

rest of his life. Apparently critics are everywhere, even within one's own family.

Historically, it is in the sanctity of one's own home that most writers not only practice their craft but also meet their earliest and sometimes worst critics. Nearly every burgeoning novelist out there has a relative who either has no clue to what they're doing or who sees them as some sort of family pariah. Hemingway once famously said that his wife's family thought he was a bum when he was first starting out as he quit his job as a reporter to pursue writing. He pointed out that this was an error on their part to think so. He went on to say that as a young writer in the cafes of Paris, he would struggle to write one true sentence every day and work desperately hard at his craft and when he finally became a success at writing, he decided he didn't have to work so hard and could spend his days how he chose, whether it be writing, drinking or fishing. He said he could pace himself with writing but ironically, his in-laws no longer thought he was a bum but the definition of success.

With some well-earned success usually comes some less-than-learned advice from the very same sources we trust-or distrust-most. There are those out there reading this that could probably count off the instances where as a writer we have been subjected with premises great and small about how "...my life would make a great book, let me tell you." or "You want to write a bestseller, write about our workplace!" My response to this unsolicited recommendation is usually a dry: "No thanks, I want it to sell." Sadly, this usually doesn't sink in as anything other than a witty literary aside.

It never occurs to those who think their lives would make for such great literature that if their stories were so damned interesting that they would have written about it in the first place and beaten you to the publisher's punch. Instead, we are plagued at dinner parties and social situations where the phrase "I'm a writer.", goes down almost as well as saying "I'm an Elvis impersonator." and the person with a drink in their hand next to you swears they know what makes a story sell, even though they've never written one. One great sin to a writer is to refer to it as a hobby and if it is and one is happy to be labeled in such a glib manner than their writing will be just as glib in return.

One of the hardest things for a writer to do is to sit their ass in a chair and get down to serious work. If this can be done without procrastinating, then as a writer you may have a good chance at succeeding if you are any good. A writer must be dedicated and above all, be a first-rate observer and possess a keen mind for details.

Writing is possibly the only profession that is guarded by those at the gate that literally have no idea of what they're doing. Literary agents have, with great tradition, filled the racks of entire bookstores with product that

statistically just doesn't sell. There are the exceptions to be sure, but what other business, politics and acting notwithstanding and one in the same, is the fate of one in the hands of many so inept? *Only in literature, folks, only in literature!*

As aforementioned, with only a few exceptions, writing is the hardest job there is and if done correctly, it is a wholly fulfilling work. If done incorrectly, one may *still* even get a publishing contract. Words can form minds and governments alike and the lack of them and strength of them can bring down the same. Words matter and your writing should matter as well. Literature can be a hobby for many but if one really takes their writing seriously; one must write as if their life depended on it and be dedicated to its failure and as equally, to its triumph.

- - -

Dick Cheney, Won't You Please Go Home? (to an undisclosed location)

By Steve aka droos

drsoosfeedback@live.com



Like a tardy, glum and grouchy groundhog, Dick Cheney has emerged from his hole in an undisclosed location in order to forecast not six more weeks of winter or an early Spring, but years of imminent terrorist attacks now that he is no

longer in charge of the efforts to eliminate democracy in the U.S.A. while claiming to desire to deliver democracy to Iraqis (who never asked for it and appear to desire our departure far more than democracy in order to continue their fractious factional fighting without further interference) as justification for our invasion and occupation, after each previous rationale was proven to be false.

The weapons of mass destruction mysteriously disappeared and Saddam, contained by a small contingent of American troops was a minor threat to the stability of the region compared to our overthrow of his regime with no serious plan to restore and maintain order afterwards. "Mission accomplished", declared our puppet president, seated on Cheney's lap Pinocchio style, snickered and smirked, proud to have one-upped his daddy (who was wise enough to leave Saddam in power as a counterweight to Iranian influence in the region) as chaos reigned in Iraq and Iran took advantage of the situation, while somewhere near the Afghanistan/Pakistan border, Osama Bin Laden laughed, as our troops were for the most part tied up elsewhere, while

he traveled from one Al-Qaeda camp to the next.

