Turn Your Idea into a Publication

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A Little About Me...

- Currently: Editor/Community Manager for Book Riot (bookriot.com); former teen and youth services public librarian


Organizing Your Writing

3 Key Questions for Any Writing Project:

- What are you writing?
- Why are you writing it?
- Who are you writing it for?
Organizing Your Writing

- Craft a strong pitch by using your what, why, and who

My name is Kelly Jensen and I am a teen librarian at Beloit Public Library, as well as a blogger at STACKED (stackedbooks.org). I wanted to get in touch about how to submit an article to SLJ, and I saw you as the contact person for that.

I'd love to write a feature on YA horror books -- there's been a growth in horror over the last few years outside of paranormal titles, and I'd love to explore that a bit and share what these books are, why they're important, and the ways of incorporating them into library collections/services/book discussions (I'm thinking along the lines of Bonnie Kunzei's "Love Bites: The Best New Paranormal" but with a broader range of horror).

Let me know how or where the proper channels of pitching this may be.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you!

Kelly
Organizing Your Writing

- Make an outline

- Create a workflow

- Allow for space, shape, and flexibility
Useful Tools for Organizing

- Pocket -- getpocket.com
- Skitch
- Any spreadsheet tool
- Post-it notes, highlighters, index cards, notebooks, and other “analog” tools
Analyzing Data from Research

- Quantitative vs. Qualitative

- Use your what, why, and who and your outline to guide research synthesis

- Determine what needs to be used in-text and what can be used for back matter or a resource list
Finding Time to Write

- Schedule it into your daily or weekly agenda
- Regularly assess your time budget
- Make it a routine
Pushing Through Writer’s Block

- You can’t edit a blank page

- Move on to something you’re looking forward to writing

- Talk it out

- Take a break with another creative pursuit
Working with Collaborators

- Set goals, expectations, and deadlines
- Collaborative tools
- Flexibility is key
From Blog to Published Work

- What, Why, and Who: Idea generation and growth

- Your blog shows your credentials

- Your passion work matters
Questions?
Thank you!

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