

OUTLIERS WRITING UNIVERSITY



**Your Writing Success
IS Our Greatest Reward**

News, Events, & Adventures

December 2024

HEADLINE NEWS AT A GLANCE

- **OUTLIERS Winter Holiday Sale**
- **SUSPENSE Magazine & Suspense Radio**
- **OUTLIERS Publishing**
- **OUR Class Line-Up**
- **OUTLIERS YouTube Channel**
- **THE Inside Scoop – Steven James**
- **NEW Book Releases**
- **NEWS Around Town**
- **SHARJAH Book Festival**
- **OUTLIERS Instructors – Look Who Joined!**



OutliersWritingUniversity.com





Check Out Our Winter Holiday Sale!

Take advantage of our sale, which ends on December 31 at midnight, and join the Outliers Writing University:

Breakthrough to Bestsellerdom: Outliers Online Ongoing Writers Conference where your publishing dreams can come true. This exclusive conference is taught entirely by bestselling authors and publishing experts, all dedicated to helping you succeed.

Option 1: Best Value

★ **One-Time Payment of \$600 (Save \$394.99!)**

Option 2: Flexible Monthly Plan

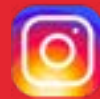
★ **\$60/month (Total: \$720 over the year)**

Both options give you access to the year-long conference:

- ★ **Two live, interactive classes per month with bestselling authors**
- ★ **Recorded replays to learn on your schedule**
- ★ **Two free writing workbooks**

Choose Your Payment Plan:

\$600/yearly or \$60/monthly





SUSPENSE MAGAZINE is coming back!

Starting in January 2025, we will be creating a [digital magazine](#) that will be distributed quarterly through the Outliers Newsletter.

In 2021, we stopped creating the digital magazine, but now that authors are finding it more difficult



to promote their work, we want to use the magazine to give authors that platform. We'll also include more educational articles from bestselling authors, with tips and tricks to make your writing better. We'll also have reviews, features, and so much more!



If you're interested in reviewing books for Suspense, let us know [here](#).

SUSPENSE RADIO is already back!

Our [popular podcast](#) showcases authors, brings more writing education, talks about the publishing business with agents and editors, and so much more. You can subscribe by searching SUSPENSE RADIO on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, and all your favorite podcast sites. Video interviews will be on Suspense Magazine's main page, with the audio play on our podcast. Suspense Radio is part of Outliers Writing University & Outliers Press.



If you'd like to be a guest on the show, send an email to [John here](#).



OUTLIERS PUBLISHING COMPANY



Outliers Writing University has merged with Suspense Publishing to create **OUTLIERS PUBLISHING COMPANY**. Outliers Publishing Company will launch several imprints, including **OUTLIERS•SUSPENSE PUBLISHING** (publishing suspense and thriller genres) and **OUTLIERS PRESS** (publishing nonfiction with an emphasis on writing education). We will expand the types of genres as we move forward.

OUTLIERS IS CURRENTLY ACCEPTING SUBMISSIONS:



FOR FICTION: please send the first 3 chapters of your manuscript and a synopsis through query manager [HERE](#).

FOR NONFICTION: please send a comprehensive book proposal and 2 sample chapters through query manager [HERE](#).





12/03/2024

MAGEN MINTCHEV

Social Media Marketing: Your Online Presence & Other Marketing Strategies
[Register Here](#)



01/07/2025

D.P. LYLE, MD

Mastering Point of View - Where's the Camera?
(Registration Coming Soon)



12/17/2024

JOSEPH BADAL

It's Not Enough to Write a Good Story
[Register Here](#)



01/21/2025

Meg Gardiner

Where to Begin? Understanding Story Structure
(Registration Coming Soon)





01/07/25 - D.P. Lyle - Mastering Point of View: Where's the Camera?

01/21/25 - Meg Gardiner - Where to Begin? Understanding Story Structure

02/04/25 - D.P. Lyle - Setting as Character

02/12/25 - Tammy Euliano - Writing Tools: From Paper to Scrivener

02/18/25 - Meg Gardiner - Suspense

02/25/25 - Harry Hunsicker - The Mystical Quest: Finding a Literary Agent

03/04/25 - Meg Gardiner - Plot Twists

03/18/25 - K.J. Howe - Whiplash Pacing: Keep Your Reader on the Edge

04/01/25 - D.P. Lyle - Simplify Your Storytelling by Writing to the Midpoint

04/07/25 - Dr. Katherine Ramsland & Tracy Ullman - Book to Doc: The Making of a True Crime Series

04/09/25 - Paul Guyot - Screenwriting is WRITING

05/06/25 - Steven James - Scene Study: How to Make the Most of Every Scene

05/20/25 - Dr. Katherine Ramsland - Cooking Up Hooks: The Psychology of Grabbing Your Readers

05/21/25 - Stacy Woodson & J. Todd Scott - Writing Character Driven Stories

06/03/25 - Hank Phillippi Ryan - Great Beginnings

06/17/25 - Jenny Milchman - What Scares You? Putting Fear on the Page to Thrill Your Readers

Class Testimonials

"This was one of the best classes I have ever taken!"

