

# Say ~~W~~<sup>E</sup>EN!

Newsletter of the Writers & Editors Network

Encouraging and Promoting the Art and Skill of Writing and Editing

May 2013



## May Networking Breakfast

**Speaker:** Howard Shrier, Mystery Novelist

**Date:** May 18, 2013

**Time:** Check-in 9 a.m. Meeting 9:30 a.m.

**Location:** Canadiana Restaurant Lower Level, Six Points Plaza,  
5230 Dundas Street West, Toronto

Howard Shrier was born and raised in Montreal, where he earned an Honours Degree in journalism and creative writing at Concordia University. He has worked as a writer for more than thirty years in a wide variety of media, including print, magazine and radio journalism, theatre and television, sketch comedy and improv, and high-level corporate and government communications.

His critically acclaimed first novel, *Buffalo Jump*, which introduces Toronto investigator Jonah Geller, won the Crime Writers of Canada's Arthur Ellis Award for Best First Novel. The sequel, *High Chicago*, won the Arthur Ellis for Best Novel of 2009, making Howard the first author in the history of the awards to win both back to back. *Boston Cream* was published to rave reviews in 2013, including starred reviews in *Publisher's Weekly* and the *Library Journal*. *Miss Montreal*, the fourth Geller book, is due out May 14, 2013. All the Geller books are published by Random House Canada and have been optioned for television by Toronto-based Media Headquarters.

Howard is also the author of one standalone thriller, *Lostport* (2011). He now lives in Toronto with his wife and sons and is working on a new novel set in Montreal in 1950-51. He also teaches writing at University of Toronto's School of Continuing Studies. He plans to write a longer bio when he needs to procrastinate a bit more.

See the WEN Events section for more information about Howard's books.

## Breakfast Registration Details

The breakfast meeting costs \$15 for WEN members and \$20 for non-WEN members. It features a generous and yummy breakfast buffet.

To register, please contact Anna Stitski-Gemza at 905-272-1478 or by email to [breakfast@wenetwork.ca](mailto:breakfast@wenetwork.ca) or by completing the registration information on the website at <http://wenetwork.ca/site/calendar/breakfast-meeting/>. The Canadiana Restaurant is in the Six Points Plaza, conveniently located within walking distance of the Kipling Subway station.

### Dates

May Breakfast **5/18**

Say WEN Deadline **5/20**

June Breakfast/AGM/

Elections **6/15**

Say WEN Deadline **6/20**

Members' Reading **7/20**

**No breakfast in August**

Say WEN Deadline **8/20**

September Breakfast **9/21**

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# President's Message

Say <sup>E</sup>WEN!

Say WEN is published by

## The Writers & Editors Network

as a service to members and friends. WEN publishes news about our members and events in which our members participate. We welcome other news and events that may benefit our members.

We reserve the right to edit or reject submissions at our discretion.

WEN does not verify the accuracy of submissions and their inclusion does not constitute an endorsement of these services and organizations.

Say WEN is distributed the first of each month, excluding August, to more than 100 WEN members and is posted online at [wenetwork.ca](http://wenetwork.ca). Send submissions to the Newsletter Editor by the 20th of the month at [newsletter@wenetwork.ca](mailto:newsletter@wenetwork.ca).

## Say WEN subscriptions

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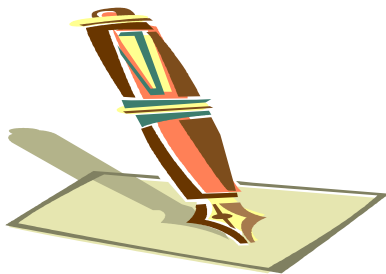
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The editing workshop at Metro Hall on April 27 was a big success. It was well attended. Many thanks to Caroline Kaiser for putting together a very informative workshop.

We have ordered and received a shipment of new lanyards for the name tags. If you are a new member and have not yet received one, please see Anna Stitski at an upcoming breakfast meeting.

