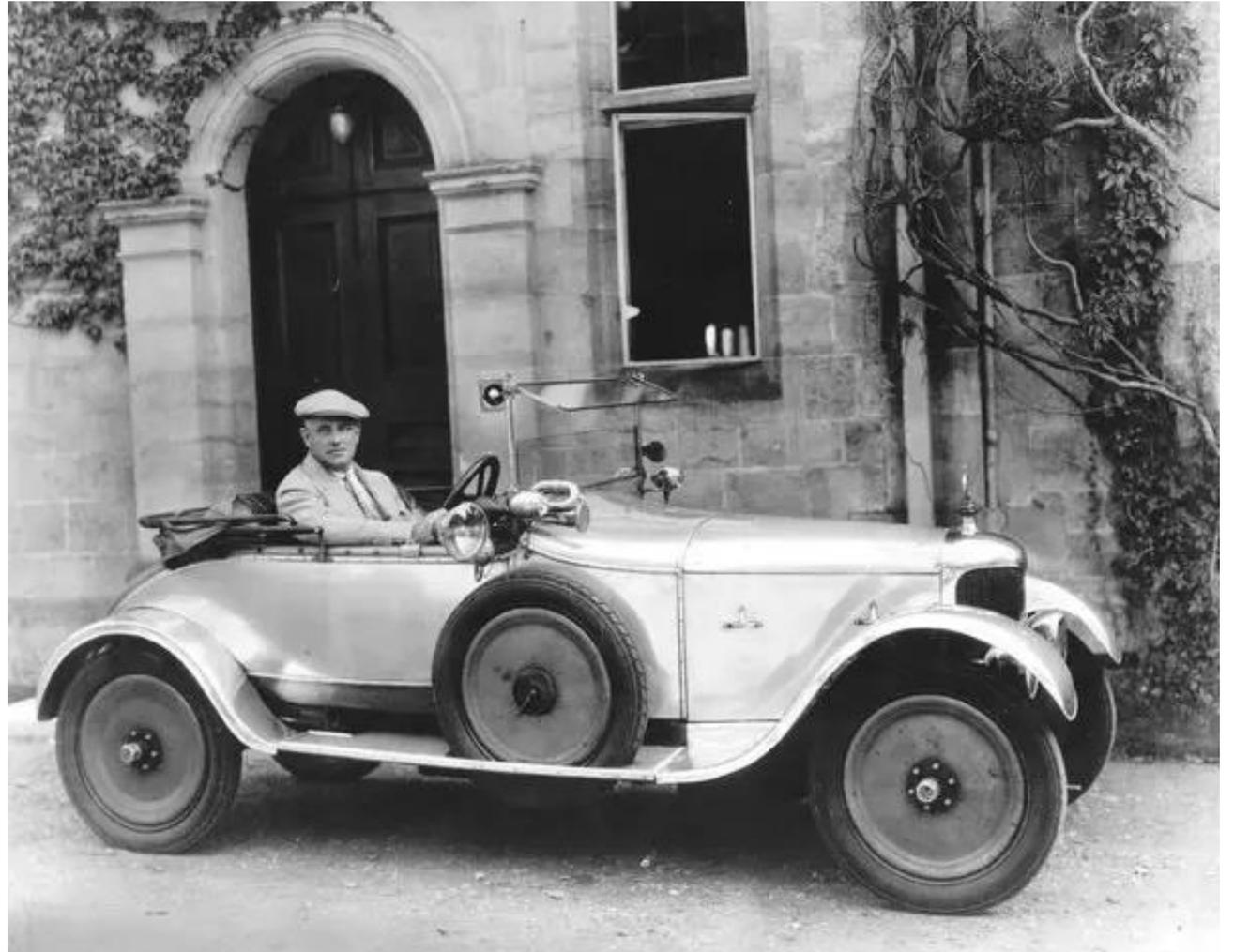
Shakespeare

38 plays

154 sonnets



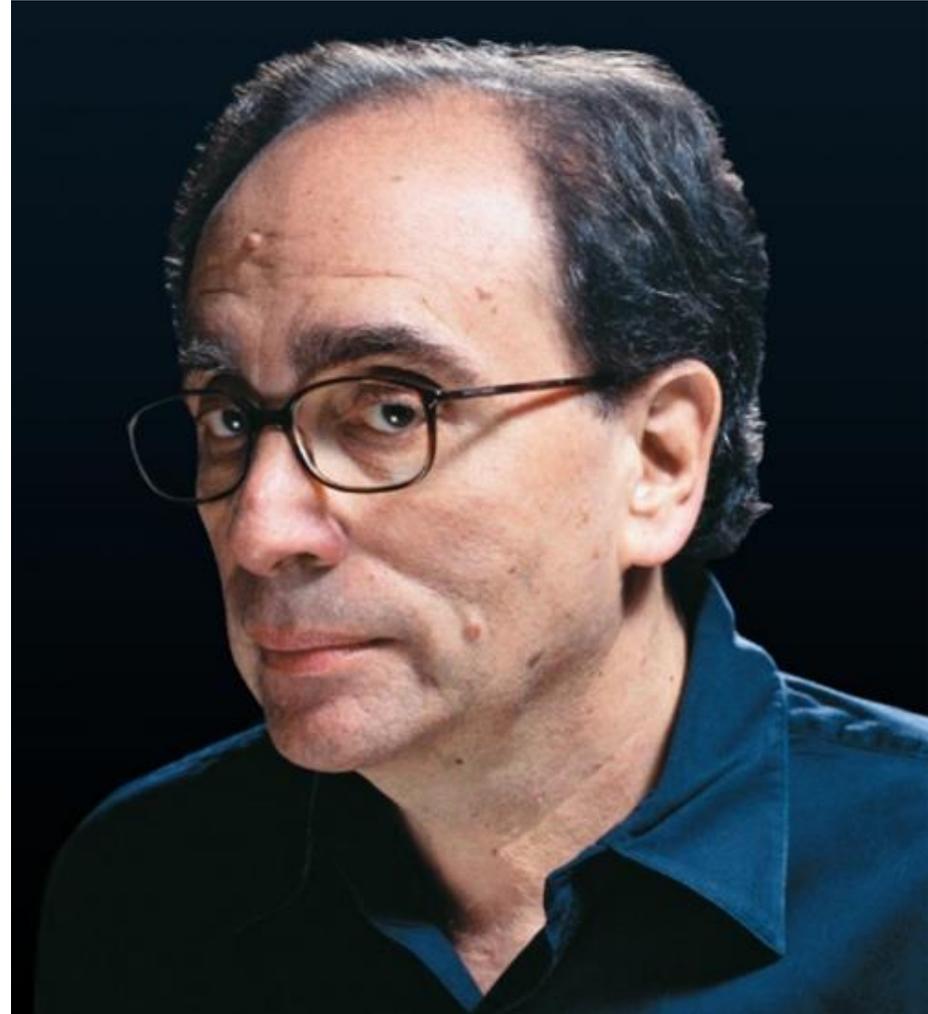
Sir Pelham
Grenville
Wodehouse
96 novels
40 plays
200+ short stories



Georges
Simenon
500 novels



R.L. Stine
Hundreds of
novels



Isaac Asimov

506 books

9 of 10 Dewey
categories (not
100—philosophy
& psychology)



**Barbara
Cartland**

722 Novels



Nora Roberts
200 novels and
counting



Francine Pascal 181 Sweet Valley High titles as of May 2020



Howard Garis

500 YA Novels



Matt Zurbo
365 children's
books in 365
days, while
working full-time
at an oyster farm



