

The MANA Sunset

A Newsletter for Writers, August 2014



MANA'S Personalized English Classes for YOU!

MANA offers private English tutoring, taught by English composition professors and accomplished writing professionals. These classes are customized and private. The tutoring is for anyone and can cover anything from semicolons to how to write a business promotion for a company. If your question pertains in any way to the English language, MANA's staff of tutors will accommodate you. All services are completely confidential. More information and price ranges are available at marketingnewauthors.com/mpec.htm.

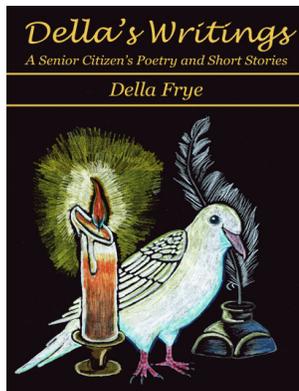
MANA Writers' Group

As a subscriber to the MANA Sunset, you have the unique opportunity to network and share your work with fellow writers! MANA now offers a group for published authors, as well as for writers who would like to become published.

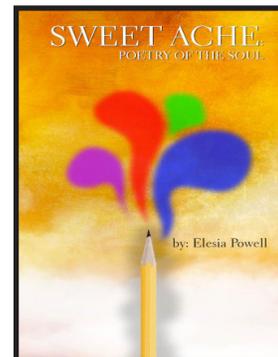
This group can act as a support group in which writers share their work. Members may either exchange their work with just one person or in a group to receive constructive feedback. More information is available at marketingnewauthors.com/manawritersgroup.htm. In a short time, The MANA Sunset will only be available to members of the MANA Writers' Group. For those who are not yet published, MANA now offers the free publication of an e-book when you purchase a six-month membership to the group! Visit the website to learn more.



Book Debuts



Della's Writings: A Senior Citizen's Poetry and Short Stories
by Della Frye



Sweet Ache by Elesia Powell

Upcoming Books

Killer Toe by Anthony Witcher

Set in a morgue, the female protagonist battles with ideas of right and wrong, love and redemption. She works in the dim lighting of the morgue and struggles through a tough break up. Despite being surrounded daily by the deceased, it is her life in the world of the living that gives her pain and heartbreak. Through the Killer Toe of one of her clients, the protagonist's former boyfriend learns a valuable life lesson about how to treat others!

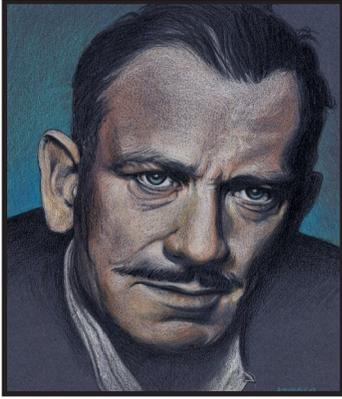


MANA Publication of REFLECTIONS
DURING 2014

MANA will publish a collection of poetry and prose for the 2014 year. A submission can include a single poem, short story, -- fiction or non-fiction -- or editorial response to today's world. If the submitted work is quality work, MANA will be interested in including it in this holiday publication. The deadline for submissions is October 31st, 2014. Children and adults alike may submit their work to info@marketingnewauthors.com.

MANA Passion for Poetry Poet Contest

Submit your poetry collections for the 2014 Passion for Poetry Contest! Submissions must include between 50 to 150 poems in order to be eligible. The contest itself began in 2012. One winner will be selected from all the applicants. Elesia Powell, an English college instructor whose collection is now on debut (seen above), won the 2014 contest. The first person to win the contest, Jessyca Matthews, is a high school teacher. The title of her collection is *Simply: A Collection of Poetry*. As seen, not only full-time writers or poets win this contest! The contest deadline is October 25th, 2014, and there is no entry fee. The winning poet will have his/her work published by MANA at no cost to the poet, as well as a book copyright and royalty!



Quote of the Month

Abandon the idea that you are ever going to finish. Lose track of the 400 pages and write just one page a day, it helps. Then when it gets finished, you are always surprised.

-John Steinbeck

Call for Writing!

If you are interested in having a review published in the next edition of the MANA Sunset, please send either a book review OR a movie review to info@marketingnewauthors.com!

