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VIEWS ON WRITING

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Dear Writer,

It's important to read other writers' points of view on writing, which is why we include articles. Some times you will discover something you hadn't thought of before or see another person's perspective. This helps you to grow as a writer, and can quite often help you see the path you wish to take. So with that in mind, read all that you can and grow into a better writer. For it doesn't matter how good a writer a person is, that person can always improve.

We would like to wish you and your families a very merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

From

Writer's Quest Team

Views on Writing:

Top Ten Tips to Complete a Creative Writing Project without Losing Your Creativity

by Sandeep Grewal (Reprint article)

Have you ever started a creative writing project with great excitement, only to have your interest dwindle as the process interfered with your creativity? How do you keep the momentum going and continue to enjoy the creative process? Follow these tips for high creativity, fun and success:

1. Create a writing environment that inspires you.

Create a place in your home or outdoors that calls you to write. Consider light, colour, sound, scent, taste, and

write. Consider light, colour, sound, scent, taste, and writing materials.

2. Follow *The Artist's Way*, by Julia Cameron.

I highly recommend this book. It keeps you focused, observant, playful, and creative - and it keeps you believing in yourself as a writer!

3. Choose your writing project in a joyful way.

When choosing a writing project - have it come from your heart, not your head. Be playful. Be creative about how you choose your project.

4. Make a creative representation of the project's ideal end.

Draw, paint - use a creative medium other than writing to represent the completed project. Consider, especially, how you will feel when it's done. Put your model in a prominent place. Use this to trigger the desired feeling before the completion every day!

5. Make a timeline with celebration points.

Make it visually appealing. Have a step-by-step outline and celebrate creatively as you complete each step.

6. Create an R&D Team for your project.

Contact a number of your friends, colleagues, and readers. Invite them to join your R&D Team. Send them snippets of what you write, questions you have about the process, or anything else you want input on. Their input will keep you going.

7. Keep Creating and Editing times separate.

If you edit while you write, the process can become boring. Clearly block a specific amount of time for editing into your schedule. Don't let it interfere with your creative writing time!

8. If blocked, shake things up!

Do something fun, unusual, active! Get your mind somewhere else and move your body. Your creative side will work in your subconscious while you're at play. Read the tips in *The Artist's Way*. There are also many resources on the internet for handling writers' block.

9. Have a Fan Club.

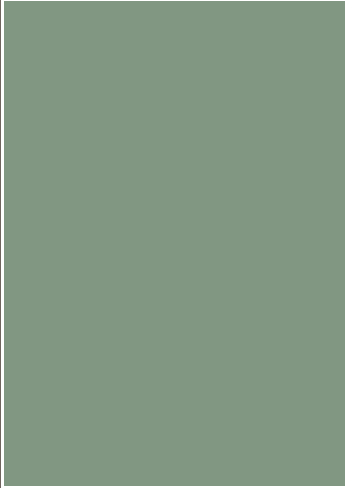
Critics and editors are fine, but have a few friends or family members who you can ask to cheer you on or cheer you up no matter what you write. Hire a creativity coach to keep you focused and to be an unbiased supporter of your creative success!

10. Celebrate in a big way!

When you reach the big finish, give it a big finish! Do something you've always wanted to do, but have never done before. Make the finish so memorable that you'll be eager to begin your next creative writing project!

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