

WRITING PROMPTS

POETRY & PROSE

- *Harmony in Health* – What does the search for physical harmony look like for you?
- Submit by July 23rd to 'Please See Me'!

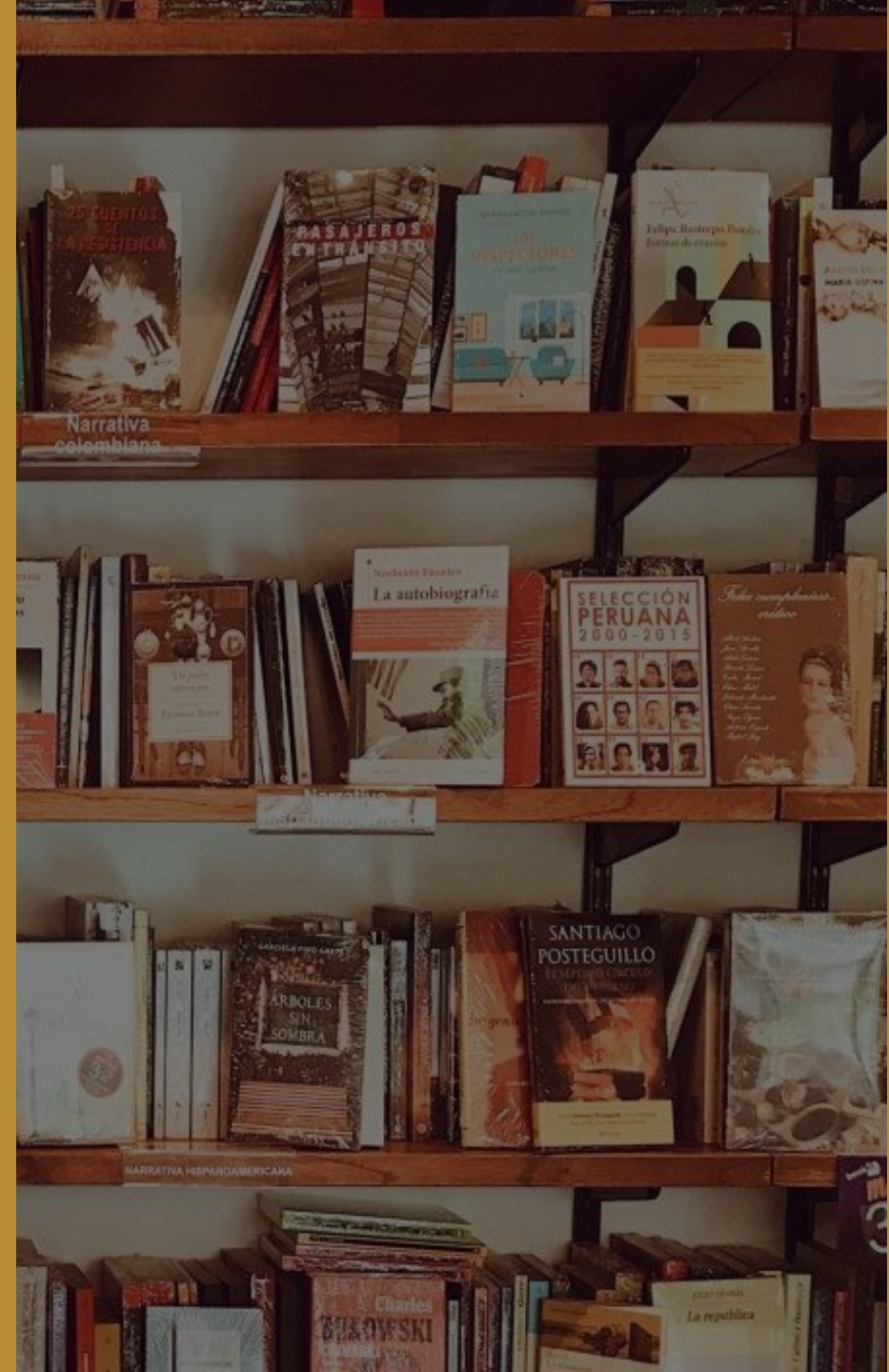


Writing Project Series

PUBLISHING PT. I

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO “PUBLISH”?

