

COALITION COMMUNITY || THE WRITERS CODE

# ODYSSEY



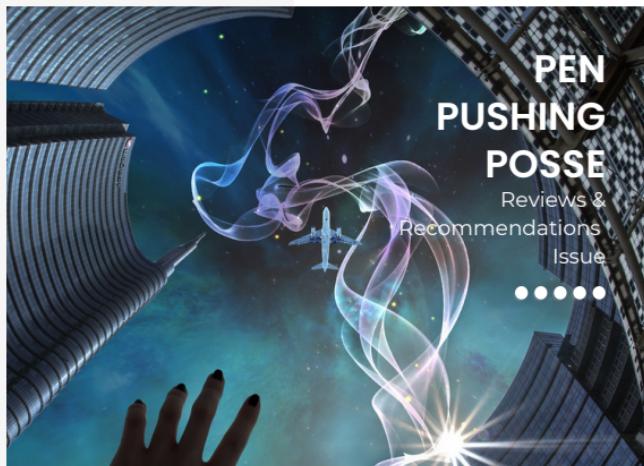
JUNE  
2022

VOL. 3  
ISSUE 2



# ODYSSEY

The Writers Code



## SHARE YOUR WRITING

Where you can share your writing and find the right audience for your work

## COALITION SPOTLIGHT

Interview with winners of our annual Coalition Awards, 2022

**SUMMER EDITION | VOL: 3 | ISSUE: 2**  
JUNE 2022





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## Member of the Month

# KARIN

### COALITION COMMUNITY

This community has come a long way, and while we owe it to our amazing team, and incredible members, we've also got Karin.

Earlier this year when I picked her as the champion of Coalition for the monthly admin of the month spotlight, I called her the amazing human/genius.

Yeah, if you watch Brooklyn 99 then you understand that reference. But I digress. Since Karin joined this community first as a member then a housekeeper for the bookclub and went on to become one of our majesties, she has carried this community like her own and I couldn't have asked for a better, caring and devoted super human/genius. We appreciate you, Karin.



JUNE, 2022



### to the team

To all of you, thank you for being a part of the Coalition Community and for sticking with us as we enter another phase.

Our design goddess Jessica, and our captain Coalicious Stacie, you are amazing and Coalition won't be here without you. More power to your elbows.



# THEME ARTICLE

## The Odyssey

Written by Karin Venables

Welcome to the Odyssey Edition of the Coalition Community Magazine.

For so many of those who work hard to bring you the stories and articles in these pages, the last months have been an odyssey. A trip through challenges, to both our mental and physical health. Staying strong has been easier because of the staunch group of determined people who support each other in all the nooks and crannies of our online social media and writing platforms.

A big thank you to everyone who has taken the time to write that direct message or private message to check on someone they have not heard from in too long.

I'd like everyone to think of how much harder things are without support from your friends, both in your real life and your social media realm. In my case that short little message of are you okay, was enough for me to know there was a soul out there who cared about what was going on in my life.

So, let us take the time to check on each other. Have that conversation in I-message, Messenger, or text message. Make that phone call. It might be the lifeline for a friend in trouble.

**And if you are the one who has reached the end of your rope? It's okay to ask for help. No one in this community will turn you away.**

**Together we will make the odyssey we call life a happier journey.**

# Share Your Writings

Various Websites to Post

Your Creations



Written by Stacie Evans

You have a lot of thoughts running through your head. You write either by hand or on a computer. You have types of writing projects, from short stories to poems to essays. All of them were written because you wanted to. I'm sure you want to share them as well.

In this article, I'll be providing multiple writing websites where you can share your creations. One of them may even pay you just for someone to view your works. No, these platforms do not include Wattpad, Inkitt, and Tapas. Not even Amazon Kindle is included. This is specifically for short stories, chapter excerpts, poems, and articles.

## 01. Vocal

Vocal is a website where you can post various writings. You can post articles, short stories, chapter excerpts, and poems. There are contests that include cash prizes. It does include a subscription just to earn more viewers and special perks as a content writer. Whenever someone reads your posts, you earn a little bit of money from those views.

On this website, there are various categories to place your work in. From "Beats" to "Fiction," you have options. Just be wary of what you post. The moderators make sure your work doesn't include harmful content.

## 02. Medium

You've probably seen articles from Medium on Google News and Twitter trends. This is probably the most well-known website. You can actually write your own set of blogs and articles for yourself on there!

There isn't a subscription for writers, so it is all free. There is a paid subscription, but it's only for readers. There are two options for writers: The free option, and the paid option. If you just want to post whenever you want, you can. If you want to earn money from your work, you'll have to post regularly. You'll need to gain a certain amount of subscribers.

It all depends on what you want to do and how to go about things at your own pace. If you want to turn this into a side hustle, you'll have to be consistent with your writing. If you have other projects, then this can just be a hobby-like fun job.

## 03. Verve Romance

You could be a romance writer. You love the love, the cute couples, the banter, and the steamy scenes with graphic details. You like to read the blog articles revolving around romance tropes, experiences with being a romance writer, and anything in between. This could be the place for you.

