

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



Dear Fellow Writer,

Okay, it's time for giving thanks. Maybe it hasn't been the most "thankful" year for you with your writing. Times have been tough out there. I've sold less than half the number of pieces I sold last year, and made less than half the amount of money as I did last year as well.

But I'm thankful for the amount of sales I have had, and for the great relationships with writers, editors, and publishers (and a soon-to-be agent, I hope ☺). When times are tough, we must dig deep inside of ourselves to keep our spirits up. Use your writers groups to support, encourage, and motivate you all year long. And keep submitting.

*"Getting ahead in a difficult profession requires avid faith in yourself.
You must be able to sustain yourself against staggering blows.
That is why some people with mediocre talent, but with great inner drive,
go much farther than people with vastly superior talent."
Sophia Loren*

I'm not suggesting that any of you have mediocre talent—on the contrary, I think you ALL have vastly superior talent. But do you have that great inner drive? Post positive thoughts and sayings around your work area. Read inspirational pieces that keep you thinking in an upbeat manner. Don't let a bad economy, poor sales, or lack of acceptances get you down.

Believe in YOU, and never, ever give up on your passion. As we give thanks tomorrow for all that we have in our lives, say a prayer of thanks for the ability to write and to share that gift with the world.

Happy writing and blessings on your work.

What's Happening...

February 6-8, 2009 – San Diego State University Writers Conference. It begins on Friday evening with a social mixer, but I'll be driving down Saturday morning to attend the conference, staying overnight at the hotel for just one evening (cuts down on costs), and then returning home Sunday afternoon after the conference ends. This general conference is chock full of editors, publishers, agents and other great writers (like you!). For more information go to:
<http://www.ces.sdsu.edu/writers/>

April 3-7, 2009 – Mount Hermon Christian Writers Conference. I'll be teaching a workshop on "Writing for the *Guideposts* Contest," and I'll be representing *Guideposts* for the very first time as a faculty member. I'm looking forward to working with as many writers as I can to help them to enter (and win!) the Writers Workshop Contest event that *Guideposts* runs every other year. This may be *your* year to write a captivating story that grabs the attention of those editors. Come and learn how! <http://mounthermon.org/adult/professionals/writers-conference>

Follow your dreams...

B.J.

Author of :

"The Complete Guide to Writers Groups That Work"

Available on Amazon.com or <http://www.buybooksontheweb.com/product.aspx?ISBN=0-7414-4099-7>

*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.