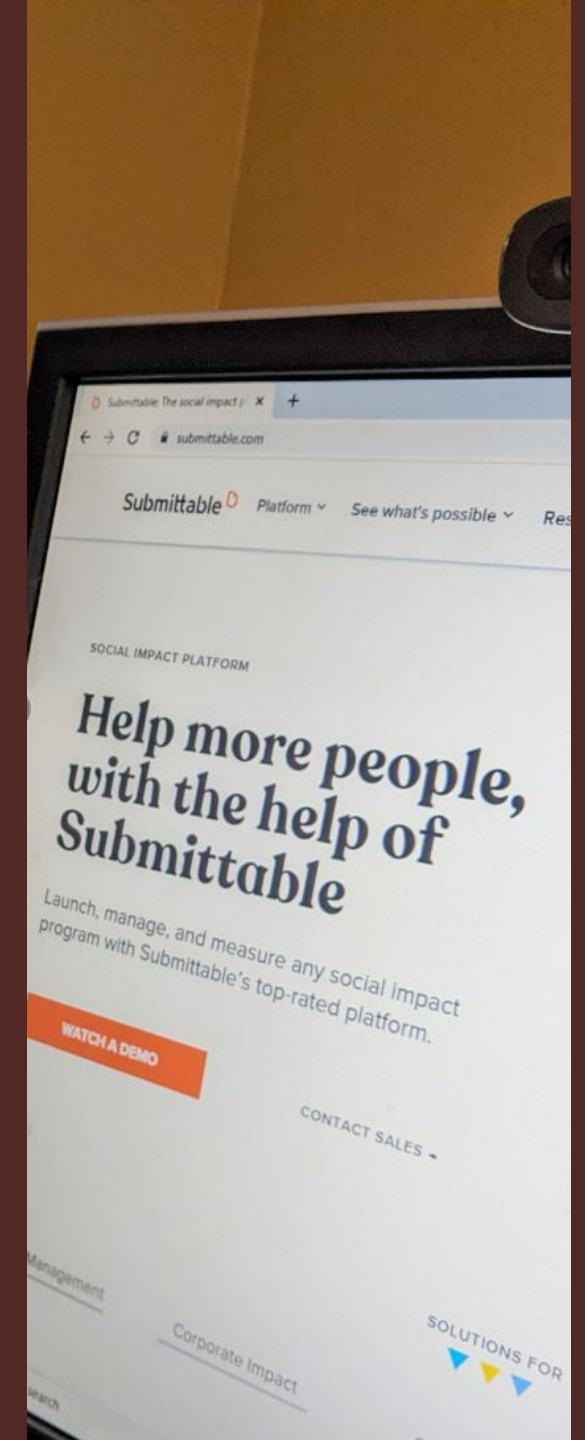
- To publish is to make your work available to audiences.
- Writing is for you; publishing is for others.
- Usually, publishing involves the acquisition, production, and promotion of single book.
- Publishing looks different depending on form and genre.



PUBLISHING SINGLE PIECES OF WORK

Publishing individual poems or short stories can strengthen your resume and publishing history as well as garner interest in your work from readers and publishers.

- [Submittable](#)
- [The Submission Grinder](#)
- [Moksha](#)
- [Chill Subs](#)





CHAPBOOK PUBLISHING

What to look for in a chapbook publisher:

- Do they publish similar content?
- If proximity is important, where are they located?
- Do they pay?
- Are they credible / established?
- What is outlined in their **publishing agreement**?

[Small Press Map of Canada](#)



SELF-PUBLISHING VS. TRADITIONAL PUBLISHING

SELF

- Out-of-pocket
- Total control
- Lack of connections

TRADITIONAL

- Advances
- Limited control
- Prestige

SELF-PUBLISHING

- All costs must be covered by you. These can include but are not limited to:
 - Materials (paper)
 - Printing
 - Assemblage
 - Design
 - Formatting
 - Editing
 - Marketing
 - Shipping
- However, you maintain control over every aspect of the publishing process, which includes but is not limited to the above.
- It's near impossible to put your book in bookstores and to appear at literary festivals.
- Total creative control! (Good & Bad)





TRADITIONAL PUBLISHING

- Big name or indie publishing companies will have a team of people assigned to help you with different parts of the publishing process, for example:
 - Editors
 - Publicists
 - Marketers
 - Designers
- Publishing companies own the rights and royalties to your work.
- Publishing companies ship your book to their vendors (bookstores, libraries...).
- Slow-moving.

Traditional Publishing Process

QUERY AGENTS

1. Polish your manuscript
2. Assess your story's marketability
3. Research literary agents
4. Write a query letter
5. Submit query letters
6. An agent makes an offer
7. Sign with your agent
8. Your agent shops your book around
9. Sign your book deal!
10. A launch date is assigned
11. Developmental edits are made
12. Editor presents your book
13. Line & copy-editing
14. Pre-publication tasks
15. Book launch!

POLISH YOUR MANUSCRIPT



Put the finishing touches on your manuscript before sending it off to agents.