I want to encourage everyone to refer to the Events Calendar on the new WEN website to keep informed of upcoming breakfast meetings, book launches, workshops, and other events. In addition, all WEN members are welcome to post an event that is of general interest to the membership. Simply send an email to our webmaster providing details of your event. [communications@wenetwork.ca](mailto:communications@wenetwork.ca)



The editing phase of the WEN anthology, *Canadian Imprints Volume II*, is now in progress and is near completion. The editors have been working diligently to edit and improve each of your submissions. We ask that you work cooperatively with the editors since this is largely a voluntary effort.

We have a general policy not to publish poems or short stories in our *Say WEN* newsletter.

However, we welcome submissions on writing tips and how to publish your work as well as member news. Submissions can be emailed to our Newsletter Editor Corinne McCorkle at [corinne.mccorkle@gmail.com](mailto:corinne.mccorkle@gmail.com). Please note that the editor has the right to edit or reject submissions at her discretion.

This year is passing quickly and now the nomination process is underway for the new Board. Since WEN is a voluntary organization, it is dependent upon members' involvement for its continuation. If you feel you have the time and the necessary skills for any of the board positions, do not hesitate to fill out the nomination form and return it to Jasmine Jackman, our Nominations Chairperson. Elections will be held at the June 15 Networking Breakfast, along with our Annual General Meeting. The Annual General Meeting package will be emailed to the membership by June 1 for your perusal.

Furthermore, it was so invigorating to see many writers, some from WEN and some from the literary community, come together to celebrate the release of Thelma Wheatley's book. We are indeed so proud of you.

I would like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome new members to our organization.

**Maria Pia Marchelletta**

*President*

[president@wenetwork.ca](mailto:president@wenetwork.ca)

## Nominations Still Open for 2013-14 WEN Board

Jasmine Jackman, WEN VP and Chair of the Nominations Committee, said the committee is still accepting nominations for the WEN Board of Directors for 2013-14. We hope you will consider running for a position on the Board, or nominating a fellow WEN member. The positions carry a term of **one year**. Elections will be held at the June WEN Networking Breakfast and Annual Meeting.

A nominating form, job descriptions of each Board position, and instructions about how to nominate yourself or someone else are attached to this newsletter. Before you put a name forward, **please** get permission of the nominee!

If you have any questions, please contact Jasmine Jackman, WEN VP and Chair of the Nominations Committee at [jasminejackman@gmail.com](mailto:jasminejackman@gmail.com) or talk with any board member.

## Submission Guidelines for Member Readings in July

The program for the July meeting will be the always-popular Readings by Members of WEN. We would love to hear you read your work! Here is a summary of the requirements from John Ambury, who coordinates the readings on behalf of the WEN Board. The complete information is attached to the newsletter.

Poems and short prose will be accepted. You must be a Member in good standing as of the meeting date, and the entry must have been written by you.

You must be able to read the

entry in front of an audience in *five minutes or less*, including any introductory notes or explanations.

Submissions will be accepted beginning at 12:01 a.m. on the day of the May Meeting (May 18).

## Welcome, New Members!

Please say hello to our newest members: Sandy Leppan, Donna Woods and Marion Malone.

## Michael Croucher Wins Say WEN Fiction Contest

Congratulations to WEN member Michael Croucher, who has been selected as the winner of the Say WEN Fiction Contest for his story titled "Night Wagon". The contest was announced in the October, 2012 newsletter.



Michael was born in England and has lived most of his adult life in Canada. He has been writing fiction for over thirty years. He is a former Toronto police officer who served seven years investigating organized crime with the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit. An avid reader of crime, suspense, and historical novels, his first book, *Bravo's Veil*, was self-published in 2010. A second release through Friesen Press of Victoria is scheduled for January.

Michael and his wife live in a small town on the Niagara Peninsula. They have two married daughters and four grandchildren.

You can find the winning story on the WEN website at

<http://wenetwork.ca/site/april-20-2013-michael-croucher-wins-wen-fiction-contest/>

## Andrew Borkowski Thanks Us

WEN received this note of appreciation from our March speaker. *Dear Fran,*

*Thanks so much for the kind words. It's my intention at public events simply to go out and have as good a time as I possibly can. Your group made it easy – one of the best audiences I've addressed in the fifty or so appearances I've made. Thanks to you and Kevin and Maria and everyone on the Board for having me. Thanks also for the lovely pen and pencil set, especially for the mechanical pencil – as I finished a copy edit of my novel last week I was thinking how handy one of these would be.*

*Hope we can work together again in the future.*

*Best Regards,  
Andrew*



## Letter from the Editor

*Say WEN* is written by WEN members, so send in your articles and photos. The deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. We want news about your work and information of interest to WEN members such as literary events, workshops, contests, and great resources.

