

GLVWG



Welcome to the monthly
Greater Lehigh Valley Writers Group Newsletter
Mostly October 2022/into November 2022
The intent of this newsletter is to give information and tips to our authors.



For the month of October, there is a general membership meeting and workshops on Saturday, October 22, starting at 10:00 am. The meeting will be hybrid, that is to say over Zoom and at the Palmer Library. The workshop will be live and zoomed. Check our website for the morning Zoom link or see below.

11:00 - 12:00 Morning Program: Thomas Lubben. The Art of Journaling.

Journaling, what is it? How do you do it? Why should you Journal? What does it do for you? What does Journaling do for your writing?

1:30 pm Afternoon Workshop : Thomas Lubben. The Art of Journaling for Writers.

Journaling is a highly valuable asset for writers. Thomas's presentation will focus on several key points:

- The Purpose of Writing a Journal
- Methods of Journaling
- My Own Experiences with Journal Writing
- The Benefits of Journaling for a Writer

It is estimated that over 6 million Americans engage in some sort of Journal Writing.

You must register to attend this afternoon workshop.

[Register HERE](#) - Zoom meeting link and password will be sent when you register.

Members Free.

Non-members, \$15 via Paypal.

To join the morning Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87649340327?pwd=NTF2SEIxVUcwSnYwaWptU08wWXZYUT091>



GLVWG 2023 Anthology.

Good news for procrastinators! We're extending the deadline until October 20. In case you missed it, we're extending the deadline. Yay! But don't delay.



Blog Submissions Welcome.

We are looking to revive our dormant blog as a way to continue promoting GLVWG's activities and members' various skills and successes. We welcome posts from our members that focus on any aspect of writing. Or, if you are willing to write a post but aren't sure what to write about, please contact Sara Karnish, publicity chairperson, for a few ideas.

We will also use our blog as a promotional tool for our October agent and editor event, as well as The Write Stuff conference. Our content will include in-depth interviews with speakers, tips for pitching, Networking for Writers, and more.

Questions? Interested in writing a blog post? Contact Sara Karnish at sgkarnish@gmail.com for more information.



Member Spotlight.

In the end, for us authors, it is all about networking. Last year we hired Sarah Karnish as a presenter for our conference. Now she is a member of GLVWG and on the Write Stuff Writers Conference committee. People getting involved makes things work.

Sara Karnish has been interested (okay, obsessed) with books and writing since elementary school. It started with a streak of four first place wins in the elementary school spelling bee, a record that still stands, followed by the desire to write the next great tween series like Sweet Valley High, be a teen magazine journalist, or both.

Fast forward a few years and Sara majored in English at Lebanon Valley College, then completed graduate coursework in English at Kutztown University. After spending a few years in the professional world, Sara discovered freelance writing, which became a longtime side hustle. She accumulated bylines in over 50 consumer, trade, and custom publications. It is now her full-time job thanks to a global pandemic and a desire to work

at home. Projects include magazine articles, blog posts, web content, and marketing materials like press kits and bios, and proofreading.

Sara is the co-founder of the Tamaqua, PA-based Black Diamond Writers Network. When not working on client projects, reading, or spending time with family, she writes short stories and poetry. She is also an adjunct instructor of English at Lehigh Carbon Community College. She lives in Carbon County with her husband, son, and two senior Labrador retrievers. Visit her online at sgkarnishwriter.com.



Notices of Contests.

GLVWG does not endorse any of these following events—they are supplied to our members solely for informational purposes.

[Story Unlikely's Short Story Contest](#)

Short Story contest with \$1,000 prize package and NO entry fee. Fiction or memoir, up to 4,500 words. Looking for well-written, expertly told stories, regardless of genre.

Top prize: \$1,000 total package

Additional prizes: Publication

Fee: FREE

Deadline: December 31, 2022

[Halloween Horror Contest](#)

The spooky season is almost upon us. We're looking for your creepiest horror stories. The ones that make us lay awake in bed at night gnashing our teeth, wondering about the sound coming from under the bed. The story can be a maximum of 5,000 words. There is no minimum.

Top prize: \$250

Additional prizes: Two runner-ups: \$50

Fee: \$5

Deadline: November 11, 2022



This month's **Featured Publishers.**

[BOA Editions](#)

Publisher of: Poetry and Short Fiction

Founded in 1976, BOA Editions focuses on poetry. Though they publish fewer than 20 books a year, their editors are discerning enough to sniff out plenty of prizewinners.

BOA's roster includes decorated — and phenomenally popular — poets like National Book Award finalist Lucille Clifton and Naomi Shihab Nye, the first Arab American to be named the Young People's Poet Laureate. But BOA also looks beyond verse, running several contests for short fiction writers, as well as poets seeking publication.

Coffee House Press

Publisher of: Nonfiction, Fiction, Short Fiction, and Poetry

Founded in 1972, Coffee House Press has grown from tiny letterpress to internationally renowned nonprofit. They've managed to stay close to their roots, putting out the occasional small-batch, letterpress chapbooks, complete with hand-sewn spines. But their backlist of more traditional volumes is substantial and growing. These days, Coffee House best known for their boundary-pushing, genre-crossing novels and essay collections — many of which have won prestigious nominations, from the Pulitzer to the National Book Award.



The Author's **Resource Well.**

Reedsy

Reedsy (among many other features) offers free book formatting software but with limited options. Simply upload your book, choose a format, and play around with it from there.

8 Things Every Author Website Needs

An article by Dan Koboldt. While he doesn't claim to be an expert in marketing or self promotion, he has a background in web design, and currently operate seven independent websites that collectively saw over a million pageviews last year.



