Write Now!

The essential guide to writing

and self-publishing your first book

At least once a week I receive an email or Facebook message from someone who wants to write a book. Each and every email makes me feel one thing: excitement! I love to see people reaching for their dream of becoming a writer. But most people don't know exactly what goes into writing and publishing a book. Sure, there is writing involved. But there are also lots of other moving parts no one really talks about. That’s where I come in.

My hope is that this book helps you to at least get your book in motion. By the time you finish this workbook, you will have a solid plan of action as well as your outline and ideas on where to market your book.

Feel free to email me with feedback and ideas- gabbygirlmedia@gmail.com.

Step one: Plan

1. What is your book going to be about? Take some time to jot down a few ideas here:

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Once you have decided what your book is going to be about, take a field trip to your local bookstore. No, not your *online* bookstore, I mean a real bookstore with real books and artsy people scattered around the store in comfy chairs, typing on sipping lattes. Find the section your book will ultimately be in, and then see what types of books are already out there. Look at the covers, the length of the books, even what the content entails. This will help you to know what was good enough to earn space on the shelf of a bookstore.

Write the names and authors of three books that caught your eye at the bookstore:

Name Author

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Step two: Outline

Your outline will depend on what your book will be about. If it is a novel, you will probably be thinking about a plot- or what the book will be about. If it is a self-help book, you’ll need to think of the main points you’d like to make. If it is a children’s book, you may even sketch out a few ideas for the pages.

Chapter/ Section 1:

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Chapter/ Section 13:

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Step 3: Begin!

This is the best part! Now you finally get to start writing everything down! Find a quiet place in your home (your bedroom, basement, even your car!) and start writing. Don't worry about editing for now, just write!

Coming soon:

Steps 3-7: Writing, re-writing, editing, self-publishing,choosing between e-book or hard copy and marketing.