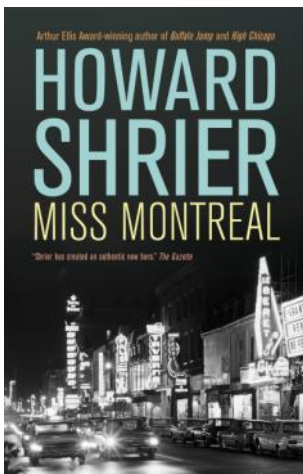
Please submit your news as a written news article. Please do not send your submissions as fliers, evites, personal notes or similar. These do not match newsletter format, and requires someone (me) to put your information into a news article. We're all writers, so let's write! Thank you!

Questions? Comments? Contact me at [newsletter@wenetwork.ca](mailto:newsletter@wenetwork.ca).

## High Praise for Howard Shrier's Jonah Geller Series

Howard shared this good news with WEN in a note to Program Coordinator Fran Edelstein.

I don't always share reviews, but this one was too good to hold back. In his year-end "Jury Box" column in *Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine*, the best-selling mystery monthly in the US, Steve Steinbock writes:



"Shrier is my top find of the year. The Toronto-based author is not well known below the Canadian border, but his excellent P.I. series deserves much wider attention. Hired by an Orthodox Jewish couple to travel to Boston to locate their medical-student son, P.I. Jonah Geller and his partner Jenn cross paths with an evil but altogether believable criminal consortium. Geller is an exceptionally well-drawn character, a true man of peace who is forced to harness his own inner violence."

Click here to see the full review.  
<http://www.themysteryplace.com/eqmm/jury/>



## Our June Speaker Will Be Brenda Isabel Wastasacoot

Brenda Wastasacoot is an Aboriginal Cree from Manitoba and a PhD student studying for a counselling degree at the University of Toronto. As the only child in a family of sixteen children who did not attend Residential School, she explores the family and community impacts of that program. She has written a charming children's story titled *Granny's Giant Bannock*, based on childhood memories.

**Fran Edelstein**  
Program Coordinator  
[programs@wenetwork.ca](mailto:programs@wenetwork.ca)



## Playwright to Speak to WEN in September

We will be privileged to host Daniel Karasik at our September breakfast. Meanwhile those of us at WEN might wish to attend his latest play, *The Biographer*, opening May 4 at Videofag, a performance space in Kensington Market at 187 Augusta Avenue.

Mysterious and gently poetic, *The Biographer* is the story of a father searching for his daughter amid the wreckage of an abandoned seaside carnival where he

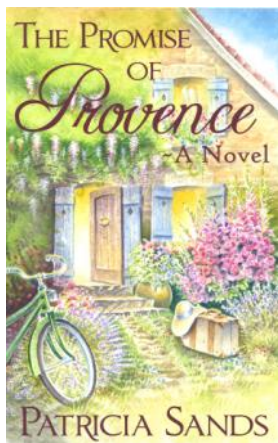


believes she disappeared, and a meditation on the ways we redeem ourselves -- or fail to -- through the stories we tell ourselves about our lives. The new play by CBC Literary Award and Canadian Jewish Playwriting Award winner Daniel Karasik, is directed by Alan Dilworth (Soulpepper Theatre Company's *La Ronde*).

**Fran Edelstein**  
Program Coordinator  
[programs@wenetwork.ca](mailto:programs@wenetwork.ca)

## Patricia Sands Releases Second Novel

Patricia Sands has published her second novel, *The Promise of Provence*. The ebook is now available and the print copy will be out in a few weeks. You can purchase the ebook on Amazon.ca at <http://amzn.to/16zMZOa>, as well as on the US, UK and French Amazon sites.