Jean
Marzollo
150 books,
including the
I Spy series



Ben Bova
120+ books



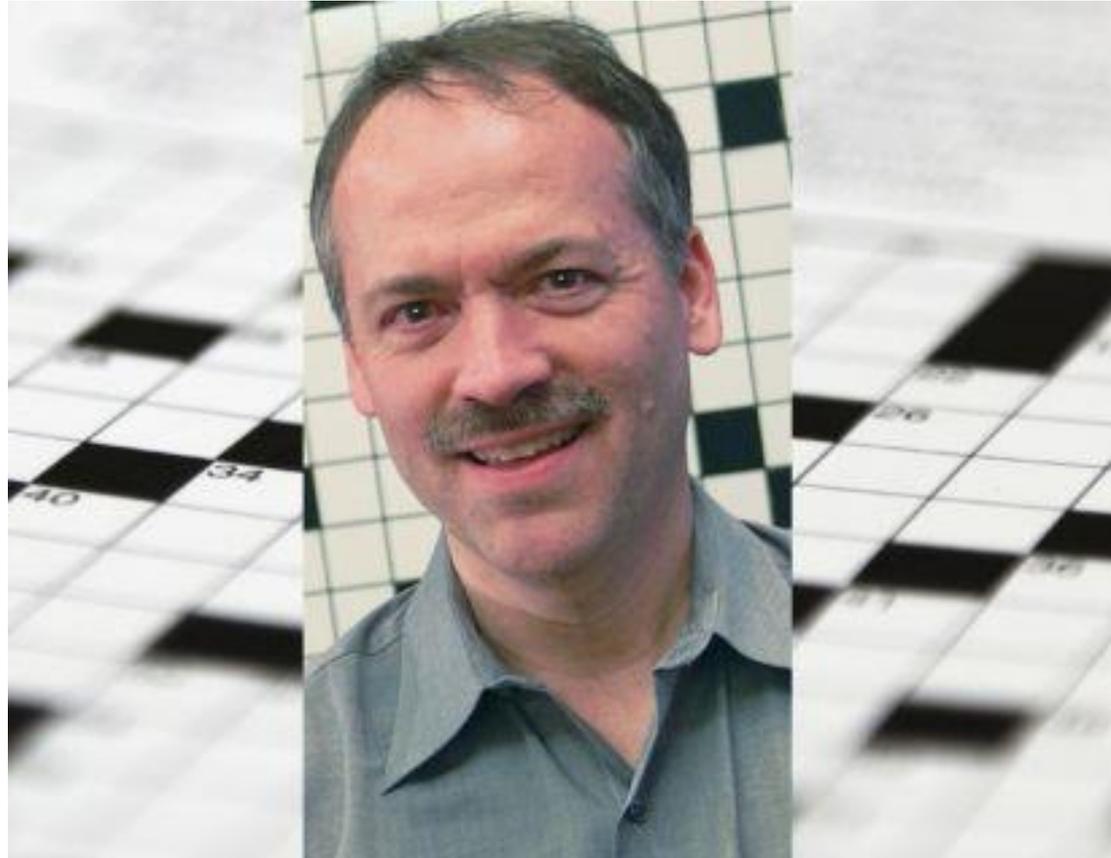
Stan Lee

One comic book
per day for ten
years



Will Shortz

Editor/author of
500+ puzzle
books



Joel Whitburn

200+ books, based upon his collection of more than 200,000 records, among them every single ever to make a Billboard chart



Irna Phillips

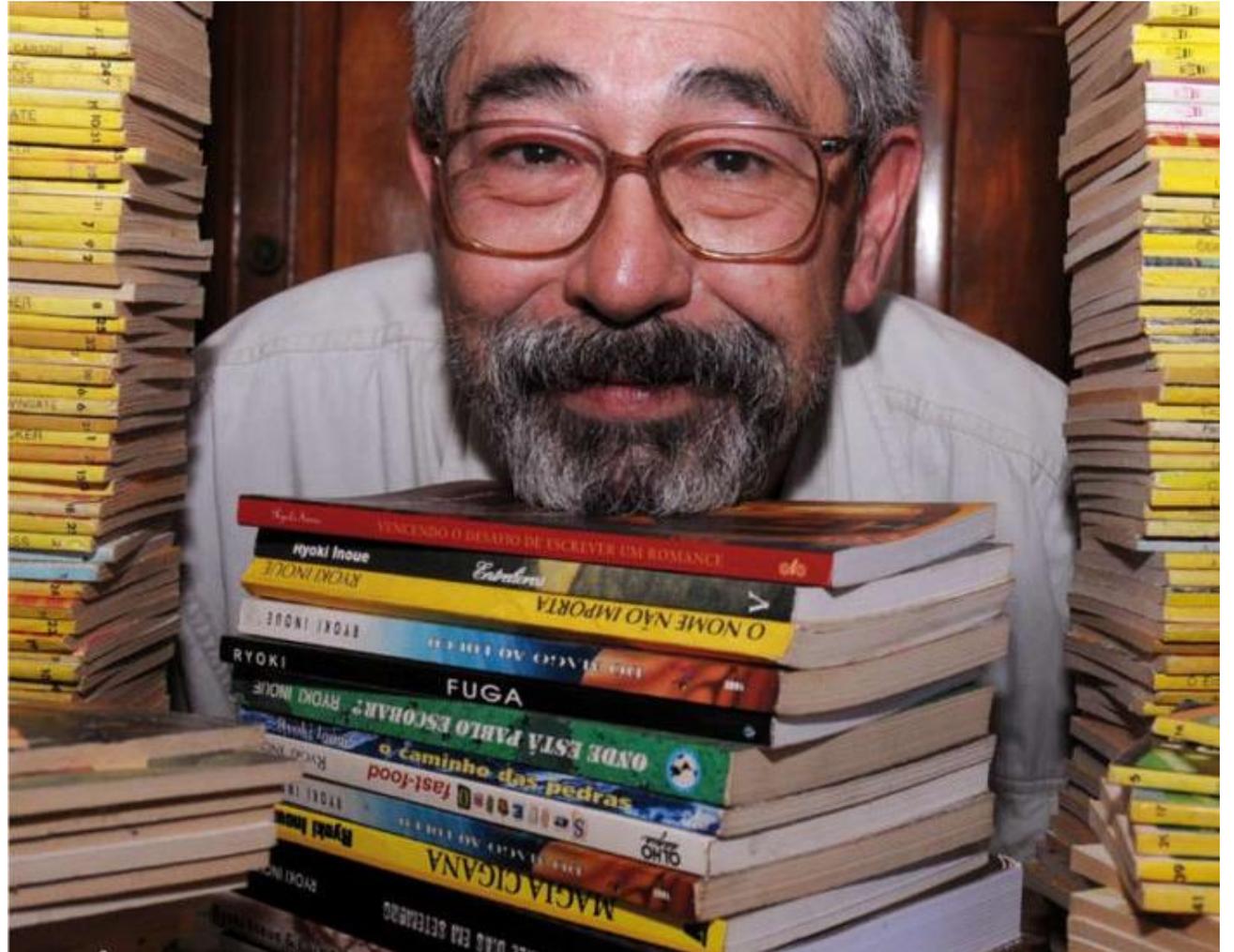
Queen of the Soaps,
wrote two million
words/year, often writing
six daily radio and tv soap
operas at once, including
The Guiding Light, As the
World Turns, The Edge of
Night, and Another
World, equivalent to 40
novels/year



