

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



Dear Fellow Writer,

This picture is from a vacation a while ago with my hubby. I'll get back to why I put it at the top of this newsletter in a minute. First, let me ask you something. It's summertime. Have you had any of those days like I have where you...

JUST WANT TO BLOW?

I compare it to a pot on the stove. Let's say I had potatoes cooking. I turned up the heat to high and stuck a cover on the pot. Pretty soon the cover starts to lift off. You know that sound that spews out from the stovetop when something is bubbling over? The cover lifts, the water boils and bubbles out making a mess underneath the kettle, and you have to run over to the stove, grab the cover off, and turn down the heat. Does that remind you of anything that happened to you this summer when the kids were off school, the traffic was especially heavy, the weather was hot, and there were too many demands on your time? We're supposed to enjoy the "lazy days of summer." Yeah, right.

So why does this happen? I know why it happens to me. I try to do too many things at once, or I try to do it too fast, or I don't plan enough in advance to allow myself the time I need.

My new motto:

KEEP A LID ON IT!

I don't like that sound that makes me come running--that sound of a pot ready to blow. I also don't like it when I blow. Things get to me sometimes and when I argue with someone, and blow my top, I don't like the way I sound, or what I often say in haste or anger.

I've resolved to try to keep a lid on it. First, I'm going to **PLAN**. I'll get the meal prepared earlier or allow myself extra time if I'm running late. Second, I'm going to **PACE** myself by turning down the heat. Instead of trying to make things cook faster, I'll put the flame on medium. And third, I'm going to **PRIORITIZE**. Maybe there are days when I just don't have time to cook. I need to give myself a break sometimes.

So what's with the picture at the top? That's **PEACE**. A tropical drink on vacation. Makes all those days of planning, pacing and prioritizing worth it. (Even if it's a staycation and you enjoy a lemonade or iced tea in the backyard. Still quite worth it.)

So as we march into the fall season, with cooler weather, less traffic, kids back in school, I challenge you to plan for your writing goals, pace yourself to reach your goals realistically, and prioritize your goals and your time. What will you find when you achieve your goals? I think you know. :)

Happy writing and blessings on your work.

What's Happening...

Working on my novel...doing edits now and fine-tuning. Hope to be able to share more with you on that real soon. Drop me an email if you want, and let me know what YOU are doing. Would love to hear from you.

Follow your dreams...

B.J.

Author of :

“The Complete Guide to Writers Groups That Work”

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