Our **CaféZoom!** sessions continue. The Café is every Wednesday via Zoom. Details will be on the website on the previous Friday. You must register to read and/or attend. However, they fill up pretty fast, so pay attention to the event listings on our website and signup for the next one.

Here is the link for more information and to register for The Writers Café. There is a waitlist for those who can't register in case someone doesn't show up.

<https://greaterlehighvalleywritersgroup.wildapricot.org>

We are now allowing up to 20 participants to be readers. The Writers Café format has two parallel sessions (breakout rooms) with 10 readers in each. You can still join the meeting, but only the first 20 to register will be able to read their work. There will be a waitlist for readers, so have something available to read in case someone doesn't show up.

Total registration will be limited to 25 people, any more would be unmanageable.

We will be using Zoom, and those who have registered will get an invitation via email and be notified again on the day of the Café. The meeting will start at 6:55 pm, with no particular end time. If you have signed up, be prompt!



Here is our **Monthly Column** by **Pattie Giordani**.



Crimes Against Grammar: Literary Devices From A—Z, Chapter 4

By Pattie Giordani

These columns have been a result of a scribbled list on a sticky note in my grammar columns folder. I had written “metaphor, alliteration, imagery, onomatopoeia, simile, and hyperbole.” During my research, I found a website that lists a plethora of literary devices in alphabetical order. I selected a number of terms to cover in each column/chapter. The website is literarydevices.net if you want to look up a term I’m not covering here. Read on for chapter 4.

Parallelism

Parallelism is the repetition of grammatical elements. This can impact the grammatical structure of sentences, or even the meaning of thoughts and ideas the writer is trying to express. When used as a figure of speech, parallelism goes further. This device can feature repetition of a word or phrase for emphasis. It can also create a parallel view between opposite ideas through grammatical elements.

Common examples in everyday speech

Stupid is as stupid does

No pain, no gain

When the going gets tough, the tough get going

Other examples

“Clap your hands if you feel like a room without a roof/Clap your hands if you feel like happiness is the truth.” (Pharrell Williams)

“The practice losing farther, losing faster: places, and names, and where it was you meant to travel. None of these will bring disaster.” (Elizabeth Bishop)

Example from literature

Pygmalion by George Bernard Shaw

“If you can’t appreciate what you’ve got, you’d better get what you can appreciate.”

Shaw uses parallelism to show contrast by inverting the grammatical structure. The effect for the reader/audience is the connection between what someone has and what they appreciate.

Quest

Quest means to find out something, or to go find something that was lost somewhere. It can also mean a search for a solution. In literature, a quest is a specific mission for finding treasures or solving a mystery. As a device in a narrative plot, quest shows the journey of a hero or heroine toward a goal that may or may not be achievable.

Example from literature

Odyssey by Homer

“Poseidon!
O Shaker of the Earth, do not refuse
to grant our prayer; may all these things come true.
Bring fame to Nestor and his sons, and grant
gifts to the Pylions, as recompense
for this fine sacrifice. And may the quest
for which we sailed here in our swift black ship
succeed, and may we come home safe again.”

In this excerpt, the goddess Athena asks Poseidon to accept her prayers about repayment to the progeny of Pylions. She also mentions the quest that involves sailing of the black ship, and its successful and safe return. This quest is only about the return of the voyage and not of Odysseus, about whom the epic tells a different quest.

Rising Action

Rising action in a plot is a series of relevant events that create suspense, interest, and tension in the narrative. Used this way, rising action includes all decisions, characters’ flaws, and background circumstances that combine to create twists and turns leading to a climax.

Example in literature

Revelation by Flannery O’Connor

O'Connor has filled this short story with rising action, starting with the moment Mrs. Turpin walks into the waiting room. She is instantly offended by the surroundings, considering herself better than the homely and dirty-looking patients. A girl in the waiting room, Mary Grace, exhibits intense actions that show her dislike of Mrs. Turpin. She finally attacks the older woman by throwing a book at her. Mrs. Turpin responds by showing anger and crying.

Simile

A simile is a figure of speech in which two essentially dissimilar objects or concepts are compared with one another through the use of "like" or "as." Common examples include slept like a log, hurts like the devil, and happy as a clam.

Example in literature

Horseradish by Lemony Snicket

"A library is like an island in the middle of a vast sea of ignorance, particularly if the library is very tall and the surrounding area has been flooded."

Well known for his use of simile to describe concepts that children can understand, Snicket shows the power of simile. By invoking this literal image of a library as an island, he reinforces the significance of a library as a refuge and protective haven against ignorance.

Tmesis

Tmesis is a Greek word that means "to cut." It is a rhetorical device that involves breaking down a phrase or word into two parts by inserting a word in the middle of that phrase or word. Commonly used in words with more than three syllables, tmesis is used to create humor or over-the-top exaggeration. In poetry it can be used to stress a point.

Examples in literature

Pygmalion by George Bernard Shaw

Eliza Doolittle says, "fan-bloody-tastic" and "abso-blooming-lutely."

Richard II by William Shakespeare

"How-heinous-ever it be."

Take a Girl Like You by Kingsley Amis

"It's a sort of long cocktail—he got the formula off a barman in Marrakesh or some-bloody-where."

Writers: Do you have a grammar, usage, or style question? Send it to me at pattiegiordani@gmail.com.

Pattie Giordani is a writer and editor. She was a staff editor for a national nonprofit association and for a daily newspaper. Her freelance articles have appeared in various newspapers and magazines, and she taught noncredit writing courses at Northampton Community College. She frequently presents at writers group meetings and conferences.



We hope to be helpful!

Charles B. Kiernan