ASSESS YOUR STORY'S MARKETABILITY



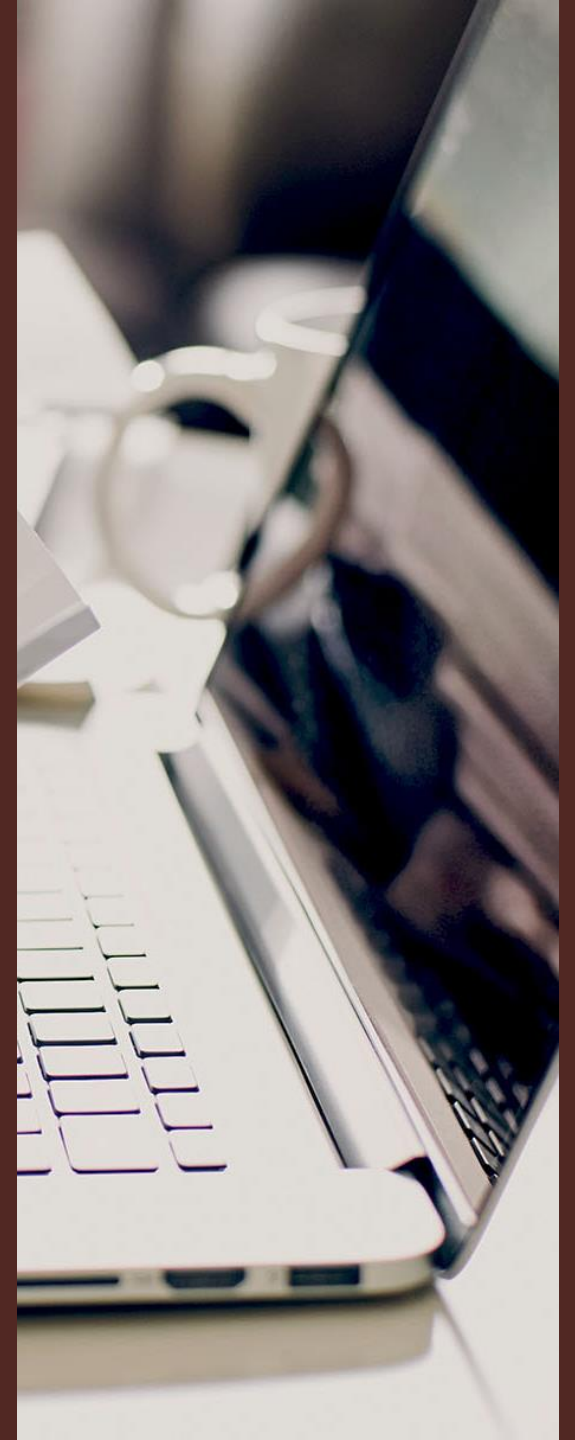
Where does your book fit into the market?

Literary agents have specialties, so it's important to know this before querying.

RESEARCH LITERARY AGENTS

Check out sites like:

- [Publishers Marketplace](#)
- [Query Tracker](#)
- [Agent Query.](#)



WRITE A QUERY LETTER

- ✓ **The housekeeping:** your book's genre/category, word count, title/subtitle
- ✓ **The hook:** the description of your story and the most critical query element; 150-300 words is sufficient for most narrative works
- ✓ **Bio:** something about yourself, usually 50-100 words
- ✓ **Thank you & closing:** about a sentence

QUERY 5-10 AGENTS AT ONCE!

reedsy

Sample Query Letter

Dear Mr Clark,

I'm writing to you seeking representation for *The Edge of the Map*, an 80,000 word YA fantasy novel that is the first in a series, *The Ruby Hour Chronicles*.

The Edge of the Map follows the story of Ruby, a young woman who discovers at a young age that she can manipulate time – speeding up or slowing down the world around her, a skill which at first mostly comes in handy when finishing homework or skipping dentist appointments. That is, until the night Ruby's parents disappear.

Suddenly plunged into a life of adventure as she tries to discover what happened to them, Ruby sets off on a journey to find answers across a fantastical landscape, following the only clue that was left behind; a letter from a mysterious Professor Shellstrop, summoning her parents to an appointment at his offices in their world's magical capital. Upon her arrival, Ruby is faced with shocking realizations about her powers, and her parents' role in creating them. A journey of self-discovery and rising up to challenges even when we're reluctant, *The Edge of the Map* is a humorous and hopeful addition to the YA fantasy genre.

Fans of series such as *A Court of Thorns and Roses* or *The Spiderwick Chronicles* will be interested in Ruby's story, and I have received very positive feedback from renowned fantasy author Hannah Jarrett on an early draft of the first novel. I also have two further books in the series drafted, and those manuscripts would be available on request.

I'm a great admirer of many of your stable of clients, and especially feel that my writing would compliment the work you've done alongside Billy Burton on his *Gamble of Dragons* series, which is similar in its combination of high fantasy worldbuilding and humor to my own.

Yours sincerely,
Eleanor Harper



SIGN WITH AN AGENT



If an agent is interested, they'll ask for the full manuscript / offer you a deal.

Your agent will send a contract that you should look over carefully.

YOUR AGENT SHOPS YOUR BOOK AROUND

Your agent will send your manuscript to acquisitions editors for about 6 months.





