



Galahad Porter

Best of The Blog

Issue 1

Jan 30, 2016

Welcome to Galahad Porter Best of The Blog!

I guess you are wondering where I am with my writing?! If you follow me on Facebook, Twitter or at galahadporter.com you are pretty well up to date. For those who live by email alone, I have created this PDF file to bring you some edited highlights of the website section 'The Blog'. I hope to publish this every 3 months or so, fitting in with publication milestones.

Good progress with the short novel!

At the beginning of January I mentioned I was considering reworking some deleted scenes from the trilogy, and publishing them as a short story. I am pleased to say that I have now reached over 20,000 words so by the end of February it should be suitable for copy editing. I am targeting a 25,000 word, 75 page novel. The blog reproduced below on 'Reputation' explains why I am doing this.

The trilogy continues to progress, but slowly as time has been spent on the short novel. I continue to add great new ideas to the storylines for all three parts! I still expect to have a first draft of Part 1 by the end of Q3 this year.

Reputation (first published 2/1/16)

I was told a long time ago that any publicity, good or bad, is better than no publicity at all! For the writer 'reputation' is important. Is it better to have any reputation, good or bad, than no reputation at all?

A writers' public reputation starts with the first published work, eg journalism, short story, or article. The track record provides a publisher with a guide as to what to expect. What about the unpublished writer with no reputation and first manuscript ready? For a publisher, to take on a first novel and put effort into promoting the writer (not just the book) can be difficult to justify.

Modern self-publishing companies allow an unknown writer to get into print and start to build a reputation. However, self-publishing your first novel, containing all the big ideas that drove you into writing in the first place, is not the approach I plan to take. If you really want to see your novel in airport bookshops around the world you need a mainstream publisher. I have a message and I want it read and, hopefully out on film too! But I have no reputation....

As I write the trilogy the storylines and characters are evolving. Some of my earlier writing is no longer key to the main plot. I am reworking and planning to self-publishing this as a short novel in paperback and e-reader formats.

Maybe it's the time for Galahad Porter to get a reputation, any reputation.....!

Sex (first published 16/12/15)

I've never understood why authors feel obliged to include sex scenes. 'Written sex' is boring to me, has never really turned me on, and I feel like I am reading a sex manual! A photo has a lot more impact. Adding sex scenes with no significant bearing on the plot irritates me. There is nothing worse than having to sit through overly extended irrelevant sex scenes in films, or where possibly included at the expense of another more interesting storyline!

I am told a writer should cut out everything that is not vital to the plot....

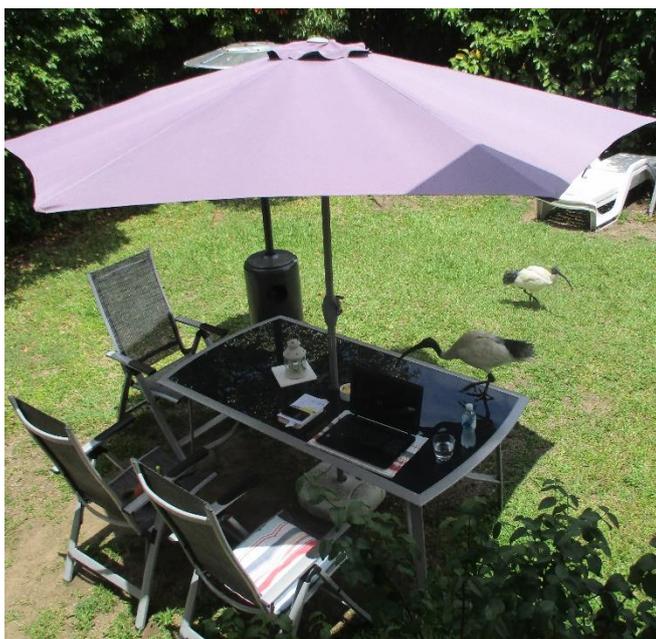
For sex to be good in a book you have to get inside the mind of the participants, and see it from the characters differing perspectives. Writing sex scenes is pointless unless sex in a relationship is a key story in itself.

At the moment I have no descriptive sex scenes - I am hoping the sexual tension between characters will be rewarding enough for those of you who need it! cont...

Do I sound like a prude? I have been doing research, there is plenty of advice out there on the internet. If you think you can convince me of a particular way to portray sex when written, let me know at info@galahadporter.com, and you may get a treat somewhere in the trilogy!

Writing outside (first published 9/1/16)

Imagine The Writer sat with laptop in the shade of an umbrella or palm tree, by a swimming pool or tranquil sea, typing away. Improve it with a colourful fruit encrusted cocktail, with its own little umbrella, by the keyboard. I love it!



Thank you for offering Ms Ibis, but think I can manage without you!

Alas it's usually more fantasy than reality. Usually the glare makes writing difficult, your own reflection staring back at you from behind the page! The risk of wind blowing any papers into the pool must not be underestimated. I end up pinning things down with anything I can lay my hands on. The mobile phone holds down something from the breeze, only for everything to fly away on instinctively picking up the phone in response to the ping of a message! I now use a cat meow as the ring tone. It usually makes me look around for a cat before picking it up, giving me a second to save the paperwork!

I am an avid bird feeder - feeding seagulls in Weymouth, England nearly got me in trouble with the authorities in the past! I keep the garden bird feeder in Australia full of fruit and sunflower seeds, which attracts a wide variety of wild birds, especially rainbow lorikeets. The problem working

outdoors in such a setting is the laptop provides a lovely perch, the keyboard a playground.

Refilling my glass indoors and returning to find a bird perched on the laptop, or typing a secret message is a regular event. Then there is the risk of poo.....

Nevertheless, an outdoors job is nice... I wanted to be a refuse (trash) collector when young, guess writer is next best thing!

Handwriting (first published 16/1/16)

Inspired by a possible scene for the book, I got up at 1am. I could not be bothered to turn on the computer so started writing with a pen and paper. My first words were almost 2 cm (3/4 inch) tall, and realised I needed to write a bit smaller. I was writing as fast as possible so I didn't forget any of my ideas. After the first few sentences I realised my writing would be illegible in the morning, so had to write the letters more carefully. I then got stuck guessing how to spell a word, resulting in three versions of it. I then wanted to change a sentence but there was no space unless I wrote in very tiny writing. At the end of the first page my hand was struck by cramp!

The next morning I looked at what I had written. It was a mess, rather than cramp, a teacher's ruler would have struck my hand at school!

When much younger I applied for a job and the company asked for a sample of my handwriting to send to a graphologist (if you want more info see www.britishgraphology.org). The interviewer was so impressed at the results they offered me the job (I hope for other reasons too). In those days my writing was neat and tidy, looked very logical. Today a spider would feel insulted! My note book is full of scrawl, some of which I struggle to read. I wonder what the graphologist would make of it now! Maybe Creative Writer would be the analysis?

Final word.....

I find writing really enjoyable! I published non-fiction under my real name Andrew D. Porter. Fiction is really fun to write. Getting inside the head of characters is very rewarding. The short novel will be written in first-person, you really get inside the mind of... well, more on that shortly!

Galahad Porter is the pen name of Andrew David Porter. For more information email info@galahadporter.com

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