Student Sherri Foster shares her opinion of Jeffery Deaver's Class





Outliers Has a YouTube Channel

[Check out these OUTLIERS programs:](#)

GET TO KNOW

Hosts **DP LYLE, MD, & KATHLEEN ANTRIM**

Fun interviews with best-selling authors. Recent guests include Jeffery Deaver & Isabella Maldonado, Anthony Horowitz, Reed Farrel Coleman, Laurie R. King, and Tori Eldridge.

Upcoming guests include Don Bentley, Linwood Barclay, Zoe Sharp, Mark Cameron, and many others.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF: Hosts DP LYLE, MD, AND JOHN RAAB

The Art & Science of Crime Fiction, exploring the worlds of forensic science, criminal investigation, and storytelling.

ALSO NOW ON [LAUNCHPAD & IHEART RADIO!](#)

OUTLIERS BOOK TALK

Free discussions on everything books & writing.

WRITING TIP

Knowing what your protagonist desires is vital. If you don't know what she wants (or thinks she wants), then you won't know what your story is actually about. However, it's not essential to know all of this before you start to write or even as you work on early drafts of your story. As you spend more time with the character, you'll naturally begin to understand more clearly what she's hoping to accomplish, avoid, or overcome. - From **DELVE, PIVOT, PROPEL: 350 Writing Secrets to Elevate Your Storytelling & Transform Your Novel** by Steven James - **Release Date December 3, 2024**





WANT TO GET INSIDER INFO BEFORE ANYONE ELSE?

An Interview with Author & Instructor Steven James

Here are a few things to know about Steven and his newest writing book [DELVE, PIVOT, PROPEL](#):

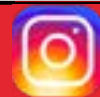
1. What are the most important lessons you'd like writers to take away from *Delve, Pivot, Propel*?

A couple things pop to mind: (1) How to abandon your outline to write faster and create more poignant stories. (2) Understand that every scene of your book should include a Pivot, because without it you will either write something that is too predictable, too outlandish, or too nonsensical. Pivots are absolutely essential to effective storytelling. (3) Realize that stories are not lists of things that happen—that's a report. Stories are much less about a progression of events and much more about a collision of desires.



2. What is the most common mistake writers make when writing their first draft? What about for editing?

Ha! Well, they plan too much instead of letting the story inform them about where it should go. We also tend to tug our characters around on a leash, trying to get them here and there and to the next plot point. I encourage you to cut the leash and let them act without restraint, in honest ways. That's when the stories start to get interesting. As far as editing, you might be surprised that I encourage people to edit as they go rather than consciously ignoring problems with the book while plowing through to the end. I'm much more interested in addressing issues as they arise than I am in pretending they're not there and just plodding forward into the story.





Interview with Steven James Cont.

3. After appearing at more than 2000 events worldwide, what is the highest number your frequent flyer mile balance has hit?

I think I'm at about 850,000 miles on the airline that I fly the most. So, lots of cramped-legroom writing and reading going on.

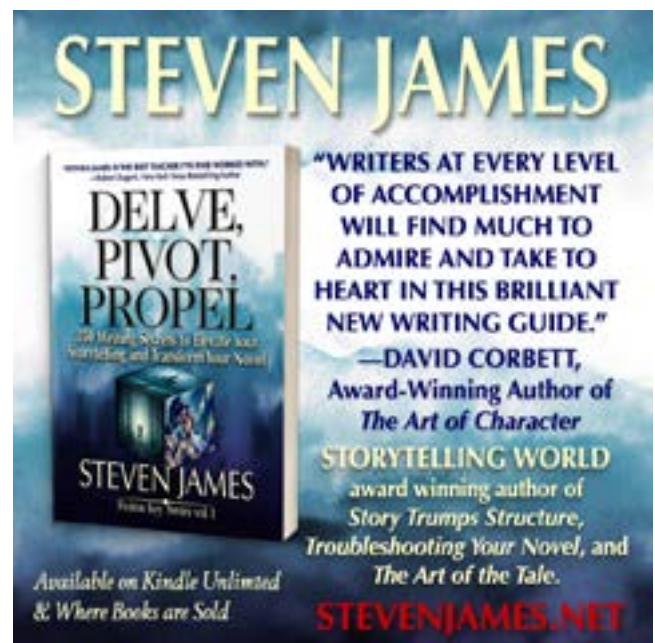
4. What did your parents think when you pursued storytelling as your Bachelors/Masters degrees?