SIGN YOUR BOOK DEAL!

Publish

ishers exclusive wo
or all renewals and

al formats including all online formats carr



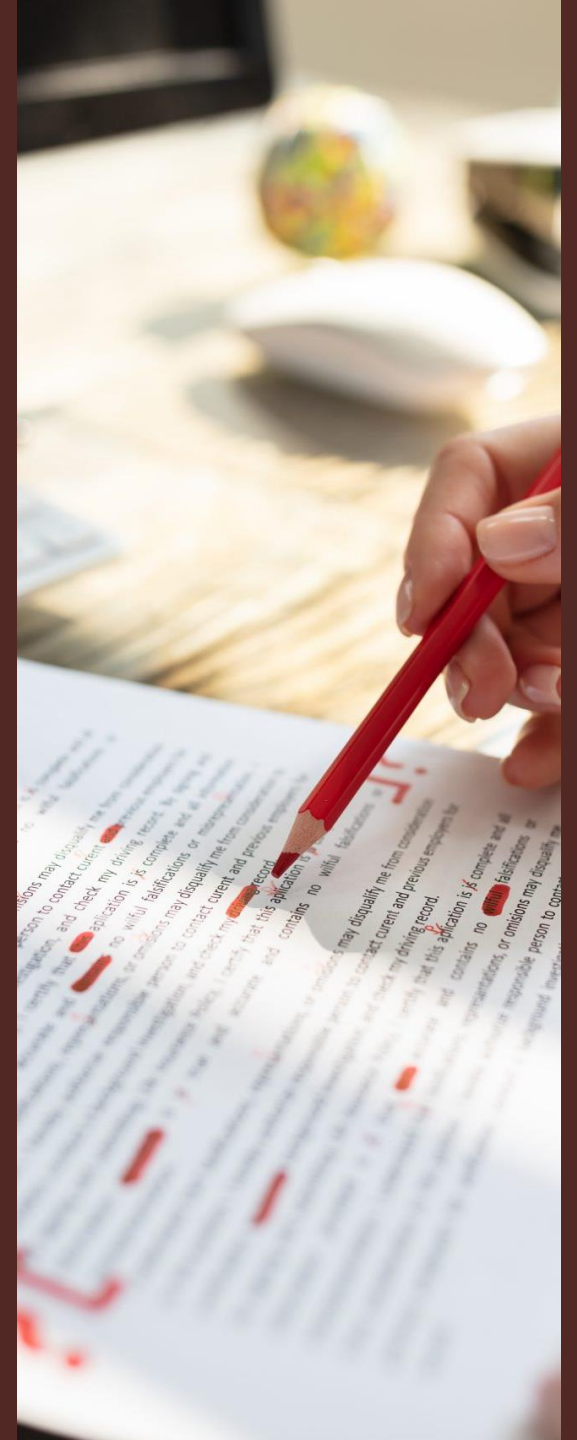
A LAUNCH DATE IS SET

Your book's launch date is set usually 18 months after the date you sign the contract.



EDITS

- Developmental edits
- Editor presents your manuscript 6-8 months before launch day
- Line & copy-editing
- Your book is sent to the printer!



PRE-PUBLICATION TASKS



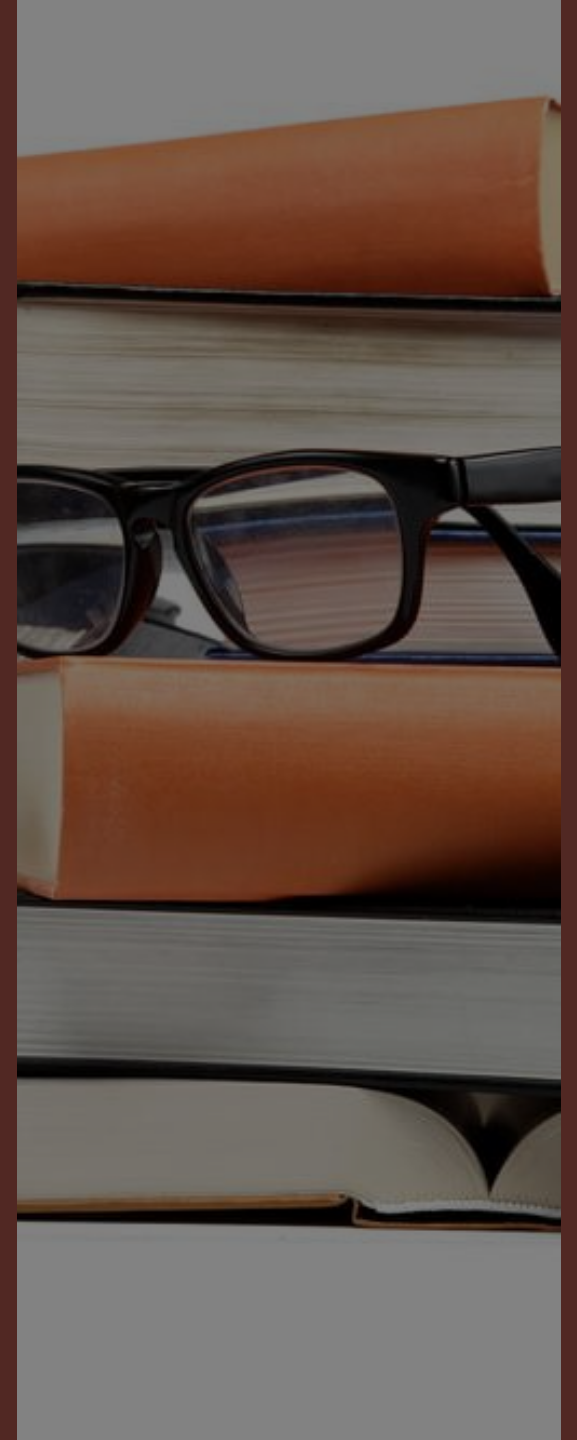
- Advanced Reader Copies (ARCs)
- Book blurbs
- Cover designs
- Marketing strategies

