

# 11-5-20 FEC Q&A call transcript

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## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

book, read, nanowrimo, write, work, poetry, editing, worksheets, romance, mass market paperbacks, lauren, talking, facebook group, SSR, prompts, create, club, writing, word, year

## SPEAKERS

Tara Whitaker

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Tara Whitaker 00:00

Uh, but yeah, let me I gotta let me look into it. I forget if I have, I don't know of anybody that works there. But I might know somebody who knows somebody who knows somebody that works there. Because I know the author. I know the author because she publishes books from or with the first publisher I worked for, like the online romance publisher. She's the one that got the Hallmark contract. So let me look into it. Because it'd be super fun.



00:31

Yeah, I think that would be fun. Because they're short books is probably is a short publishing process to get some stuff under your belt.



Tara Whitaker 00:39

Well, if you're going for, like the romance, mass market paperbacks, you know, like the little No, no, not those.



00:49

No, I'm just talking about like a chiclet type book like The not like sexy steaming books just like a while



Tara Whitaker 00:59

No, like the mass market paperback can still be Fabio on the cover romance.





Tara Whitaker 01:06

Oh, no, just I'm talking like a small romance. Like, a hallmark.



Tara Whitaker 01:13

Although, you know, yes, I do have this really, really weird, extreme hate for mass market paperbacks. But I'll edit one. I just don't want to hold it in my hands and read it. But when I'm editing it, it's going to be in a Word document anyway. Well, I hate to break it to you. But if Hallmark publishing does print books, that's what the romance usually is, like, I just that if it's category, romance. So if it follows tropes, you know, like, enemies to lovers and ugly duckling, and all that those are all mass market paperbacks. But if you get into more literary stuff, then that might be more what you're looking for.



01:53

Because I don't read like super trophy stuff. I read more, I guess you would call it contemporary.



Tara Whitaker 01:58

Okay. Yeah.



Tara Whitaker 01:59

I don't know what you would call it. What everybody refers to as Chiclet. Yeah. Yeah, I'm into the trophy. Well, I mean, the boats was fine.



02:08

I just I don't know, I don't know a lot about that stuff. I don't know if my opinions would be good about it. Maybe maybe not.



Tara Whitaker 02:14

It was actually a member of just for one year, the Romance Writers of America, the San Francisco chapter. And that was very interesting to be a member of because you really, you know, there's editors and acquisition editors that are guest speakers. And you have to do a pitch for under a minute. And it's nerve racking. You get chosen, not everyone gets chosen. It's by lottery. So if you get chosen, it's like, be ready. But yeah, yeah, they take their craft seriously. Um, yeah.



Tara Whitaker 02:45

And it was just fun just to kind of expose myself to the people there and the seat on both ends. The editing end as well as the writing end, but it was mostly, most of the members were writers, although they did have a few editors, though. They weren't just guest speakers. They were also members. Yeah. Wow. Editors are members. But I guess that works both ways. So are you talking about you went to something in the San Francisco chapter or the National? Oh, then the San Francisco chapter. Okay. So I went I'm trying to think of the name now. Let's the conference that they hold every year, or they used to until, yeah. The one they do? Go Writers Conference. It's just the general conference, fiction or nonfiction? Why?



Tara Whitaker 03:32

Yeah, so I went to that the national conference when it was New Orleans. Oh, I forget how long ago. I'm trying to look it up. But yeah, lots of publishers go. Lots of editors go lots of agents go. Cover models go like it's, it's an interesting, interesting time. It was a lot of fun, though. Oh, I guess it's just called the RW a conference now. Archie romantic times. That's what it was called. Oh, okay. Key conference. That might be antiquated by now. But maybe yeah. Anyways, probably with the with the publication The romantic times. Yeah. Yeah. But are wa was there? I can't remember now. I can't remember what day it is. Let alone that conference. I went two years ago.



Tara Whitaker 04:25

But yeah, anyway, anyways, that was a long way of talking about actually that leads really well into something that I wanted to chat about, which I know Janice knows about this, but Lauren, you as well. NaNoWriMo month, you know, okay, so I was doing some digging, and some thinking okay, there are so many books being written right now. And I was looking on the website and according to NaNoWriMo, since it started in 1999 367,000 books have been written under NaNoWriMo Oh, and I did some math and it's like 20,000 books a year. So I'm thinking, okay, there gonna be 20,000 books written this month?



Tara Whitaker 05:08

How can editors start thinking about that, because these books are going to need to be edited. So I was doing a little Facebook research, and there's an official NaNoWriMo Facebook group that offers marketing Monday promo thread every Monday. So if you join this group, it's got 27,000 People ish, which I know is a lot. And I'm not a part of the group. So I can't speak to what's inside. But I was thinking, you know, this would be a perfect time to join groups like that, or local groups. I know Chicago has a group, I'm sure San Francisco has a group, I'm sure, somewhere in North Carolina has a group or somewhere close.