Patricia's new novel is about Katherine Price, who is 55 years old when her life abruptly turns upside down. A home exchange to the south of France, a yellow lab named Picasso, and the magic of the countryside of Provence combine to offer her a new perspective. Inspiration from an elderly mother and the kind of encouragement only your best girlfriends can offer help begin Katherine's journey. A wealthy yacht-owner and a charming French suitor who brings cheese instead of flowers take it to the next level. The story offers readers an underlying theme of hope and change woven into Patricia's own love letter to France.

## Darlene Madoff's Story Chosen for Contest Long List

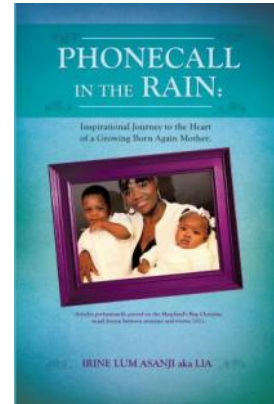
Congratulations to Darlene Madoff, whose short story "The Ceiling Price" has been long-listed for the prize in the \$15,000 Vanderbilt/Exile Short Fiction Competition, sponsored by *ELQ/Exile Magazine* and Exile Editions publishing house. She is up against some formidable competition, including Austin Clarke, Leon Rooke and Priscila Uppal. The prizes are \$10,000 to the best story by an emerging writer and \$5,000 to the best story by a writer at any point in his or her career and will be presented by Gloria Vanderbilt at the awards dinner in June. Best of luck, Darlene!



*Thelma Wheatley signing books at the April launch of her new book, **And Neither Have I Wings to Fly**. Several WEN members attended.*

## Irine Lum Asanji to Launch First Book

Irine Lum Asanji invites all WEN members to join her at the book launch of her Xulon Press bestseller, *Phonecall In The Rain: Inspirational Journey to the Heart of a Growing Born Again Mother*.



The book combines personal experience and inspiration from the Bible to discuss major societal issues and disregarded truths that prevent many people from achieving their ordained destinies. The author, who also goes by the pen name LIA, relates personal stories and supernatural experiences that confirmed her mission and purpose as a writer, journalist and multi-talented evangelist. Her book emphasizes the need to recognize "phonecalls" that come our way, especially during the "rainfall" moments of our lives.

The book launch will be on Saturday, June 29, 2013 from 4-8 p.m. at the Snelgrove Community Centre, 11692 Hurontario Street, Brampton. The book will be available for sale and autographing.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP by June 20 to [lia@talktolia.com](mailto:lia@talktolia.com) or call LIA at 289-233-0118.

## Learning Track Changes in MS Word 2007 and 2010: A Quick Guide for Authors

By Caroline Kaiser, freelance editor  
With editorial input from  
Arlene Prunkl  
of PenUltimate Editorial Services

It can be a little daunting to receive edited copy that's full of all those additions, deletions, and comment balloons that editors use.



With so many markings to deal with, how do you as an author easily arrive at a clean copy? Don't be overwhelmed – this article is designed to help make the process easier for authors who aren't that familiar with Track Changes.

### Viewing Your Manuscript

First, let's look at how to view your edited manuscript. On MS Word's "ribbon" at the top of your page, go to the **Review** tab (you will stay in **Review** when following any the procedures described in this article). Under the **Tracking** section, you'll see **Final Showing Markup** at the top. This mode shows your manuscript with all the additions, deletions, and comments visible, enabling you to see exactly what the editor has done. If you click on **Final Showing Markup**, you'll see a drop-down menu pop up with four options. Click on the second option, **Final**, to see what a

clean manuscript with the editor's changes incorporated into it would look like. To view your original manuscript before it was edited, click on the fourth option, **Original**.

### Accepting or Rejecting Changes

You can navigate through changes in two different ways. While in **Final Showing Markup** mode, do either of the following:

1) Hover your cursor over any additions or deletions (indicated by a small triangle) in the manuscript (you'll see a box pop up that shows what the addition or deletion is). Right-click on these changes. A menu will come up with the option to **Accept** or **Reject** the change or deletion. Click on the appropriate choice. You can also right-click on the deletions in the margin and **Accept** or **Reject** as you see fit.

