

# *15 Things to Love About Being a Writer*

*DiAnn Mills + Edie Melson*



**1. We get to use our own experiences—good and bad—to impact others.**

We've learned that we all share a lot of the same fears, hopes and struggles. Writing gives us a chance to share what we've been through and watch it impact others.

**2. We hear voices in our heads and it's completely normal.** Not only is it normal, but it's downright scary when our imaginary friends stop talking to us.

**3. We can buy books and write it off.** Books are some of our favorite things in the whole world. Now we need to buy them to further our careers.

**4. We can take revenge on those who irritate us.** Of course we don't make them recognizable, but it makes us feel better when we can expose their actions in our books. After all, there's a reason for that old saying, the pen is mightier than the sword.

**5. We get to work in our pajamas.** Or at least in comfy clothes. There's something to be said for working at home where we don't have to worry about how we look.

**6. We get to be in charge.** We're both control freaks, so being in charge fits our personalities perfectly. We're in charge of our business, schedule (to a certain degree) and we get to tell our characters what to do.

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**7. We get to be friends with other writers – and some of them are famous.**

Some of our first heroes were authors. Now, we're friends with other writers and get to hang out with the people we've always admired.

**8. We get to research anything we want.** We like to think of it as a healthy curiosity. We refuse to accept the description of writers as nosey.

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**9. We get to hang out in coffee shops and libraries.** We love the atmosphere of coffee shops and libraries. As writers, we have a legitimate reason for hanging out there.

**10. We get to buy pens and paper.** Again, these are some of our favorite things. But since we earn our living as writers, we have to have them for business.

**11. We get paid to make things up.** No, not when we're writing articles and things like that. But for those of us who write fiction, we get to create everything from our imagination.

**12. We get fan mail.** It's not the fan mail exactly that's the best. For us it's hearing from someone we don't know that has been touched by the words we wrote. We love getting to see glimpses of God working through us.

**13. We get to be weird.** Writers look at the world a little differently. We can embrace that because people expect it. No need to hide behind a mask of normalcy.

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**14. All those hours of daydreaming are legitimate work time.** Even if we write nonfiction, we still have to come up with new and different ways to present the information. That means time spent thinking and dreaming is a workday requirement.

**15. We are courageous enough to follow our dreams.** We talk a lot about the fears that come with being a writer. It's important to never forget the courage it takes to following our dreams. That's something we should celebrate!



As co-directors of the Blue Ridge Mountains Christian Writers Conference and the Mountainside Publishing Retreats, DiAnn Mills & Edie Melson bring much more to the table than their combined half-century of writing expertise. They both exhibit a proven passion to equip writers today. Individually and together, they have encouraged thousands of writers as they stay true to the call of “changing the world one writer at a time.”

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