IWOSC OC Satellite Meeting Notes January 6, 2016

Independent Writers of Southern California (IWOSC) [www.iwosc.org](http://www.iwosc.org)

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EVENTS

1. IWOSC Saturday Seminar: Method Writing; January 16, 10:30-1 PM
2. WriteGirl is seeking mentors and volunteers: http://www.writegirl.org/.
3. Books & Broads: A conversation with agent Bonnie Nadell; January 10 <https://www.facebook.com/events/957321787667557/>
4. 2016 AWP Conference and Book Fair; <https://www.awpwriter.org/awp_conference/overview/#LARB>

APPS

1. For getting things done: Pomodoro
   1. Set your timer for 25 minutes and work on your task. Then take a 3-4 min break. After 4 25-min cycles, take a longer break.
2. For task management: Trello
   1. <http://trello.com/>
   2. A visual display of tasks via boards.
3. For distraction management: Anti-Social
   1. <https://anti-social.cc/>
   2. $15; allows you to block certain websites for up to 8 hrs
4. Write or Die
   1. <http://writeordie.com/>
   2. Tracks word count and metes out punishments/rewards.
5. Spice Mobile
   1. For writer’s block; provides a thesaurus & inspirational quotes from literature.
   2. https://www.writersmuse.com/Pages/Others/Products.aspx
6. Index Cards
   1. A corkboard writing app.
   2. http://www.denvog.com

AMAZON

1. Kindle Instant Book Previews
   1. http://www.amazon.com/b?ie=UTF8&node=13489836011&tag=viglink20273-20
   2. Embed a preview; works with Associates program.
   3. Simply click the EMBED link (next to other share links on a book’s page)
2. Series Pages for books in a series
   1. Reviews can be left for the entire series, rather than a single book.
   2. One-click buying of the entire series
   3. Amazon’s been rolling this out for a few months. You just have to wait your turn for your series to have its own page.
3. Follow Authors by clicking the Follow button on their author page. When you have a new release, Amazon will allow you to create a custom message to your followers notifying them.

BOOKBUB

1. Author Profiles
   1. Set up a profile for free. Readers can follow you.
2. New Release Feature
   1. BookBub will automatically send out a new release email to your followers for free.

OTHER

1. Game of Thrones will go on without The Winds of Winter from George R.R. Martin. You predict: how long until the book is released? Also, does an author have an obligation to his readers?
2. Dilemma: Is animal cruelty in a story (not gratuitous; integral to plot/character) ever acceptable?
3. Set your timer and get up and walk! Two authors I know of (under 40) died recently from pulmonary embolisms!
4. Which is better: Used bookstore or Amazon? Should authors promote used bookstores?

DISCUSSION: What IWOSC OC Can Do For You