2) Left-click on any change you see in the manuscript. Under the **Changes** section, you will see **Accept** and **Reject**. Click on the appropriate choice, and you'll see a drop-down menu come up. Select the first item, **Accept** (or **Reject**) and **Move to Next**. You'll automatically be taken to the next change to deal with.

You can accept or reject changes one at a time using either of these methods. You will find it easiest to first **Reject** all the changes you don't like and make any revisions you need to. Then, under **Changes**, click **Accept** and select **Accept All Changes in Document** from the drop-down menu.

If your manuscript has a great deal of changes, navigating from one change to the next will quickly

become very laborious indeed, and not every author will have the time or the desire to go through this process. What I recommend in this case is going into **Final** mode and reading through your manuscript. You can, of course, switch to **Final Showing Markup** as needed to see the editor's changes. After reading your work in **Final**, you can still make any more changes you need to. (Unless you wish to track these additional changes, you must make sure that **Track Changes** is turned off. You do this by clicking on the **Track Changes** box – the one with the pencil and paper in it – in the **Tracking** section. The same procedure turns **Track Changes** on when it is already off.)

When you are satisfied that the manuscript is done, do the following: under the **Changes** section, click on **Accept**. From the drop-down menu, select **Accept All Changes in Document**. Voilà—when you go into **Final Showing Markup** mode, you'll see that all

the changes have been accepted, and there are no longer any additions or deletions showing. Except for the comment balloons in the margins, you'll have a clean copy.

### Dealing with Comments

To navigate through the comment balloons, click on the first one. In the **Comments** section, click on **Next** to get to the next comment.

You will, of course, want to delete the comments in the margins to

*Continued on Page 7*

# Events Around Town

## Looking for Writers Wishing to Promote Their Books at Festival in Mimico

WEN member Heather Dick tells us that “Party in the Park,” a local festival for families in the South Etobicoke (Lakeshore and Mimico) area of Toronto, is inviting local writers with published material to sponsor a table at the fair, so you can sell your books and discuss and promote your work. Those attending this family-oriented event will range in age from a few months to grandparents. If you have written for children, you might like to offer to read a short selection from your work. “Party in the Park” will take place on Tuesday, June 18, 2013 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. in the school yard of John English Public School, 95 Mimico Avenue, Etobicoke.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Heather Dick at [info@siriustheatrical.com](mailto:info@siriustheatrical.com) and she will forward your name to the organizing committee.

## LAST CALL: LCP Poetry Festival & Conference 2013

Plans for the League of Canadian Poets’ (LCP) 47th annual Poetry Festival and Conference are under way. This exciting three-day event is scheduled for June 7 - 9, 2013, conveniently located in downtown Toronto at the Courtyard by Marriott at College and Yonge. The registration fee is \$225, which includes all events, three meals and the awards dinner. For more information and a registration form, go to <http://poets.ca/wordpress/programs-2/lcp-annual-poetry-festival-and-conference/>

## MagNet Conference

MagNet is Canada's premiere professional development and networking conference for magazine and freelance professionals. It features North America's top magazine publishing leaders, thinkers and visionaries, with a choice of over 50 sessions and 144 speakers.

MagNet will be held June 4–7 in

downtown Toronto at the centrally located Courtyard Toronto Downtown.

MagNet attendees include publishers, editors, digital media managers, printers, circulators, designers, art directors, managing editors, government funders, regional magazine associations, **bloggers**, advertising sales people, advertising agency executives, civil servants, students, **freelancers**, **photographers**, people interested in starting a magazine, circulation auditors, environmental paper advocates, suppliers, big magazines, medium-sized magazines, trade magazines, small magazines and many others. The conference is produced collaboratively by the Canadian Society of Magazine Editors, the Circulation Management Association of Canada, Magazines Canada and the Professional Writers Association of Canada.

For more information and to register, go to [www.magnet.magazinescanada.ca/](http://www.magnet.magazinescanada.ca/)

*Track Changes* continued from Page 6 arrive at a clean copy. You can delete them individually by right-clicking on the comment and selecting **Delete Comment** from the pop-up menu. Another way to delete a comment is to left-click on it and select **Delete** from the **Comments** section.

