



CENTRAL COAST WRITERS

A Branch of the California Writers Club

Coming June 18th - Plotting Secrets: How What's Absent Can Drive Narrative



LAURIE ANNE DOYLE

A well-crafted plot can make up for a variety of shortcomings. Just look at any bestseller list. Why is plot so important? As Christopher Lehman-Haupt observes, "The beginning of plot is the prompting of desire." Our characters must deeply want something, and that desire starts a journey filled with unexpected challenges and pleasures...

Parade Anyone?



The City of Monterey's 4th of July Parade is approaching. CCW had, in the past, participated in the parade. If the club is going to appear, we need a minimum of 10 participants. If interested, either complete the [Google form](#) or directly email Scotty Cornfield at scotty@scottycornfield.com by Wednesday, May 29th.



May Statistics

Meeting Attendance:
Visitors: 9 Members: 38
Total CCW Active Members: 176

Calendar:

Tuesday, 6/18
MONTHLY MEETING

Sunday, 6/23
SUNDAY SALON

Links:

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[PRESIDENT'S LETTER](#)

COLUMNS

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Nicki Ehrlich

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Michelle Smith

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Nancy Middleton

[What's On Your Nightstand](#)
Barbara Siebeneick





Writing the Right Bio - Nancy Middleton



Speakers Report - May 2024

A writer's bio is their identity in the marketplace, according to author and platform coach Joey Garcia. Writers are essentially small business owners and tailoring your bio for different situations proves that you're ready for the next level of your writing career. A good bio is written for a specific audience or purpose, establishes your credibility, proves what you've written is worth reading, and connects with your target audience.

Writers should consider the specific types of bios they might need and craft several to have on hand. Book cover bios and media bios, for example, contain different information than a bio used to be considered for a panel. A media bio, used to introduce a writer on a podcast or TV show, should be short and pithy while a literary bio should list publication credentials and any prestigious workshops attended to prove the writer's "literary citizenship." If you do other work in addition to writing—teaching, editing, coaching, etc.—you may want to craft unique bios that focus on those skills.

Most writers overload their bios with unnecessary and irrelevant information, Garcia said, adding, "A bio is not a biography." In general, authors shouldn't include anything in their bio that doesn't support their current book. She suggested that writers be honest and "watch their egos" when writing bios. The phrases "award-winning" and "bestselling" are so overused these days they hold almost no meaning. Rather than listing awards (especially small-time or obscure ones), she suggested using the phrase "received recognition for" or simply not mentioning them at all.

The key is to craft an "I see you" rather than a "Look at me" bio, Garcia said. Connect with your target audience by showing in your bio that you'll deliver what they want to read. Publishing professionals, such as agents and editors, as well as readers want to know something about you, so find ways to connect "all of you" as an author and set yourself apart. They want to see a "multi-passionate human being."

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Ink Spots

Welcome New Members

MICHAEL BEVERS
Creative Non-Fiction, Stage Plays
HEIDI HASSAN
Technical Writing
GARY SIMON
Memoir, Short Story
LARRY WEINGARTEN
Non-Fiction

*newsletter & website comments/questions
ccw.branch.webmaster@gmail.com*

CCW BOARD

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Writing Contests	<u>Dennis Hamilton</u>
Writer's Roundup	<u>Mary Smathers</u>

May's 5 Minute Reader

Olivia Morgan