# SHARE YOUR WRITING CONT'D

Written by Stacie Evans

You don't need to pay to be a writer on Verve. You just sign up and verify you're an author. The only downside is that you'll need to have a Facebook account for verification. I have only my personal, though inactive, account, so I don't feel comfortable sharing it. Yet if you're fine with using Facebook, you'll get to post blog articles revolving around romance. You can post small "bites" of your romance stories. They can include cute scenes, spicy banter, and hot graphic scenes.

This can be a way to get yourself out there as a romance writer. For other genres that don't revolve around romance, Vocal might be more suitable for that. As long as there aren't any scenes that graphic in nature, be it sex or violence.

## Conclusion

As a writer, you have options to post your works. You got Vocal where you post short stories, poems, and articles. You can join a paid subscription to gain more viewers and tools. You have Medium and the potential to have your post circulated around social media. You can join a partnership to earn money, but you'll have to put in the work. You can join Verve Romance and post for free your romance-related blogs and small excerpts of your romance books. You'll need a Facebook account for verification.



If you want to post full novels to share for free, you have platforms such as inktitt and Wattpad. But if you want to earn money for your work, you got Amazon Kindle. Yet if you want to just share much smaller writing projects, Vocal, Medium, and Verve are great options for that. You could earn money from them, or just share them for free at your pace.

There's a place for writers on the internet. It's just about finding the places that work for your projects. There is an audience for everyone. In the end, as long as you love what you're doing and seeing everyone's responses, making money from your projects will be the last thing on your mind.



JUNE EDITION

# PEN PUSHING POSSE REVIEWS

## Breath by Vanessa\_MD on Inkitt

REVIEWED BY KARIN VENABLES



When Mina stumbles across her old friend Caleb in a broken-down area of the city, she is thrown back in time to relive the turbulence of her high school years.

In a world where the government controls everything you do, Caleb is a rebel. He turns up in her life forcing her to face up to everything that happened between them a decade ago. The description of the coffee shop where they go to catch up with each other is one of the most superb examples of world-building I've read in a long time.

### WINNER OF THE COALITION AWARDS 2022 – SCIENCE FICTION CATEGORY

Mina's inner conversations build a complex character with a past she's not sure she wants to relive. But she has no choice. Caleb is back, and she can't ignore it anymore.

At the moment, there are only 10 chapters in this book, and I'm craving more to read. I'll be watching for updates and devouring part two as soon as it shows up on Inkitt.



# BREATHE

Reviewed by Lora Tia



Breathe was a fantastic story that gripped me right from the start. I loved how we get to see where things were headed with the prologue before we're immersed in the story of how it all came to be. I enjoyed the discovery of how Caleb realized, with the bombing, just how wrong he'd been about Eric and the others. How he changed from the Caleb Mina knew to join Susan's crusade and even take things further, considering where we now see him in the future.

I mean, there are a lot of themes explored in this short read and they were very well done. Gosh, the depth of Mina's character and how the author was able to depict the ludicrous society without the usual overdone jargon was exceptional. Looking forward to the second book. I want to know how things escalated to that point in the prologue, I want Mina's feelings for Caleb explored and I want to know what she'd been up to between high school and her catching up with Caleb again.

# ADDICTIVE LIES REVIEW

The One Series By Stacie Evans

Reviewed by Karin Venables



This is the third book in The One Series. The series takes us on a journey through the formation of a pop band in the early 2000's.

Things are not easy. Overbearing managers have decided how to market UTurn and it isn't anywhere close to reality. Their true identities are subverted in the name of what sells. Their managers decide a dichotomy is just fine. Sexiness for the adult market in Europe and teenage innocence for the Disney market. Neither is close to the truth.

Pressure bubbles through their senior year in high school and when prom rolls around, things come to a head. Alyson solidifies her identity. You will never guess where that leads. And Connect8's Brandon ends up in a web of lies that constrict, forcing him to deal with his own truth.

Their ever present nemesis, Libby has them trapped as the end of this book comes close. I can't wait to read the next installment of this series.

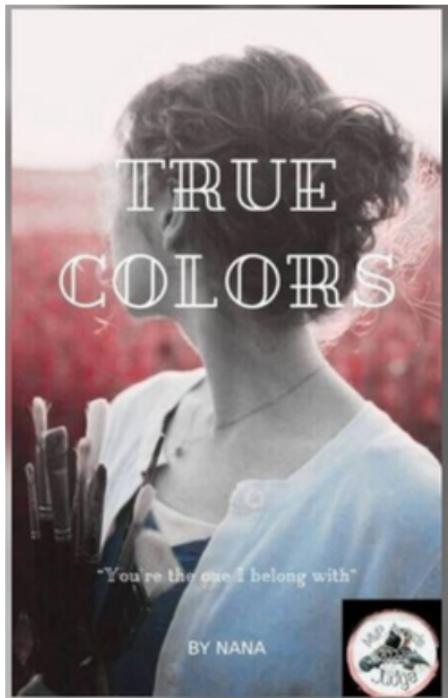
The characters are strong, believable, and hearting wrenchingly human. All of their teenaged angst plays out against a chaotic schedule of school and music commitments. You won't regret coming along on their journey.