You can also delete all the comments in one fell swoop. To do this, left-click on any comment, and click on the small arrow under **Delete** (in the **Comments** section). A menu will pop up, and you can

click on **Delete All Comments in Document**.

In response to the editor’s comments, you may be adding or deleting more text. Once you have finished addressing the comments and making the necessary changes, you can once again **Accept All Changes in Document**.

As well, if you are sending your document back to the author, you may wish to add some comments of your own. To do so, click in your text where you’d like to add the comment (or click and drag if

you wish to highlight a word or several words) and then click **New Comment** in the **Comments** section. A comment box will pop up in the margin.

These tips are really only the basics of **Track Changes**, but they’re enough to get you started. There’s a lot more to learn, including changing your preferences and options.

But there’s no need to feel daunted. Play around with **Track Changes** at your leisure until you feel comfortable. Before long, using it will be second nature to you.

## What Writers Can Learn from Actors: Character Development

*Audition: Everything an Actor Needs to Know to Get the Part*

By Michael Shurtleff

(Bloomsbury US, 2005)

Reviewed by Ken O'Connor

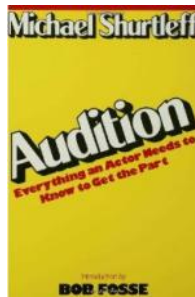
Writers sometimes need inspiration to reassure themselves that 1) the struggle of writing is worth it, especially for beginners whom no one knows or cares about, 2) they are not the only ones struggling, and 3) good writing information can be found within unexpected sources. I suggest *Audition* by Michael Shurtleff (available on Amazon.ca) will not only create enthusiasm in writers, but also help them understand concepts that can lead to more success with fiction writing for books, films, stage, and television. Michael Shurtleff was casting director for such plays as *Gypsy* and *The Odd Couple*, and for such films as *The Sound of Music* and *The Graduate*. He is well aware that artistic people must depend on themselves for success and gives explicit reasons for it.

You may protest, “But this book is about actors!” Yes, indeed. But so much more.

I look for books that give the best advice I can find, no matter what year it was printed or what main subject it covers. Content counts, especially if it offers opportunities to learn how others may look at words. I ask myself, “Can writers benefit from this work?”

I found *Audition* gets deep into character motivation. It made me more aware that each person in an audience is different, which influences writing more than I thought.

That is, I would have to write carefully to achieve the reactions I intend from my readers, rather than haphazard, unwanted reactions. This requires insight and specific language – often very hard work, since it requires keen observation plus extensive knowledge of human ways. It’s easy to be lazy or



lacking in objectivity, but we need to remember that literary works are better when they include many sides of issues and personalities.

I often look upon ideas as if stepping backwards, to make sure I have the basics right before going further. Nonetheless, I tend to rush without thinking enough. This leads to too many rewrites, too much time spent on fretting over the same material. Changing this would mean working at a higher level most of the time instead of some of the time. It would mean focus, which means getting into a state of mind, a special space only I can create for myself. That is where art lies – in remote corners one can reach intermittently after lots of sweat. I must actually create the feeling of value in my audience. This is what I learned from Shurtleff in *Audition*. This is what you deserve to experience, also, from one of the best observers I’ve read.

Shurtleff’s twelve “Guideposts”

get to the heart of what is needed for success. He offers excellent insights on relationships, conflict, opposites, mystery and secret, “Game Playing and Role Playing,” the necessity for romance in all scenes, and more.

If there was anyone who knew show business, it was Bob Fosse, who directed hits like *Cabaret*, *Chorus Line*, and a movie some rank with *Casablanca* as one of the best-ever films – *All That Jazz*. Fosse wrote the foreword for this book. He says, “I consider this book to be *absolutely indispensable* (sic!) to any aspiring, or even mildly ambitious, actor. There is NO book of which I am aware that gives an actor such first-rate, clear-cut, no-nonsense advice.” He goes on to say “...how useful this book can be to people outside the theatre.”