BLURBS AND REVIEWS

Book Blurbs: Short endorsements from other authors that appear on the back of your book.

Reviews: Literary criticism about the content of your book.

- If self-publishing, you'll have to get them yourself:
 - Reach out to established writers (especially friends)
 - Send them an advanced copy of your book, physical or digital
- If publishing traditionally—surprise! You'll have to get them yourself!
- My experience: I sent a digital file of my chapbook to two writers who then provided blurbs that appeared on my publisher's website. It was reviewed by another local publisher without my knowledge.



BLURB YOUR BOOK/FAV BOOK!

Book blurbs also refers to the summary on the inside sleeve or at the back of books.

TIP: read blurbs of books in your genre and rip them off!

Write a blurb for your own book (or your favorite book)!





THE
ALCHEMY
OF NOISE
A NOVEL
N.W. WILKE

THIRD
PLACE
BOOKS
LAKE FOREST PARK
RAVENNA
S...

BIOS

When submitting your work (especially to magazines and journals), you will be asked to provide a 50-100-word bio).

This bio can include:

- Name
- Where you live/work/go to school
- Previous publishing experience
- Note on writing
- Interesting personal fact
- Social media / website



"Reilly Knowles is an emerging artist and curator living and working in Treaty Six Township ("London, Ontario"). A 2020 graduate of Western University's Bachelor of Fine Arts Program, Knowles has held solo exhibitions at Forest City Gallery (London, ON), Queen Elizabeth Park Community & Cultural Centre (Oakville, ON) and Spencer Gallery (London, ON). He is a member of London-based artist collectives Good Sport and The Coves Collective, as well as a recipient of the Tony and Betsy Little Gold Medal in Visual Arts, the Canadian."

EXAMPLE BIO #1

Joseph Donato is super cool & popular. He is Editor-in-Chief of *Block Party Magazine & Press* and Overlord of *Horror Pop Mag*. Joseph has won 3 Grammys, a Pulitzer Prize, and 6 Olympic gold medals for real. He looks a little like Jesus and enjoys Tic Tacs, Nebraska, and Weezer.

EXAMPLE BIO #2

WRITE YOUR OWN BIO!

Remember, your bio can (but doesn't have to) include:

- Name
- Where you live/work/go to school
- Previous publishing experience
- Note on writing
- Interesting personal fact
- Social media / website

ACTIVITY



REWRITE YOUR ELEVATOR PITCH

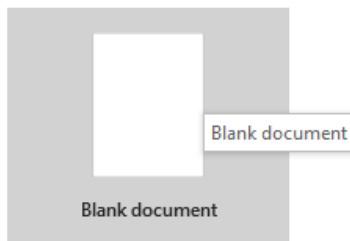
- 1 • What's your project about?
- 2 • What's the context?
- 3 • Why should readers care?
- 4 • Make it snappy.
- 5 • Add relevant accolades.

FORMATTING WORK FOR NEXT CLASS

- You can use Microsoft Word to format books to be printed chapbook-style.
- I will email you a template Word file that you can use to add your writing so that it is ready for the next class.
- In the next class, I will print work that is sent to me and we will assemble everything together!
- (For those without something for me to print, you will make blank notebooks to write your bestseller)

Good morning

New



Blank document



Booklet page numbering



Welcome to Word



Insert your first table of contents



Banner calendar



Horizontal calendar (Sunday...)



