

NONFICTION BOOK PITCH (elevator)

NOTE: Below is the original elevator pitch for The Writer's Hustle. I met a Bloomsbury acquisitions editor at a conference and mentioned the book idea. He asked me to email him a 1-paragraph pitch.

Creative writing is an art and a craft, but it's also a business, and to succeed as a writer in the 21st century, you've got to learn to hustle. In this essential companion text to the study of creative writing, you'll find succinct, relevant advice from seasoned writers, teachers, and professionals on how to navigate all the practical aspects of the writing life. Chapters might include "Mastering the Art of the Workshop," "Earning a Mentor," "Attending a Writing Conference," "Submitting Your Work," "Becoming a Good Literary Citizen," "Serving in Your Community," "Deciding on Graduate School," "Preparing for a (Writing) Career," and "Staying in the Game After Graduation," among others.

EXTENDED NONFICTION BOOK PITCH

NOTE: The acquisitions editor was interested enough in the 1-paragraph pitch that he requested an extended version that he could pass along to his contact at Bloomsbury. I sent the following in the body of an email.

Title

The Elements of Hustle: A Survival Guide for Creative Writing Students

Description

Creative writing is an art and a craft, but it's also a business, and to succeed as a writer in the 21st century, you've got to learn to hustle. In this essential companion text to the study of creative writing, you'll find succinct, relevant advice from seasoned writers, teachers, and professionals on how to navigate all the practical aspects of the writing life. Chapters may include "Mastering the Art of the Workshop," "Earning a Mentor," "Attending a Writing Conference," "Submitting Your Work," "Becoming a Good Literary Citizen," "Serving in Your Community," "Deciding on Graduate School," "Preparing for a (Writing) Career," and "Staying in the Game After Graduation," among others.

Table of Contents

- Introduction: Read, Write, and Live Like a Writer
- Mastering the Art of the Workshop
- Making the Most of Your other Classes
- Earning a Mentor
- Becoming a Good Literary Citizen
- Attending a Writing Conference
- Submitting Your Work
- Serving in Your Community
- Preparing for Graduate School
- Surviving Graduate School
- Preparing for a (Writing) Career
- Staying in the Game after Graduation
- Appendix: Cheat Sheets, Sample Docs, and Other Resources

Market

"The Elements of Hustle," will serve as a reference text for creative writing students at every step of their education, from undergraduates preparing for graduate school to graduate students preparing for the job market. The text is designed to fit seamlessly into a variety of creative writing classrooms, from introductory courses to advanced genre workshops, and even into graduate-level professionalization courses, creative writing workshops, and courses on craft and theory. Virtually any student of creative writing at any stage of their education could read this book, and be better for it.