Ryoki Inoue

1,000 novels in six
years under 39
pseudonyms

He's up to 1075
books, the
Guinness record.



Ryohu Okawa
Head of Happy
Science Japanese
religion, has
published more
than 2,000 titles,
many of them
transcriptions of
his sermons



Charles Hamilton
100 million words
under 20
pseudonyms,
equivalent to
1,200 novels



Rolf Kulmuczak
2,900 novels
under 100
pseudonyms



So prolific that he didn't
have time to pose for a
photo!

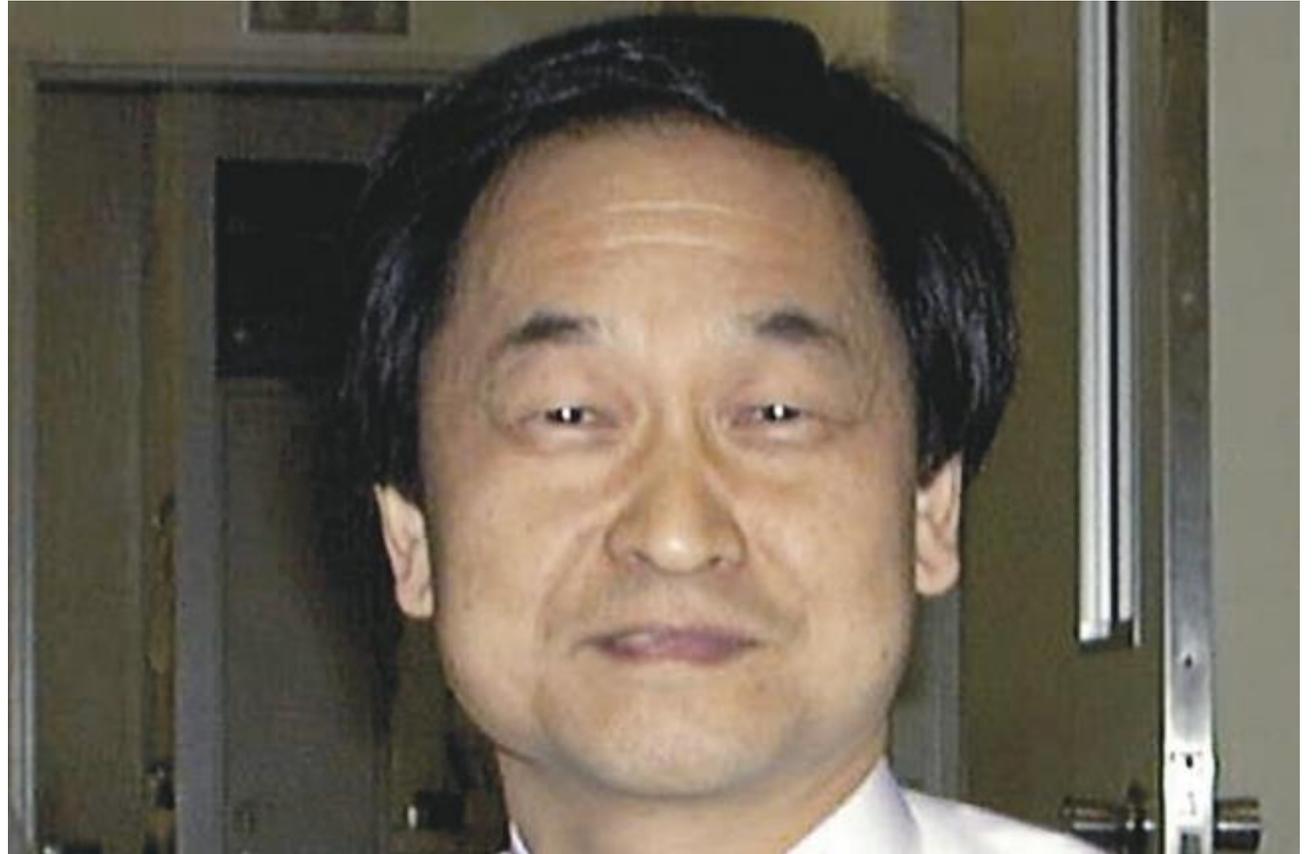
Dorothy K. Fletcher

Jacksonville poet,
published poems
in 78 literary
journals
4 books



Yoshitaka Fujii

Japanese
anesthesiologist who
fabricated his findings
in at least 183 papers,
according to a 2012
investigation launched
by journal editors and
Japanese universities



Let's talk about you. Take out your notebook and write:

- **What** you write or want to write—books, articles, etc.
- **Why** you write
- **Why** you want to be **prolific**
- **What prolific writing means to you**, either in sheer numbers, or some other measure. What level of output would satisfy you?

Motivations

- to still be useful to those battling evil
- make an impact
- leave a legacy
- making money is way down

Call to be prolific

- Matthew 25: 14-30, instructs us to **use one's talents**
- **looming mortality**

Time Management

Get organized—your writing lair; your ideas

Set Goals

- Near
- Medium
- Longterm

Chart it

Near Term Goals

- Terrorism Worldwide 2022
- All the Presidents' Heroes
- White Noise Whispers

Medium-Term Goals

- Terrorism Worldwide 2023
- Naked Came the Spy

Long Term Goals

- *Kursk*—terrorists try to take over a Russian nuclear sub
- *Al-Seriali*—terrorists use serial killers as a tactic
- *Prez/Ex-Prez*—a down-at-the-heels country auctions off its presidency. The book follows the winner and his predecessor
- *Collector*—a terrorist leader uses famous weapons
- *Narco*—a terrorist group poisons narcotraffickers' product