Vivid shapes event brochure

[More templates](#) →

Search

Recommended for You

Formatted Word Doc for 2-Up Sa...
 You recently opened this
 Just now

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY Daphne Per...
 You recently opened this
 Mon at 11:21 PM

'Worms Out of Rain' by Raegen M...
 You shared this
 October 8

A LIFE OF VICTORY
Living in Love, Hope and Excellence
 You recently opened this
 Mon at 10:51 AM

Document1
 You edited this
 October 3

Recent Pinned Shared with Me

Name

Formatted Word Doc for 2-Up Saddle Stitch
OneDrive - PickeringPL » Documents

After Birth - Formatted on Word
OneDrive - PickeringPL » Documents

Create a new blank document.

File Home Insert Draw Design **Layout** References Mailings Review View Help

Margins Orientation Size Columns Breaks Line Numbers Hyphenation

Page Setup

Indent Spacing

Left: 0" Before: 0 pt

Right: 0" After: 8 pt

Paragraph

Position Wrap Text Bring Forward Send Backward Selection Pane

Arrange

Align Group Rotate

Page Setup

Don't see what you're looking for?

Check out the full set of page formatting options.

Click 'Layout', then the little arrow.

Page Setup

Margins Paper Layout

Margins

Top: 1" Bottom: 1"
Left: 1" Right: 1"
Gutter: 0" Gutter position: Left

Orientation

Portrait Landscape

Pages

Multiple pages: Normal
Normal
Mirror margins
2 pages per sheet
Book fold

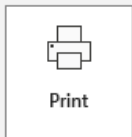
Preview

Apply to: Whole document

Set As Default OK Cancel

Click the dropdown menu, select 'Book Fold', then 'OK'.

Print



Copies: 1

Printer



Xerox (1st Floor PUBLIC) on...
Ready

[Printer Properties](#)

Settings



Print All Pages
The whole thing

Pages:



Print on Both Sides
Flip pages on short edge



Print One Sided
Only print on one side of the page



Print on Both Sides
Flip pages on long edge

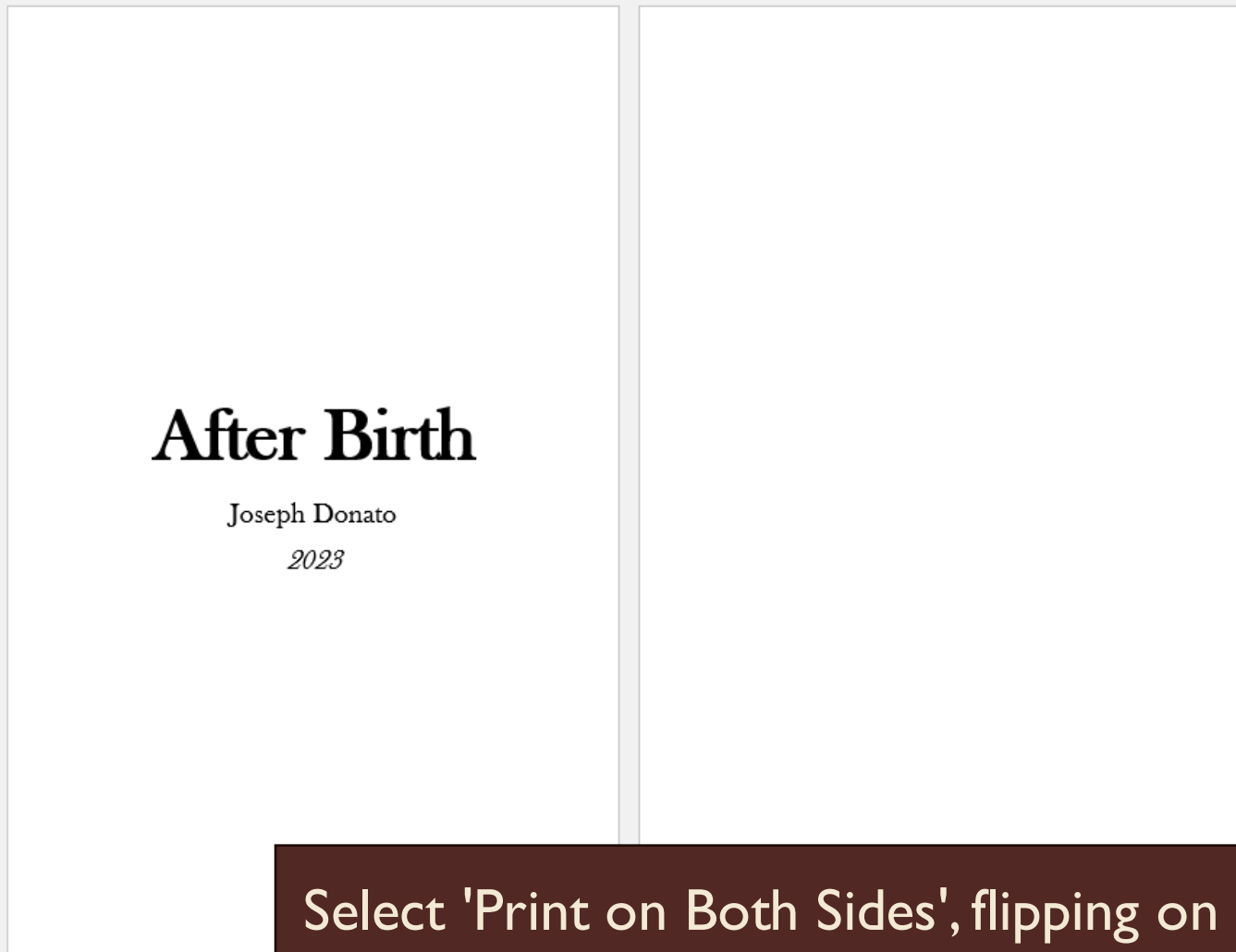


Print on Both Sides
Flip pages on short edge



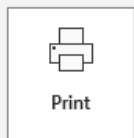
Manually Print on Both Sides
Reload paper when prompted to print the second side

[Page Setup](#)



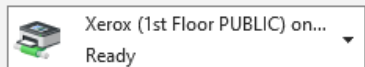
Select 'Print on Both Sides', flipping on SHORT edge

Print



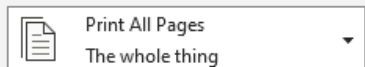
Copies: 1

Printer

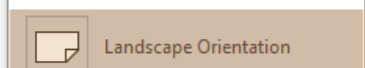
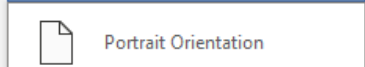
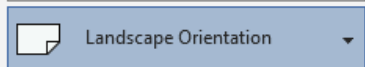
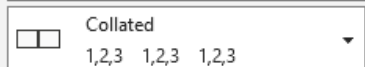
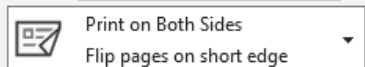


[Printer Properties](#)