An easily recognized man, standing nearly seven feet tall with a turban on his head and dragging around a dialysis machine and probably a generator to power it could not be found, while Saddam was easily found underground! Our priorities under Cheney/Bush seem to have been erroneous as well as negligent.

Now Dick has the nerve to run his mouth about what President Obama is doing wrong while defending “enhanced interrogation techniques” and other criminal actions of his administration. I have a suggestion. Dick Cheney should volunteer to undergo a bit of waterboarding. Then he can share with us whether he found it to be torturous or perhaps refreshing.

Dick, please climb back under the rock or into the hole where you were hiding. You are now irrelevant. Dick Cheney, won't you please go home? Or go shoot somebody in the face? Or at least shut up!

S012709

Using PDF Files to Protect and Publish Files for Download by G.K. Fralin

This is the first of several articles I will be submitting about the use of PDF (Portable Document Format). I know, I thought it meant something else too.

You might be able to discern from that last statement that as I learn, I will pass that knowledge on to you. This first entry will be a short overview of PDF software. If you are already familiar with it and think I'm talking to a bunch of second graders, that's fine. I'm a first grader on the topic. On with the umm, article.

PDF is a software application developed by Adobe. It can be used with Microsoft Office programs, but it needs Adobe Reader to read files formatted with PDF. In other words if you wish to download a PDF file, it is best to have Adobe Reader. I purchased a download of PDF Suite 2009 from an online vender. I paid approximately \$40 for it. There are more advanced and more expensive versions, but I'm not that rich or that brave. I'm also not in need of PDF software that large businesses require.

There is no charge for Adobe Reader and as new versions come available the user is notified.

PDF converts files that already exist. To test the feature, I simply opened a short document from MS Word into PDF. I could also convert it to use a large array of features including the ability to password protect or e-sign a document.

PDF can be used for a large number of applications and tasks. We are all likely familiar with the use of PDF for newsletters. We know that we cannot add to, delete or change a PDF file once we download it. We can print it which makes it especially attractive for businesses and publishers who are working toward a paperless workplace.

Now that I have made my obligatory green statement, it also makes the publication of a document or book cost effective. The cost of printing is the decision and responsibility of the end user.

Doing a small amount of research Online I discovered bookstores that sell journals, magazines, and e-books using PDF. Some sites offer the author a chance to purchase a book cover to add to the PDF file.

Personally I would rather make my own or have someone who is familiar with my plot to design the cover. To me purchasing from an array of predesigned book covers, even if they can personalize them is not going to sell my books. Many books are purchased according to the appeal of the images on the cover and the plot summary on the back. I don't like the idea of purchasing something that doesn't represent me or my work. That was my little editorial, so do with it as you may.

There are features available for merging or inserting documents or images from other programs.

I cannot accurately introduce more knowledge of PDF in this article. I haven't learned enough about it myself yet, but will be adding articles to later newsletters. Some of the following links can show you availability of the software for purchase Online by either download or shipment of the product.

Sites that sell PDF software:

<http://www.pdfstore.com/>

http://www.docudesk.com/deskPDF/PDF/Writer_LP6.shtml?gclid=CMTciMTc2poCFSQMDQoda3Ib3Q

<http://www.win2pdf.com/?gclid=CKbk2vjd2poCFRAhDQodF2AX2g>

The store I purchased and downloaded my PDF software is:

http://pdf-format.com/suite/us/?uid=999507&crd=1599&wid=936&googleID=1055829247&cmp=G%20-%20Search%20-%20EN%20-%20PDF&msg4=PDF%20All-in-One&gclid=CKnipdLe2poCFQENDQod6i1w1g&Country=US&type_1=5/26/2009%207:41:38%20PM&Keyb=pdf+software&clientID=f68f8e71-6949-4e2c-94ec-8e6542f4149b

I did look for an example of an e-book store that specialized in e-book sales because I wanted to know there was such availability. I found several E-book stores Online but these two looked promising. Amazon.com also sells e-books. Things that I believe would be important to look for when choosing to sell through an existing Online store is to check their markup, submission guidelines, genres, and hidden charges. Be sure to read the fine print and completely read the acceptance agreements before signing.