I actually have an undergrad degree in outdoor recreation and a master's in storytelling. So, one degree in how to play and the other in how to tell a story. My parents were supportive, but I have to say that they were a bit surprised!

5. Anything else?

I just really hope people will turn away from formulaic fiction and let their stories breathe. If they learn to do that from this book, I'll consider it a resounding success.

Steven James is the bestselling author of twenty novels that have received wide critical acclaim. His books have won or been shortlisted for dozens of national and international awards, and he has taught writing and storytelling principles on five continents, appearing more than 2,000 times over the past three decades.





[DELVE, PIVOT, PROPEL](#)

350 WRITING SECRETS TO ELEVATE YOUR STORYTELLING AND TRANSFORM YOUR NOVEL

Fiction Key Series Vol. 1

by Steven James

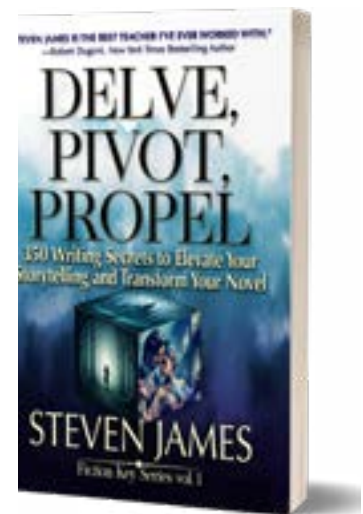
Releases December 3

Unlock the secrets to powerful storytelling with **DELVE, PIVOT, PROPEL**, the groundbreaking resource from award-winning novelist Steven James. After decades of teaching fiction writing intensives and addressing countless questions from aspiring authors, James finally distills his insights into this essential guide for novelists at every level.

Packed with practical tips, charts, and time-saving strategies, **[DELVE, PIVOT, PROPEL](#)** offers fresh perspectives and unorthodox advice that challenges conventional wisdom.

But the advice isn't always what you might expect.

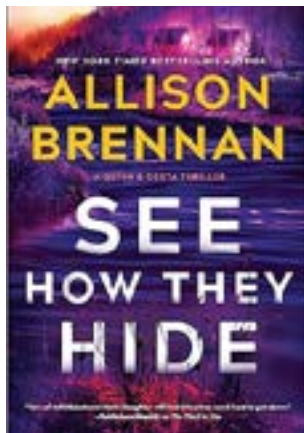
- How to write a scene even when you don't know where it will lead or what will happen within it.
- 6 things—besides “hooking” readers’ attention—that your opening needs to accomplish, no matter the genre.
- 12 ways to make a villain more formidable (and what to do if he becomes more interesting than your hero).
- Why conflict does not equal tension, difficulty does not equal dilemma, and structure does not equal story.





SEE HOW THEY HIDE A Quinn & Costa Thriller #6 By Allison Brennan Releases January 7

Two people were murdered—at the exact same time, in the same gruesome manner, bodies covered in the same red poppies...but on opposite sides of the country. With



Detective Kara Quinn investigating in Oregon and Special Agent Matt Costa in Virginia, the Mobile Response Team digs deep to uncover more about each victim. What is the link between the two, and why were they targeted?
[PREORDER HERE.](#)

According to Ernest Hemmingway:

“Find what gave you the emotion; what the action was that gave you the excitement. Then, write it down making it clear so the reader will see it too and have the same feeling that you had.”

- Monologue to the Maestro

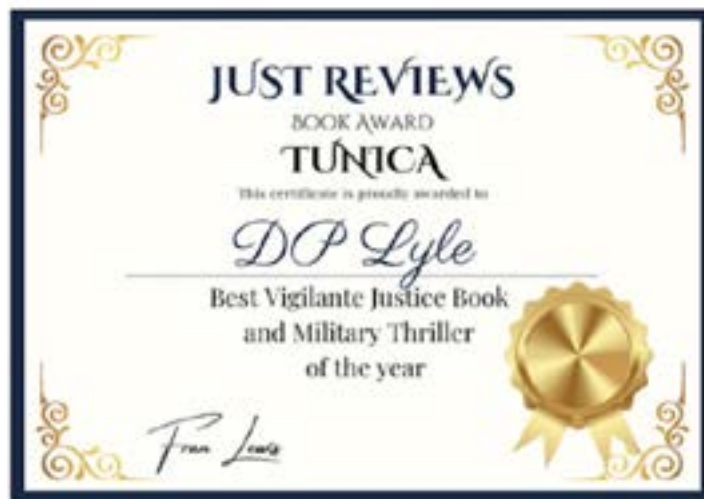




TUNICA (Cain/Harper #4)