- *Predictor*—a terrorist uses sayings of Nostradamus as a guidebook for mayhem
- *First Tour*—an anthology of spy-fi short stories, using the same characters, tracking them through their careers.

Follow-up volumes will include *Base Chief, Chief of Station, Division Chief, Director*

- *Murder in the Villages*

Sequel: *Do Serial Killers Ever Retire?*

- *Defending Terrorists: The Lawyers*
- *Victims of Terrorism*

Advantages of Multiple Projects

- Seriatim vs. Parallel Processing
 - keeps your writing and creative juices flowing
 - avoids Killer Bs:
 - Boredom
 - Burnout
 - Writers' blocks
- Plan B—keeps you engaged, ready to Respond

Chunk it and Chart it: List Tasks

- researching
- in outline (pantsers vs. planners)
- in first chapter
- in proposal form for agent and/or acquisition editors
- in completed first draft
- for sharing with your colleagues
- with strategic editors
- with acquisitions editors
- with copyeditors
- in galleys
- for sale (but requiring your marketing skills)

Novel Ideas—Charting it

- Novel Overview/Elevator Speech
- Key Characters Bible: photos, motivations, goals, backstory
- Major Plot line of march
- Secondary plot(s) line of march
- First Chapter
- Final Chapter
- Outline how to get from A to Z (Deaver technique)
- Query letter
- Send sample chapters, preferably A, B, C and Z, if requested
- Write chapters B through Y
- To Readers Group
- To Agent
- Incorporate Agent comments
- To Acquisitions Editor at publishing house

Novel Ideas—The Sequel

- Incorporate Agent comments
- To Acquisitions Editor at publishing house
- Incorporate Acquisitions Editor Comments
- To Copy Editor (publishing house will do this)
- Answer Copy Editor questions
- Fill in Marketing Questionnaire
- Update Author Page on Amazon, B&N, Goodreads, others
- Get blurbs
- Create book-specific website
- Review Galleys
- Review Page Proofs
- Book release party at local bookstore
- Radio, Press, tv, blogs, other publicity
- Start writing sequel(s)

