

TAYLOR'S TIPS for a productive writing career...



Dear Fellow Writer,

You're receiving this newsletter because you signed up for it at a class I taught or checked the box on my website. Welcome! I hope to share some thoughts each month to inspire you to write and to submit your work for publication.

WHEN GOD CLOSES A DOOR, HE OPENS A WINDOW

Just last month a door closed in my writing world. I had established a great relationship with an editor at a magazine here in Southern California. She published articles of mine in the November, December, and January issues. AND she assigned me three pieces to write in 2008. Then a notice went out—due to economic hard times the magazine was folding. The three assignments I counted on writing, and getting paid for, were gone.

After a couple hours of feeling sad, I began to look for the open window. The one that I had not paid attention to because I was too busy going through that open door. I looked at the window, and saw the immense possibilities right in front of me: different markets to explore, more time to write personal essays for *Chicken Soup* and *Guideposts*, more time to devote to looking for good stories for interviews. Heck, thoughts of writing a novel even surfaced!

If something isn't exactly as you'd like it, turn it around and make it a positive. And if a door slams shut, or even gently closes with a click while you are working hard, look for the open window and explore its wonderful possibilities.

What's Happening...

February 28th - Come on over to Dancing Word Writers Network where Kathy Carlton Willis and I will be talking about the best kept secret of up and coming authors and my new book **The Complete Guide to Writers Groups That Work**. Some people tell me they just don't think writers groups work—but I'm a firm believer that they CAN work, if you institute the three key ingredients that make a group successful. www.dancingword.com 9:00 p.m. ET, 6:00 p.m. PST

March 14th-18th – For the eighth year in a row I'll be in the beautiful San Jose mountains at the Mount Hermon Christian Writers Conference. I love the classes, networking with writers, editors, agents and staff, meeting old friends and making new friends. Stop me and say “Hi;” even better, throw your arms around me and give me a big hug. www.mounthermon.org/writers

Follow your dreams...

B.J.

*Check out my website at www.bjtayloronline.com

P.S. Feel free to forward this newsletter to your friends. If they'd like to be added to my list, they can email me at newsletter@bjtayloronline.com. You can also opt out of Taylor's Tips at any time. Just send me an email with “remove” in the subject line.