

11 Ways to Work Smart in Your Writing Career – All Levels

Maybe you thought spring would add a zip to your writing, but it didn't happen. Now it's the end of March, and you still haven't found the match. In fact, you're giving serious consideration to calling it quits. Maybe writing is for someone else and not you.

Before giving up on your dreams, consider these 11 ways to ignite your passion for writing.

1. Analyze the who, what, where, when, and why of your writing career.
Why did you embark upon the writing journey?
Is anything different? If so, what's the change?
Is it a good thing or a not-so-good?
2. Create a mission statement.
Frame and hang it in a prominent place.
Read it every day.
Memorize those words.
3. Establish writing goals.
Are these aspirations the same as when you started?
How often do you review them?
4. Explore new marketing and promotion techniques through blog posts, social media, how-to books, webinars, and successful conferences.
5. Mentor another writer and move the focus off yourself. How do you feel?
6. Plan to attend a writer's conference to challenge and coax you into mastering a new skill.
7. Read in your genre.
Is this still your favorite category of literature?
Why or why not?
We write what we want to read.
8. Relocate your work setting.
Does a different location inspire fresh enthusiasm?
Are you allowing too many distractions into your writing time?
9. Request a career guidance discussion with your agent and express your discontent. One of an agent's roles is to counsel and direct our

careers.

10. Schedule face-to-face informal meetups with readers.

This isn't a venue for you to sell books but to connect with those who follow you.

Make a genuine effort to get to know them.

11. Study a how-to book on the craft.

How can you improve your writing?

Sometimes, writers slip into a routine that causes each book to sound like the previous one.

We writers live in seasons of growth and change, victories and challenges. To improve our craft, we must inspect every area of our writing and publishing life. Temporary discouragement isn't bad as long as we discover ways to develop our creativity.

Take positive steps now to work smart in your writing.