



CENTRAL COAST WRITERS

[A Branch of the California Writers Club](#)

Plotting Secrets: How What's Absent Can Drive Narrative with Laurie Anne Doyle



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.

Laurie Ann Doyle, who writes both fiction and creative nonfiction, will discuss a surprisingly powerful yet largely unknown approach to plot: how what is narratively not present—a missing father,

a lost object, even an unexpressed feeling—has been a major theme in literature and can serve as a creative spark for your own work. She will share examples from well-known books, read a short excerpt from her own writing, and provide craft techniques. She'll also offer brief writing exercises to give participants first-hand experience on how a focus on what's missing can be transformative.

Praised by New York Times bestselling author Edan Lepucki for delivering "astute portrayals of people who desire connection, hope, and renewal," Laurie Ann Doyle's book *World Gone Missing* offers a page-turning collection of haunting and emotional stories about the -

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JUNE 18TH - MONTHLY MEETING

SEATING AT 5:30 PM, MEETING BEGINS AT 6:15 PM
CENTER FOR SPIRITUAL AWAKENING
522 CENTRAL AVENUE, PACIFIC GROVE

Calendar:

Friday, 6/14

LAURIE KING
AT PACIFIC GROVE LIBRARY

Tuesday, 6/18

MONTHLY MEETING

Sunday, 6/23

SUNDAY SALON

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Plotting Secrets continued....

many ways people can vanish from life. Winner of the Alligator Juniper Fiction Award and nominee for Best of the Net and the Pushcart prize, Laurie's stories and essays appear in McSweeney's, Alta Journal, Under the Sun, The Los Angeles Review, and elsewhere. She teaches at the San Francisco Writers Grotto and at UC Berkeley Extension, where she is an honored instructor.

A popular workshop facilitator and speaker, Laurie Ann Doyle has presented at The San Francisco Writing Conference, The Association of Writing Programs conference, UC Berkeley College Writing, and elsewhere. She encourages readers to connect via her website: laurieanndoyle.com

Annual Membership Renewal Begins July 1st

Watch for an email from CCW Treasurer, Gary Parker, on July 1st. Invoice from California Writers' Club Central Coast Branch from our QuickBooks Online software. It will have an invoice for \$45.00 and invitation to pay by credit card, PayPal, and more. Our year is July 1st, 2024, to June 30th, 2025. Pay by July 31st to be entered in a drawing for refund of your membership. If you have questions, email Kim Parker at ccwbranch.membership@gmail.com.



Coming July 16th

A Legal Guide For Writers: Get Your Questions Answered

ROBERT PIMM

From understanding copyrights and publishing contracts to protecting intellectual property rights, legal advice is invaluable to writers. Come get your questions answered by a professional with more than 35 years of legal experience in the literary and entertainment industries.

Ink Spots

Welcome New Member(s)

MCLEAN HYDE -
Romance, Fantasy

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

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