<http://www.ebooks.com/>

<http://online-book-store.net/>

Music Review

by Reina Elsherif

What was that? Is it a plane, is it a bird? Nope it's the 'clone' of the Spice girls, the Saturdays, they are quite similar to the Spice girls, as they focus on pop, but so do other bands such as Girls Aloud. But the future of Spice girls rests within these hands. The music is already all over the UK, and they ain't stopping there, they want to go all over the map.

They cover so much ground in their style, and the style of pop, which controls, manipulates the emotion, and makes people like me weep. They can go from the lovey-dovey music all the way to mellow and upsetting music, also from comedy music to real-life issues. If it has pop associated with it, The Saturdays has figured out a way to incorporate it into their music. The most amazing thing about it is, no matter where in the spectrum the song resides, it always sounds like the same band. Some girls band can try to pull of the different styles of the Saturdays, but it usually ends

with an epic failure.

Ok, you must be thinking, that I am biased towards it, as I am giving it such a positive reception. But I have to say that when I first listened to The Saturdays, I did not have that, this is music sense, I believed it was rubbish. My first thought was "This is going to replace Spice girls and Girls Aloud, What a joke!" But, after you listen to a variety of pop classics and new female pop music, I did this through organizing them through names of the artists. I know that sounds stupid, but it helped so much, in identifying what was good music and what was rubbish music, yes I am looking at you Paris Hilton.

Anyway, after listening to a good two hours, this came on, I had to keep a middle-line attitude towards it, so I won't be harsh or kind towards it, and when I heard their song, with their lyrics, I felt moved, I thought it was because of the food I was eating, but nope it was actually the music itself, and I can't stop listening to it.

The Saturdays is a journey of your emotions through style and passion. The Saturdays are similar to Spice Girls and Girls Aloud, as they both focus on girl power, so do these girls, Spice girls started it off, Girls Aloud made girls try to look flirtatious and confident in themselves, now Saturdays, your mission, which you must accept is to show the world, the power of girls' emotions.

Their songs are going to represent the future of the world, when hope has been lost. The Saturdays is a journey to the heart of mankind and trying to encourage mankind to be more positive and to show more happiness and love. Sure the band is young, but so were the bands, they cannot be like famous after one day, it's take time to become famous, unlike Susan Boyle. They are definitely memorable, as they all have an individual voice and personality.

The songs, can be first seen as cheesy, but start becoming catchy, emotional and easy to enjoy and get into. No-one can replicate their music, as each one needs to be handled differently and if you ruin their music with a single mistake, it ruins the whole music. I can guarantee that if you pick any one song at random, you will something about it that will make you listen to it again, and also make you wonder what the rest of the sound like. This is like a drug that you cannot quit, I rate it class S, as you will try to stop listening to this music, but you would still want listen to it, nonstop. It's that good.

Bottom line: Amazing, imaginative, and just plain different. I was not sure what to expect from a band called The Saturdays, and they brought me something I was not expecting. They brought a blast of originality, filled with skill and talent, and a willingness to experiment. This is a group that you do not want to miss. I highly recommended this, you could get a girl if you are a boy and you could get a boy if you are a girl. These really release the emotions of love and care.

- - -

Meet Our Writers -

Lynn Alexander is from Long Island, NY. She is a social worker, policy researcher, artist, activist, writer, poet and has worked with many non-profit organizations. More information at <http://lynn-alexander.com>



Joseph Grant: "My short stories have been published in 140 literary reviews and e-zines, such as *Byline*, *New Authors Journal*, *Underground Voices*, *Nite-Writer's International Literary Arts Journal*, *Howling Moon Press*, *Hack Writers*, *New Online Review*, *Literary Tonic*, *six sentences*, *NexGenPulp*, three UK literary reviews, *Bottom of the World* and *Cupboard Gloom* and three most recently in *Darkest Before Dawn*, *strangeroad* and a story in the anthology of horror, *Northern Haunts*, (available at Barnes & Noble, Target and on Amazon), *Heroin Love Songs* and *Bottom of the World #2*. I have won "Story of the Month" at *Bartleby-Snopce Literary Review* and Story of the Month at *6 Sentences*. I have been nominated for the Million Writers Literary Award."