Ergo, Daily Goals

- Word Count
- Page Count
- One item off the checklist

Be at different points with each project



Other Helpful Hints



Notepads



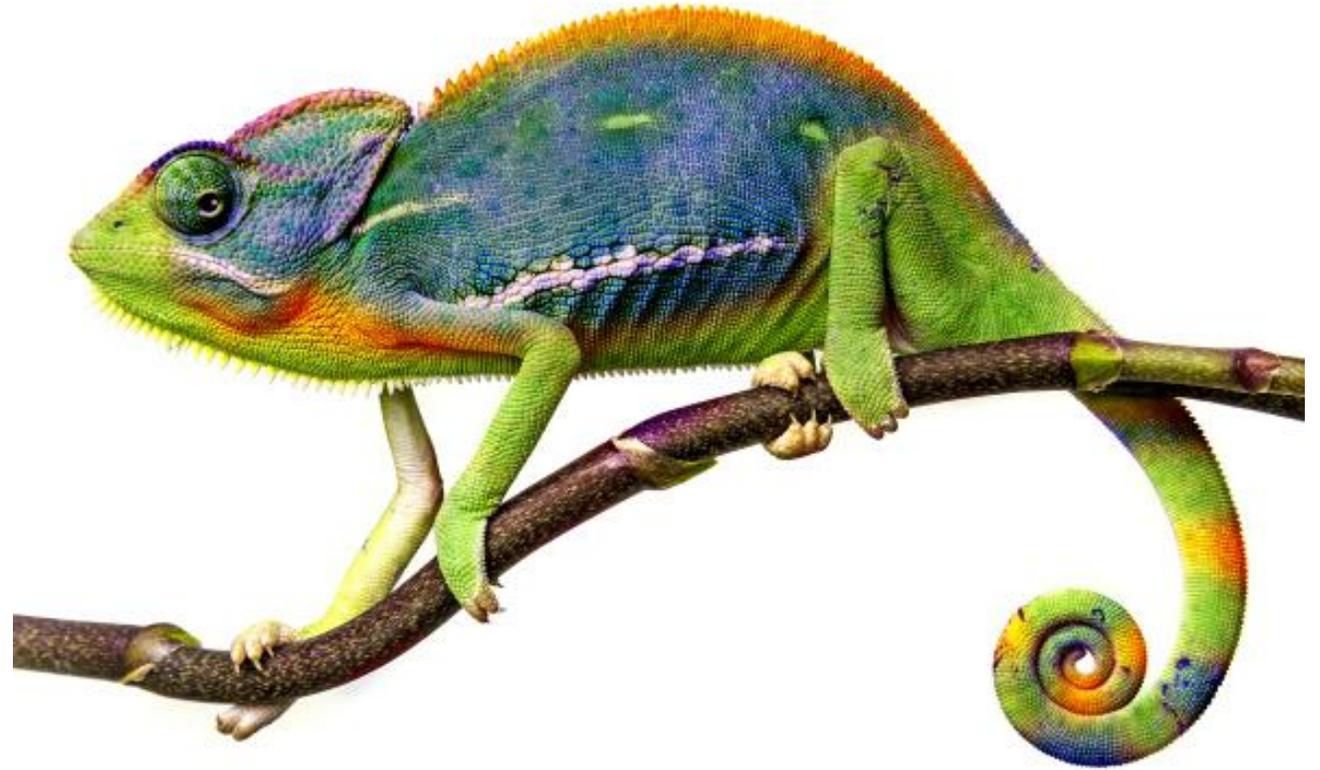
File away Great Ideas



**Say yes to
Opportunity**

Say Yes

Adapt



Repurpose



MIRV



Verges



Stay Focused



**Move the ball
ahead each day**



**Don't waste time
by doing other
stuff.**



**Have a spouse
who takes up the
slack**



Helpful Hints, The Sequel



**Get it down first.
Do Not Self-Edit
initially.**



**Touch a piece of
paper once.**



**Do the tedious,
now.**



Satisfice.