I give one example from the section called “Soliloquy” to show you this book speaks to fiction writers. Wrap your mind around this from Shurtleff:

*What is talking to oneself? It really is talking to other people. ...In another era people talked to God...In this era, where almost everyone is an atheist or an agnostic...we talk to someone who seems to reside here on earth...Who is that person we talk to that way? It is someone always sympathetic to our point of view, who will agree with us, rather than the real person we’re with. And if you take careful note, you will find most of the time we are asking that imaginary person a question to which we clearly expect an affirmative reply. It’s our imaginary lifelong companion, That Person Who Should Have the Answers.*

Try *Audition* for lots of great insight and advice.

# Website Links for Writers

## What Makes a Good Kid's Book? Publishers Say the Great Ones Share Common Traits

*Excerpted from the article by Deepa Fernandes, published April 14th, 2013 on the website of 89.3 KPCC/Southern California Public Radio*

Everyone has a favorite children's book. The stories are a linchpin of almost every culture. Some books are so irresistible, they elicit cries of: read it again! And again.

These stories, which set the stage for a lifetime of reading, are often very simple. But publishers said that doesn't mean they're easy to write.

"A good picture book tells a compelling story in 32 pages," said Margaret Anastas, an editor at Harper Collins Kids, "which is very difficult to do because you have to establish a character, you have to make your reader fall in love with the character, and sort of embrace the story."

That, she said, is tricky...

*For tips and comments from children's authors Jane O'Connor (Fancy Nancy) and Cynthia Weill (counting and alphabet books featuring traditional Mexican art), as well as their publishers, follow this link: <http://www.scpr.org/programs/take-two/2013/04/14/31307/what-makes-good-a-good-kids-book-publishers-say-th/>*

## New Publisher That Authors Trust: Themselves

*Excerpted from the article by Leslie Kaufman, published on April 16, 2013 on the New York Times website*

When the Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright and author David Mamet released his last book, *The Secret Knowledge: On the Disman-*

*ning of American Culture*, with the Sentinel publishing house in 2011, it sold well enough to make the *New York Times* best-seller list...

This year, when Mr. Mamet set out to publish his next one, a novella and two short stories about war, he decided to take a very different path: he will self-publish.

Mr. Mamet is taking advantage of a new service being offered by his literary agency, ICM Partners, as a way to assume more control over the way his book is promoted.

"Basically I am doing this because I am a curmudgeon," Mr. Mamet said in a telephone interview, "and because publishing is like Hollywood — nobody ever does the marketing they promise."



As digital disruption continues to reshape the publishing market, self-publishing — including distribution digitally or as print-on-demand — has become more and more popular, and more feasible, with an increasing array of options for anyone with an idea and a keyboard. Most of the attention so far has focused on unknown and unsigned authors who storm onto the best-seller lists through their own ingenuity.

*To read the rest of the article, which discusses the impact of self-publishing on the publishing industry, click on this link:*

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/04/17/business/media/david-mamet-and-other-big-authors-choose-to-self-publish.html?pagewanted=all&r=1&>

## Barnes and Noble's "PubIt!" is relaunched for self publishers

*Excerpted from a post by Victoria McNally, April 10, 2013 on BookWorks, the Self-Publishers Association blog.*

As far as easy, straight-to-e-reader publishing goes, Amazon's Kindle Direct Publishing is still the reigning champion, in no small part because the Kindle still remains the leading e-reader on the market. Barnes and Noble has had its own self-publishing software for years, but you wouldn't know by the numbers; while PubIt! attracted 20 percent more independent authors every quarter, Kindle is already overflowing with them, to the point where [27 of Kindle's top selling 100 books are self-published](#). And while 25% of books on the Nook platform are self published, between CreateSpace and KDP, that number is most likely much higher on Amazon's vast marketplace

Nook fans will be happy to note that Barnes and Noble is looking to change all that, however. Yesterday [they announced the relaunch of their self-publishing program under a new name, Nook Press](#) (which already sounds much more enticing as a publishing platform, in our opinion!). This new platform has web-based content tools for authors to write, edit, format and publish their work, as well as an online forum for writers to share their work securely, and merchandising opportunities in the Nook Store.

*To read the rest of this blog post comparing Kindle and Nook ebooks, go to [http://www.bookworks.com/index.php?option=com\\_easyblog&view=entry&id=42&Itemid=41](http://www.bookworks.com/index.php?option=com_easyblog&view=entry&id=42&Itemid=41)*

# WEN Web Update

## New Website, New Features – PayPal

The new WEN Website incorporates a new feature that allows you to pay WEN fees via PayPal or credit card. For example, you can now pay for breakfast meetings or renew your membership online and without the need to use cash or mail a cheque. One advantage is that you will get a receipt immediately from PayPal that you can print out for your records.



