

## Secrets to a Successful Writing Career

Successful writers:

- write on a regular basis
- take time to learn the craft and discover which genres suit them best
- learn to take constructive criticism and advice from experienced authors
- are willing to start with smaller projects, like articles
- do not quit their day jobs to write their books, especially if they have a family to support (unless of course, writing is bringing in as much as a day job)
- are willing to be honest and vulnerable in their writing but also know when it's appropriate to hold back
- check their stories, articles, and blog posts for revealing details that might hurt someone they know
- always request writer's guidelines before sending a manuscript to a publisher
- don't let rejection stop them but instead use it as a learning experience
- network with other writers and get to know people in the industry
- attend writers' conferences and workshops
- read *a lot*, especially in the genres they hope to write in
- continue to hone their craft
- are teachable
- are gracious
- are willing to rewrite
- are patient (especially when waiting on responses from editors)
- remain humble
- acknowledge that writing will most likely never make them rich
- know that writing requires work, tenacity, and a thick skin
- refuse to quit