**Heed the Muse.
Now!**



Collaborate



Collaborate

Anthologies
Co-Authored
“with” assists



Collaborate

**What skills
Don't you
have? What
is/are your
missing
piece(s)?**

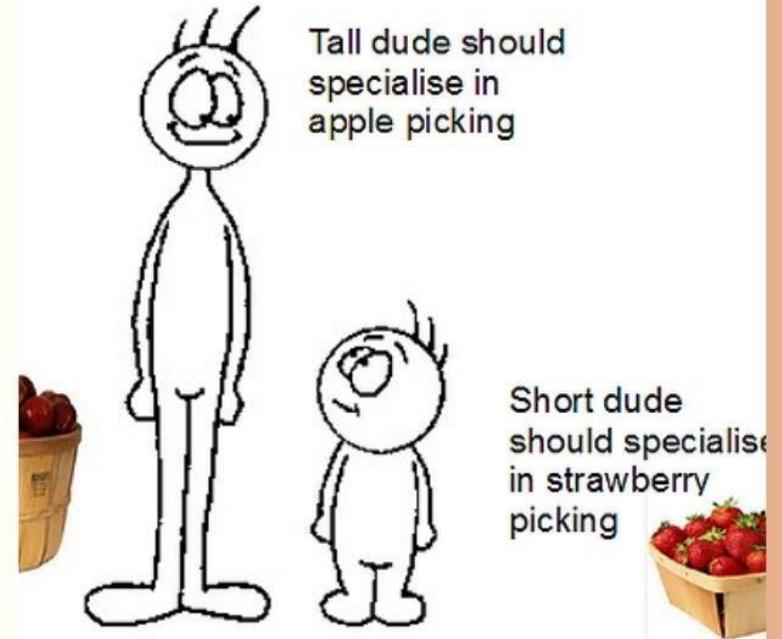


Collaborate

Economics 101: Comparative Advantage

What do they do
better than you?

Theory of Comparative Advantage



Collaborate

What do
you have
to offer
them?