The Blog Continuous Short Story

On the blog for the MANA Sunriser, a special feature is available. For every twenty contributions to the continuous short story, MANA will donate ten dollars to a particular charity. In this small way, writers or non-writers may take part in a writing project and for a good cause! Go to manasunriser.blogspot.com/2014/02/contribute-to-continuing-short-story.html and take part in the fun!

Grammar Wisdom

Lay vs. Lie

~Lay is a transitive verb that requires a direct subject and object.

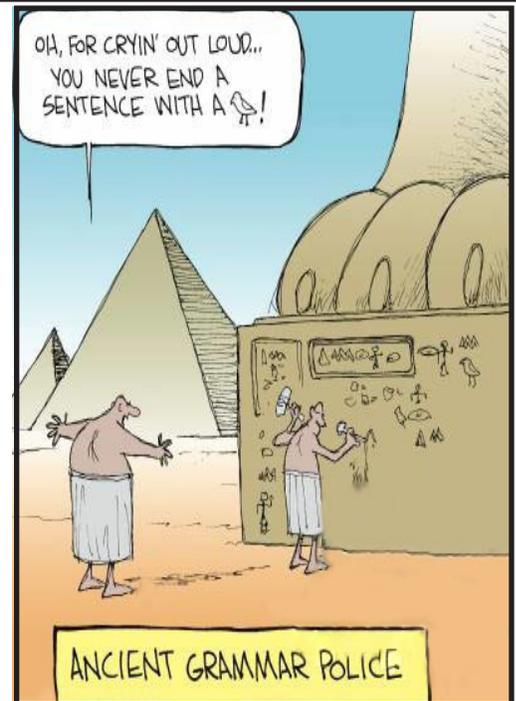
For example: I lay the book on the desk.

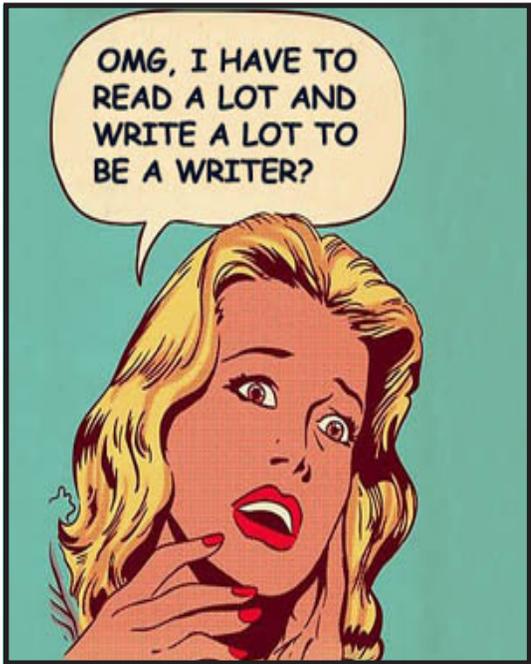
~Past tense: Laid

~Lie is an intransitive verb that does not require an object.

For example: The mountain lies between two countries.

~Past tense: Lay





Six Simple Steps to Writing a Short Story

The following excerpt is taken from a web page created and written by Peggy Tabor Millin. If you're interested in reading more of her tips, visit clarityworksonline.com.

For those of you who do not write short stories, these steps may also be applied to a chapter in a novel. Enjoy!

- 1) Start with a character. Reveal physical characteristics, background, etc. If the character is too much like you or someone you know very well, change a significant trait or attribute.
- 2) Put the character in a setting. Setting is not an accident. The character interacts with the setting as much as with another character. You should know where the character is, what the climate might be, and how the place might affect the character.
- 3) Give the character a dilemma. This can be external or internal, but there must be a conflict.
- 4) If the dilemma is MORE internal, there should still be something or someone external that the character's conflict hits against: the small town confining her, a friend he tries out his new idea on, the weather. The character must be SHOWN interacting with something or someone other than her own mind, even if it's in flashback.
- 5) A shift must occur in the main character. Some change should occur, either outer or inner.
- 6) Once the shift has occurred there is quick resolution to the dilemma. This does not need to be spelled out. You can allow the reader to imagine what happens, but you should give enough information so the reader is not left hanging.

*~Happy Writing! Look for the October edition
of The MANA Sunset!*