

Welcome to Writers' Huddle!

Hello and welcome!

I'm Ali Luke and I'm so pleased you decided to join Writers' Huddle. I'm looking forward to chatting with you in the forums very soon.

This welcome pack has everything you need to know about Writers' Huddle in order to make full use of all the different resources available.

Logging In and Out

You can login to Writers' Huddle here: www.writershuddle.com/login, or you can simply visit any page and you'll be prompted to login.

So that you don't need to login every time, I suggest you tick the "Remember Me" box before logging in.

If you lose your password, there's a handy link to recover it on the login page.

You don't have to log out from Writers' Huddle. If you do want to, though, you can go to www.writershuddle.com/dap and click on the "logout" link.

Getting Started Fast

There's a wealth of material in the Huddle already, so to get you started quickly, I recommend one (or all!) of these:

#1: Listen to or read the transcript of *Controlling Your Love/Hate Relationship with Writing*: www.writershuddle.com/seminars/feb2012

#2: Visit the forums and post an introduction to yourself here: www.writershuddle.com/forums/introductions

#3: Work through one of the mini-courses; they're designed to be quick and easy to use:

www.writershuddle.com/mini-courses/

What You'll Find in Writers' Huddle

The Huddle is packed with teaching content and great forum discussions. Here's the goodies you can choose from. You can start wherever you want.

Seven Pillars of Great Writing (ebook)

You can download *Seven Pillars of Great Writing* from the main page here: www.writershuddle.com/welcome

It's designed for writers of both fiction and non-fiction, and takes an in-depth look at ways to make your writing stronger.

The Mini-Courses

Writers' Huddle currently has three mini-courses:

- Getting Started with Fiction (*text lessons*)
- Microsoft Word for Writers (*text and video lessons*)
- Starting Your First Blog (*text and video lessons*)

These will always be available for you to start at any time. You can work through them at your own pace, and if you ever get stuck or have questions, there's a forum dedicated to each one.

I'll be creating new mini-courses over the next few months, so if there's a particular course you'd like, just let me know in the Suggestions forum.

All mini-courses are listed on this page: www.writershuddle.com/mini-courses

The Forums

Writers' Huddle has forums where you can interact with other members and with me. You can chat about writing, ask questions, get a critique of a piece of work, and make suggestions about what you'd like to see happening in Writers' Huddle.

A great place to begin is with the Introductions forum at:

www.writershuddle.com/forums/introductions

If you've never used forums before, you can find full guidelines under "Useful Downloads" here:

www.writershuddle.com/welcome

The Seminars

Every month, I record a seminar about a particular aspect of writing. You'll receive an email to let you know that the seminar is ready for you to listen to. Each seminar has a transcript, and a worksheet to help you put what you've learned into action.

You can go back to listen to (or read) past seminars at any time. The archive is here: www.writershuddle.com/seminars

The Weekly Emails

Every week, you'll receive an email letting you know what's been going on in Writers' Huddle over the past seven days.

This email will include:

- The link to a new seminar / Q&A, if any
- Links to popular or interesting forum threads
- Any Writers' Huddle news

You don't have to read the emails, but they're an easy way to stay up-to-date with Writers' Huddle if you're busy and don't have much time to read the forums.

On Track ecourse

We'll be starting the *On Track* ecourse as a group on Monday 7th May. Each week, you'll receive a link to the new *On Track* lessons in the weekly email.

On Track is aimed at anyone who's working on a big writing project, like a book, blog, short story collection, etc. If the timing isn't great for you, don't

worry: all the *On Track* materials will remain in the Huddle so that you can go through the course at your own pace at any time.

You can find out more about *On Track* here:

www.writershuddle.com/on-track

About Ali

I make my living through words, and through working with other writers as a one-to-one coach or in group ecourses.

A lot of my writing is online. I've written for a lot of large writing-related sites like Write to Done, Men with Pens, Daily Writing Tips, Copyblogger and ProBlogger. I've also got my own blog, Aliventures, where I post regular articles about writing, blogging and freelancing.

I have an English Literature degree from Cambridge University, and a Creative & Life Writing Masters from Goldsmiths College, University of London.

I live in Oxford in the UK, with my husband Paul.

Contacting Me

If you have a question about one of the mini-courses, it's useful if you ask it in the forums – that way, other people can see the answer too.

If you want to get in touch with me privately, you can email me at any time: ali@aliventures.com. If you put "Writers' Huddle" in the subject line of your email, you'll get top priority in my inbox. You can also use the contact form at www.writershuddle.com/contact to get in touch.

Ready to get started? You can login here: www.writershuddle.com/login