If you have a PayPal account and have already been using PayPal, then simply click on **Add to Cart** on the breakfast registration page or on the membership renewal page. You will then be presented

with a PayPal cart at the top right of the browser page. Now, select **Checkout with PayPal** (orange button). This will take you to a new screen. Follow the prompts to pay with your personal PayPal account as usual.

If you don't have a PayPal account, go ahead and select **Add to Cart** and then **Checkout with PayPal**. On the new screen, you are given the option to answer **Don't Have a PayPal Account** which will take you a third screen where you can enter your credit card information.

PayPal is very secure, all transactions are tracked and you are able to get a refund. One last note, if you make a mistake, push the small shopping cart icon in the upper right and your shopping cart will be deleted and your transaction cancelled.

**Maurus Cappa**  
*Treasurer and Webmaster*  
[communications@wenetwork.ca](mailto:communications@wenetwork.ca)



The **Writers & Editors Network** is an organization dedicated to encouraging and promoting the art and skill of writing and editing. WEN aims to foster literacy and to assist, empower, and provide moral support to writers and editors from all disciplines. WEN will network, mentor, and educate members independently and in cooperation with other organizations.

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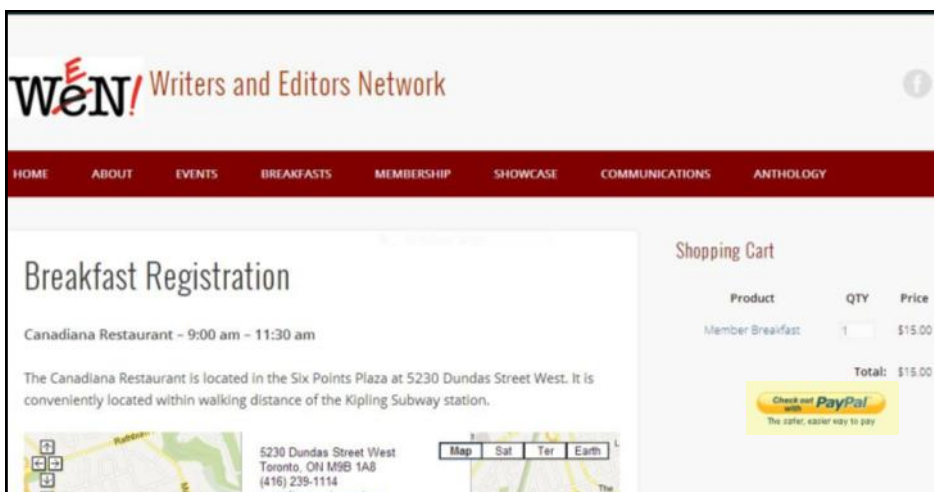
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**Board Appointments**  
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Richard Best 2010-2012

**Writers & Editors Network**  
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The screenshot shows the WEN! Writers and Editors Network website. The navigation menu includes HOME, ABOUT, EVENTS, BREAKFASTS, MEMBERSHIP, SHOWCASE, COMMUNICATIONS, and ANTHOLOGY. The main content area is titled "Breakfast Registration" and features information for "Canadiana Restaurant - 9:00 am - 11:30 am". A map shows the location at 5230 Dundas Street West, Toronto, ON M9B 1A8. To the right, a "Shopping Cart" table lists "Member Breakfast" for \$15.00, with a total of \$15.00. A "Check out with PayPal" button is visible.

You may pay with PayPal or Credit Card. Click on the Member Breakfast "Add to Cart" button and the Guest button to add guests to your shopping cart. Then click on Check out with PayPal in the top right. To pay by credit card, click you don't have a paypal account option.

Alternatively, you may pay with cash or cheque at the door.

Add to Cart Member Breakfast \$15

Add to Cart Guest Breakfast \$20

*Screenshots of the PayPal page on the WEN website, showing instructions for paying and the PayPal button*