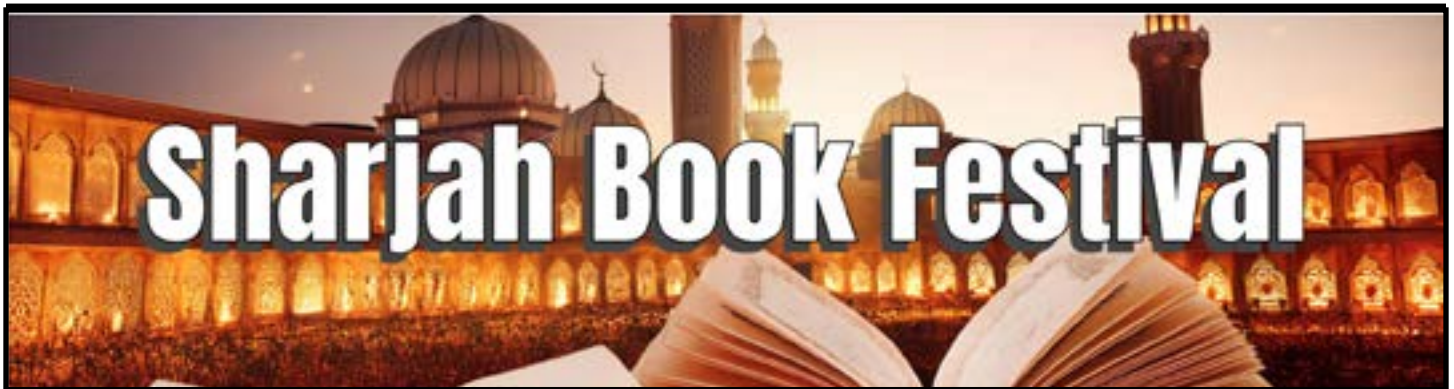
Just Reviews: Best Vigilante Justice Book & Military Thriller of 2024

When Kevin and Melissa Hall witness a murder at the Blue Note Casino, their choice to testify puts them in the crosshairs of the dangerous Jackson brothers. With Witness Protection failing them, Bobby Cain and Harper McCoy step in to battle a ruthless crime network. Can they save the Halls and survive the transnational forces aligned against them?



DETAILS/ORDER: <https://www.dplylemd.com/books/cain-harper>





OUTLIERS INSTRUCTORS TEACH IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Outliers Bestselling Authors/Instructors K. J. Howe and Kathleen Antrim spoke and taught at the Sharjah International Book Fair, and at numerous schools around the United Arab Emirates. Located next door to Dubai, the Emirate of Sharjah has been hosting Sharjah International Book Fair for over 40 years. In recent years, Outliers Instructors such as Steven James and Tosca Lee have also participated. This year, 2024, SIBF attracted over 1.8 million people, with over 400 literary events with over 1,420 national and international publishers.



**KATHLEEN ANTRIM, TESS
GERRITSEN AND FAYEZ
AL QURASHI**



**KATHLEEN ANTRIM &
ISABELLA MALDONADO**



ISABELLA MALDONADO

Conference Scene

Atlanta Writers Conference, Atlanta, Georgia November 1-2, 2024

Kauai Writers Conference, Lihue, Kauai November 15-17, 2024

The San Francisco Writers Conference, San Francisco, California February 6-9, 2025

San Miguel Writers' Conference and Literary Festival, San Miguel de Allende, Mexico February 12-16, 2025

Left Coast Crime 2025: Rocky Mountain High Jinks, Denver, Colorado March 13-16, 2025

Las Vegas Writers Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada April 3-5, 2025

Coming Soon...

Sign up for the Outliers Newsletter & get a **FREE** fiction or nonfiction workbook. These workbooks break down the process of writing a book into easy steps that take you from conception to finished draft.





OUTLIERS WRITING UNIVERSITY proudly announces our award-winning, bestselling instructors for the **ONLINE, ONGOING WRITING CONFERENCE; INTENSIVE CLASSES;** and **OUTLIERS BOOTCAMP.**

Our Instructors

New to the Line-Up

Peter James, James Rollins, & Tammy Euliano

Jeffery Deaver, Meg Gardiner, Heather Graham, Kathleen Antrim, D.P. Lyle, John & Shannon Raab, Hank Phillippi Ryan, Steven James, Tosca Lee, Don Bentley, Jon Land, Boyd Morrison, Harry Hunsicker, Allison Brennan, Tamara Grantham, Tim Maleeny, Cody Blocker, KJ Howe, Joseph Badal, Stacy Woodson, Michael Bracken, Matt Witten, Mark Tavani, Terry Shepherd, Vincent Davis, Lt. Brandon Watkins, Amy Scher, John Ferriso, Dr. Katherine Ramsland, Tracey Ullman, Paul Guyot, Jenny Milchman, Magen Mintchev, and more to be announced soon.

[Learn More!](#)



WHAT DO YOU THINK?
[Give us your feedback!](#)