C.S. Leaf (1981-) was born only a few miles away from the small community he grew up in located on the northeast coast of Massachusetts where the mouth of the Merrimack River empties into the Atlantic Ocean. As a young child, his love for the arts was evident. It was always writing or more accurately, words which consumed him most. At the age of twelve, Leaf's poetry was published by "The American Academy of Poetry" and he received invitation to read poetry over the radio. His first collection of poems, "Lost In Hindsight" was published in 2008 by Finishing Line Press. This collection represents Leaf's youth and is comprised of poems written before he turned eighteen. Soon after turning eighteen, Leaf took a much needed break from writing which allowed him to pursue some of his other interests. During this time he started his career as a fine art dealer and formed his own gallery, Sylvanwillow Fine Art. Upon returning to writing, Leaf returned to the poems of his youth and revised them for today. Before he could leave them behind, he had to perfect them. There was a definite necessity in doing this work. **Finishing Line Press** selected "Lost In Hindsight" for release in 2008. "Lost in Hindsight" was nominated for the 2008 **Dylan Thomas Prize**, the 2009 **Pulitzer Prize** and the 2009 **Mass Book Award**. Currently, C.S Leaf is attending Goddard College in Vermont, studying under the advisement of Walter E Butts, Current Poet Laureate of New Hampshire. He lives In Lowell, MA with his wife and two-year old son. Leaf and his wife founded Anamorphy Press and Anarcho-Syndicalist Publications-a small academic letterpress and publisher.



Craig Leaf with son Versailles Leaf

Member of the BOSTON AUTHORS CLUB

Publications:

Books:

Lost in Hindsight (Finishing Line Press, 2008)

Journals:

Anthology of Poetry by Young Americans,

Guideword Vol #1, 2008

Guideword Vol. #2, 2009,

Guideword is a Literary Journal of Goddard College's Fine Arts Program.

Very Bad Poetry, (online).



Steve (aka droos):

"I am a proud native of Delaware, home state of our current VP. Former Senator Biden at times speaks before thinking about the implications of his statements. I share this quality with him, as I do not always consider the consequences of my pronouncements.

I tend to deal with serious matters with humor. Enjoy it, endure it, or move on (.org).

I write in various modes, from fiction to humor to current events, opinion, poetry and prose. In my humble opinion, most of my posted work is quite good and worth reading by any discriminating reader. Regardless of your preferences or predilections, I believe that if my work doesn't make you think, it will at least make you chuckle. The publication of my best-seller is merely a matter of time, as self-motivation is not my strongest trait. Stay tuned.."



G.K. Fralin: " Hope you're not disappointed, but yes that is me the hot young chick. I've published a few short stories and poems. I have finished one book of poetry and photos. I've still got a bunch in a box. Article writing is not my favorite thing to do, but as long as I need to learn and do research about stuff, it's good to put it in an article and get it published and I have published a bunch of articles for which I usually earn a few bits of pennies from sponsors who advertise on my pages. I've been with Literary Mary since a few months after its creation. I am the resident prude and I have no fear of being ultra conservative because you seem to like me anyway, or let me think you do. I'm

working on a novel and when it's done, I hope to return to a couple of others that I started way back when God created this planet. "

And some more to come...

All the images and visual representations contained in this newsletter have been retrieved from the public domain of www.google.com, for the sole reason of entertainment.

LiteraryMary is owned and run by Jenifer Wills and Father Luke. The aim is to further the creative potential of all those involved and continue to build its network both as a team and a literary giant.

We strongly encourage support for our cause in any way possible.
Any form of plagiarism is strongly condemned.