Collaborate

Divvy up the tasks

Concept

Character Bible

Sounding Board

Proofing

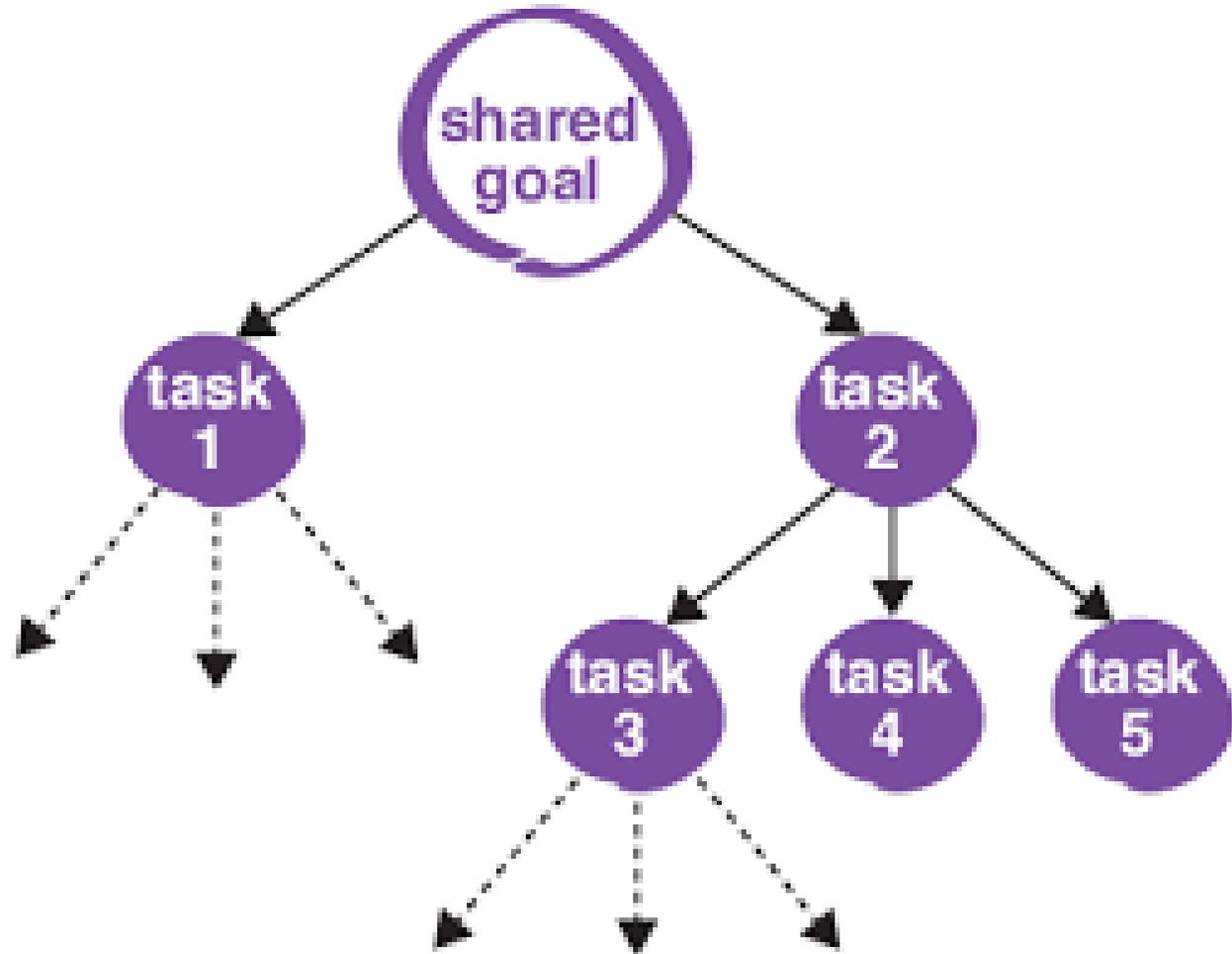
Drafting/Expanding concept

Finding agent/publisher

Liaising with editors

Research/Networking

Publicity



Collaborate

Do you get along?

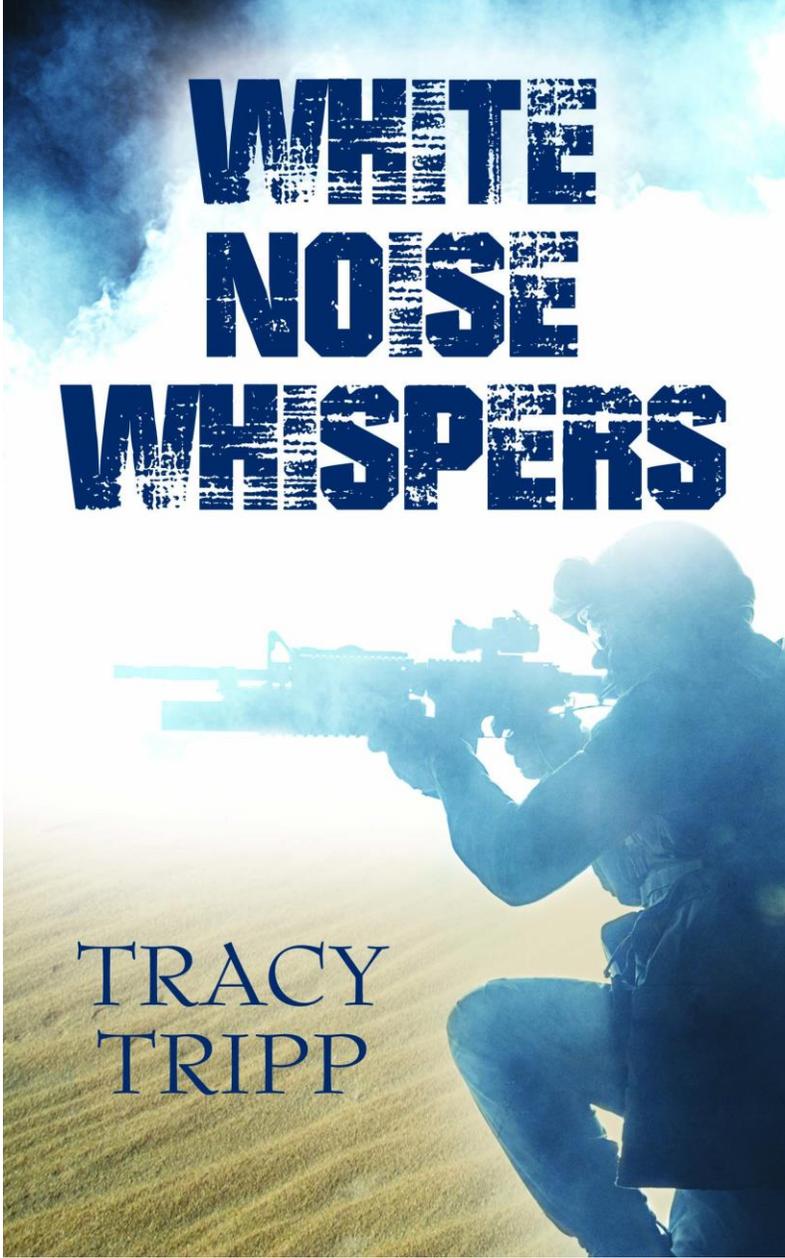
Have the same
vision?

Have same sense of
responsibility to
each other?



WHITE NOISE WHISPERS

TRACY
TRIPP

A person in silhouette is kneeling in a field, aiming a rifle. The scene is backlit by a bright light, creating a strong glow around the person and the rifle. The background shows a field of tall grass under a bright sky with some clouds.

Write What Interests You



Helpful Hints, Part III



YMMV



**There is no try.
There is only do.**



Never quit.



**Have faith in
yourself.**