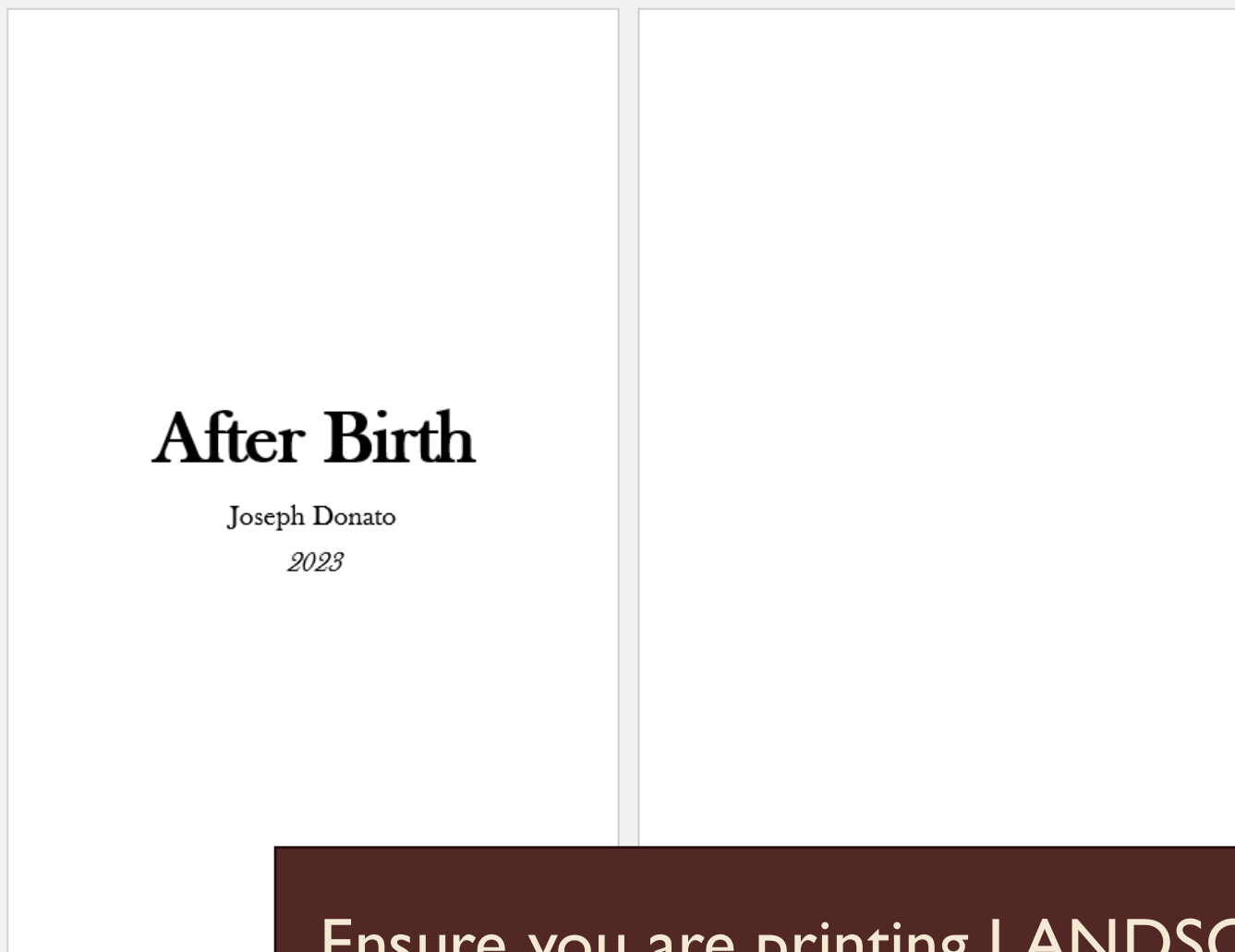
Settings



Pages:



[Page Setup](#)



Ensure you are printing LANDSCAPE



Home

New

Open

Get Add-ins

Info

Save a Copy

Print

Share

Export

Transform

Close

Account

Options



Type here to search



NEXT CLASS

- Self-publishing ins and outs
- Creating your own magazine / journal
- Folding books!



<p>Tues, March 19th 7 pm - 8:30 pm Central Library Auditorium</p>	<p>Writing Project Series: Drafting Starting a writing project and overwhelmed with ideas? Learn how to build the skeleton of your project and what to consider in the earliest stages of your work.</p>
<p>Tues, April 16th 7 pm - 8:30 pm Central Library Auditorium</p>	<p>Writing Project Series: Poetry Learn about the characteristics of a poem, different kinds of poetry, and just how powerful poetry can be.</p>
<p>Tues, May 21st 7 pm - 8:30 pm Central Library Auditorium</p>	<p>Writing Project Series: Fiction Who doesn't love a story that can be told in ten pages or less? Come learn the art of the short story!</p>
<p>Tues, June 18th 7 pm - 8:30 pm Central Library Auditorium</p>	<p>Writing Project Series: Editing I've written a bestseller – now what? Learn to tackle the editing process. * Submit your anthology selection by July 1st!</p>
<p>Tues, July 16th 7 pm - 8:30 pm Central Library Auditorium</p>	<p>Writing Project Series: Publishing Pt. 1 Let's explore the traditional publishing process! Learn about querying agents, working with publishers, and participating in literary events.</p>
<p>Tues, August 20th 7 pm - 8:30 pm Central Library Auditorium</p>	<p>Writing Project Series: Publishing Pt. 2 Let's explore the self-publishing process! Learn about formatting, printing, binding, and promoting your work.</p>
<p>Thurs, September 5 7 pm - 8:30 pm Central Library Auditorium</p>	<p>Writing Project Series: Launch Party! Join us for readings, refreshments, and fun at the launch of PPL's second Writers' Anthology featuring work by participants of the Writing Project Series!</p>

<p>Tues, March 19th 7 pm - 8:30 pm Central Library Auditorium</p>	<p>Writing Project Series: Drafting Starting a writing project and overwhelmed with ideas? Learn how to build the skeleton of your project and what to consider in the earliest stages of your work.</p>
<p>Tues, April 16th 7 pm - 8:30 pm Central Library Auditorium</p>	<p>Writing Project Series: Poetry Learn about the characteristics of a poem, different kinds of poetry, and just how powerful poetry can be.</p>
<p>Tues, May 21st 7 pm - 8:30 pm Central Library Auditorium</p>	<p>Writing Project Series: Fiction Who doesn't love a story that can be told in ten pages or less? Come learn the art of the short story!</p>
<p>Tues, June 18th 7 pm - 8:30 pm Central Library Auditorium</p>	<p>Writing Project Series: Editing I've written a bestseller – now what? Learn to tackle the editing process. * Submit your anthology selection by July 1st!</p>
<p>Tues, July 16th 7 pm - 8:30 pm Central Library Auditorium</p>	<p>Writing Project Series: Publishing Pt. 1 Let's explore the traditional publishing process! Learn about querying agents, working with publishers, and participating in literary events.</p>
<p>Tues, August 20th 7 pm - 8:30 pm Central Library Auditorium</p>	<p>Writing Project Series: Publishing Pt. 2 Let's explore the self-publishing process! Learn about formatting, printing, binding, and promoting your work.</p>
<p>Thurs, September 5 7 pm - 8:30 pm Central Library Auditorium</p>	<p>Writing Project Series: Launch Party! Join us for readings, refreshments, and fun at the launch of PPL's second Writers' Anthology featuring work by participants of the Writing Project Series!</p>

**Next
Program**