



## Occasional Newsletter 11/2022



### The First Draft Shakes

**This draft is written after the outline is finished and mainly done without any editing.**

I counted them. Sixteen fiction novels are official works-in-progress for me. I'm lucky that darned bookshelf doesn't collapse. As I develop characters sometimes one will just stand out. Rather than command myself to continue on, I'll run down that yellow brick road until I exhaust the adventure. Yes, I have a couple of first drafts laying around. Here is what I do to get past those shakes:

#### Block Out The Time

What are we doing today? Surfing the web? Nope. Trying out that new eggplant recipe? Nope. We are going to slash and burn that rough draft into a humanly

acceptable first draft. Noon til 4:00PM. Do Not Disturb. I'm armed with a black sharpie and I'm serious about this. Well, until the pizza arrives. You know what I mean..

## Hustle Up Your Beta Readers

One of my Beta readers called me the other day. "Hey, you got anything for me to read?" I looked at the shelf, cleared my throat and said, "Well, nothing you would call literary masterpiece fiction stuff. Only things available right now will make you laugh your head off." A glutton for punishment she was. She's got ten days to hack her way through them pages. Saves me from those tears that ooze out when I read the sad parts. Beta readers don't cry. They just make all kinds of red marks over your words.

## Take An Online Editing Course or Community College Class

I took the online course from Mark Dawson of Self Publishing School fame. Not only did that show me 90% of the stuff I was doing wrong, but it congratulated me on doing some stuff right. You know, you look at these people who have their book staring at you on that shelf at the grocery store and think, "What the heck they doing right that I can learn?" Go take a course/class and find out.



## Lee Anne Weltsch

Author of western fiction, sci-fi operas, and non-fiction business books.

I write. I write everything. I read a lot, too. Last year I think I read 80+ books. Cookbooks, operator manuals, and the magazines in the doctor's office. Only a couple of them actually put me to sleep. Get one of those half-size spiral ring notebooks and start packing it around with you. Write down the things you see. The accident on the freeway. The person in line in front of you at the grocery store. What did you see, hear, smell, or taste?



## NEXT RELEASE - Tarragon

Space is dark and deep and has a bull-eye painted on Jake Lattrell's forehead.

His freighter exploded when the wrong asteroids kissed.

Depressed, almost bankrupt, and on the verge of losing it all at the bottom of a bourbon bottle

A trouble-magnet since birth, Lattrell had nothing left to lose when he sat down at that poker table. A once-in-a-lifetime royal flush hand of cards won him title to Tarragon, one of the most technologically advanced ships out there.

That bull's eye just got bigger.

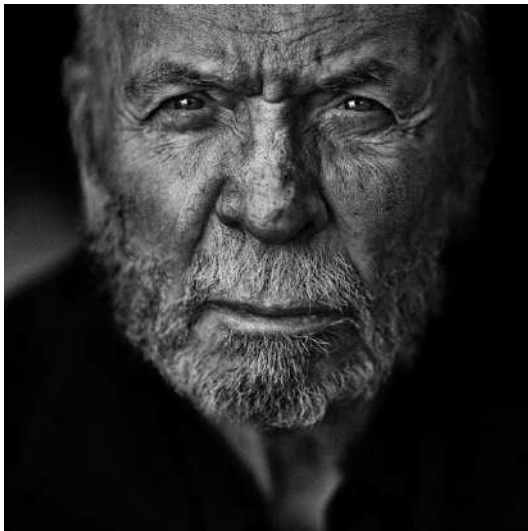
## What book are you reading?

**Analysis: Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen**

## Any words of wisdom?

That moment before the ship leaps always feels magical to me. Hundreds of thousands of people from galaxies I'll never see contributed to this vessel. And it comes together and works in unison as if it was intended to reach that level near life. And I love every inch of it. – Niles Ventura

## Manuscript WIP? Cold Rain Falling



\*[MC:SUBJECT]\*

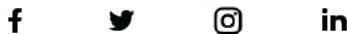
The stories of the freight deliveries move to the back of this manuscript. Captain Joe MacKay Huelise doesn't know he is a belligerent asshole. He put in his retirement papers an hour earlier. Now all hell breaks loose and it's his turn to wear the rescue cap. He doesn't take no for an answer, and maybe isn't looking so good either.

Huelise and Yellow Knife Intermodal Transport Owner, Sean Bass, pulled the smoking ship carcass out of the Jelks Recycler and began a two-year rebuild project for the two lifetime friends. Sometimes together, mostly alone the two men built their masterpiece. Huelise had pulled Bass out of universe corners where humans shy away from. Huelise built in the emergency evacuation system. Bass met with every artificial intelligence mechanic alive. Together they built a ship that could follow if/then statements to survive. Together, they were backyard mechanical geniuses who answered the "what if" question.

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