Available for purchase on [amazon](#)

# TRUE COLORS

Reviewed by Karin Venables

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*How do you find  
love when you  
believe your  
handicap makes  
you unworthy?*

True Colors brings a woman and man together who believe their disabilities are so grievous, that no one could ever love them. This story explores what happens when Hazel rents a room in Sasha's home.

Thrown together, they find humour in between awkward encounters, and trust slowly emerges. Dealing with issues from the past which constantly drive their actions they forge a bond.

This is a work in progress, and I'll be keeping up with the chapters as they become available. In fact, I think there's a new chapter right now, so I'm off to discover what happens next.

Written by Nana212 on Inkitt

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# PPP Review



**Soren by Mary Chidiac on Inkitt**

In the fantasy realm, you find action and adventure as primary plot drivers, and on the rare occasion, you discover a heart-wrenching love story. *Soren* is that story.

With characters who grab your emotions, the author has written a poignant prequel to her story *Spirit of Fire*.

Luna, the hidden daughter of the king Shadow Realm, finally escapes her prison and meets Soren. He's the first person to treat kindly and recognize her as the intelligent and talented woman she is. Together they untangle the web of lies her father and his other two children have woven around her, discovering the truth of who she is. Her questions lead her to her destiny, but there are consequences. There always are when you defy your father, revealing his secrets.

**Karin Venables**

REVIEWER



**Best  
Seller**



# Author Interview SPOTLIGHT

## Bleeding Hearts

Meraki Kalon

The Coalition Community Awards which is hosted on both Wattpad and Inkitt concluded its 2022 edition last month.

A ton of amazing writers submitted their works and as it is with these things, only the best survive!

With the number of winners from both platforms combined, we've decided to share their interviews in instalments because the sheer volume is incredible.

*This is the first instalment of said series of interviews that will grace our spotlight section for a while.*

*To read about the GMA winner, visit our website or better still, anticipate our next issue.*



*What inspired you to write this story?*

## Interview with Meraki Kalon - Wattpad Mystery/Thriller Winner

Interviewed by Michael - Head of  
Engagement

*What do you think of the Coalition Awards?*

The Coalition Awards was an amazing competition to be a part of. There were a lot of great writers who submitted their work and it was an honor to be amongst them. I'm thankful for the judges who spent months reading our books and I'm thankful to the hosts for creating a space for small writers, such as myself, where we can be recognized, and acknowledged, for the hard work and passion we put into our books.

1

2

What inspired me to write this piece was the idea of creating the unexpected. Everyone expects a happy ending, or a plot where the protagonist goes through hardships which makes them a better person in the long run, but I found that dull. Life doesn't always turn out the way we expect it to but sometimes that's where we make our best memories and I wanted to portray that in my book.

*Besides writing, what else do you enjoy?*

- 3** Other than writing, I paint. I've been drawing and painting since I was very young and it has always been something that helped me relax. I also like to tie-dye clothes, it saves a lot of money.



*Which character did you enjoy creating the most?*

- 4** The character I enjoyed creating the most was Claire. Claire is Dani's, the protagonists, best friend and I created her in the image of my best friend. I wanted her to be independent and very supportive, but I also wanted her to have her own opinions that don't always align with everyone's beliefs. There's so much life in Claire and I enjoyed writing her chapters the most.

- 5** The only piece of advice I can give to other writers is don't force your work and don't give up. Writing can get super frustrating, especially when writers block kicks in, but don't try to force out a paragraph. Write different portions of the chapter and then come back to the difficult part later when you have a clear vision of what you want to occur. All ideas are good ideas so don't give up!

**What advice would you give to your peers and fellow writers?**

## **How often do you take that well deserved 'me' time?**

I find that most people think self-care is only necessary when they've nearly or over exerted themselves.

That isn't true. The sooner we begin to incorporate self-care into our daily or weekly routines, the better it serves both our physical and mental health.

Take an hour or two every day to unwind, relax and calm yourself. Do the things you love, you know the ones.

I try every day before I head off to work to pray, take a hot cup of black coffee and play a James Arthur song to set my mood. I've also got an after-work routine that involves at least one of my favourite comedy shows.

What do you do for yourself everyday?



**TAKE  
TIME FOR  
YOUR  
SELF**

*Take care of your body,  
your mind and your soul  
everyday. Don't put it off  
until you may have time.  
Make the time for it  
everyday and make it  
happen.*

*Take care of you, because  
no one else will.*

## The Team



*The Superhumans*

## THE WRITERS CODE TEAM

KARIN VENABLES - REVIEWER, WRITER

JESSICA WU - DESIGNER

STACIE EVANS - WRITER, DESIGNER

LORA TIA - REVIEWER, DESIGNER, WRITER

ANNA ISHA - EDITOR

MICHAEL - ENGAGEMENT

# COMMUNITY N

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