Tara Whitaker 05:54

But to start networking, and getting your name out there and answering questions or posting your stuff in that marketing thread, and then come 2021 you'd be in prime position to go for those. So just an option, certainly not something you have to do. But man 20,000 books that are coming up, like if you can get your name out there just in front of a view, that would be

awesome. So food for thought. It's a good idea. And it's not something you know, that you'd be necessarily pitching right now, it could be more just participating and supporting and encouraging and answering questions or participating in polls or any of that stuff so that when the time comes, then you're in a good position to market yourself. So yeah, just wanted to make sure you guys knew about that.



Tara Whitaker 06:48

Thank you for that tip.



Tara Whitaker 06:49

Yeah, yeah, no problem. I, again, because I don't know what day of the week it is. I didn't really I didn't it didn't compute that it was NaNoWriMo month until I saw a couple posts and was like, oh, shoot in November. Before? That did happen. I attempted to do it once. It didn't go very well. To be honest, have you ever done it? Not officially. And because I do have a creative writing class, we we have our sort of unofficial version of NaNoWriMo. So I think for for four years in a row, I would email my class prompts daily for 30 days.



Tara Whitaker 07:33

But you know, honestly, that was a lot of work. And it was kind of my bed. Yeah. And the thing is, it's like a lesson plan for each day. And I already do that for their weekly classes. And they have at least an average of three lessons for her, her class. And so I thought, oh my gosh, this is a lot of work. And, and I want to do my own as well, whether I follow my own prompts. So what I did this year, was I just took one page, and I put 30 entries and I said boom. And I just on the on the evening of Halloween, I said here your prompts for 30 days, you know, take it or leave it. Yeah, they were just one liners. They were just one liners, for example, like Dave 13, your character wakes up and something or someone unusual is next to them in bed.



Tara Whitaker 08:24

You know, kind of like, just go from there. That's fun. That sounds like some of the prompts that you had during your class. And I was like, Oh my gosh, how are these? How are these people coming up with these things off the top of their heads? I think you're going oh my gosh, what would I talk about? Yeah, so I mean, they haven't mentioned it. They have quite a vivid imagination. So I'm sure hopefully there has been there was the one about diarrhea. Yeah, these a riot. Oh my goodness. I got a kick out of him. Yeah, I know. Yeah. We've got some characters in class. I mean, overall, they're a great group. Yeah, well, anyway, I do have one result of NaNoWriMo. I'm gonna show you really quick sorry.



Tara Whitaker 09:17

This, this is my holiday novella. And this was in 2017 NaNoWriMo. I wrote it in 21 days. So November 21. It was done. So what did I do with the remaining days of that November was I went through it, you know, the draft, but it didn't publish it. That was took another two years

went through it, you know, the draft, but it didn't publish it. That year took another two years for me to so it actually came out last year. Okay. So exactly two years. It came out around Black Friday. Give me Yeah, last year, so and it's a spin off of my trilogy. So doable. Mine was a failed attempt.



10:03

I've never tried much creative writing I, I actually wrote some poetry earlier this year. Good man, I'm sure it was a few people. But, ya know, I really I really liked poetry. But when I tried to write it, it doesn't happen. I just like, usually, if I'm feeling really emotional about something, right? Or I'm just like, in a really emotional place, because sometimes what comes into my head is not even what I'm being emotional about at that moment. It's just, I don't know, because I wrote one. Like, I would have a really dark poem about anxiety that I really like. But yeah, that's, that tends to be how my writing is and I journal but I don't know, I haven't. I think I'm just too. I'm not brave enough to try creative writing.



Tara Whitaker 10:52

I think you are, I think you are. You can always do it. Share it. You don't have to share. Yeah, you're comfortable. Yeah. When you attend my class, you can you can write without sharing. Lauren, you don't have to but but the activities that I the prompts that I give are, I tried to choose something that everyone can use? And if not, you know, I mean, you have the option to shares to not not to share? Sorry. So it'll be something you wrote. So that's something I think, isn't that a lot of those kind of writing exercises are kind of just to get you out of your head, you know, so you just write whatever is coming and trade right now, because you only have a limited time. And because I think that's usually my problem, like I'm gonna write, and then I'm like, oh, no, I'm gonna write about and then two weeks goes by I'm like, I've never wrote anything. What am I gonna write? Here? We are still.



Tara Whitaker 11:45

In April, they have a novel Rimal. Did you ever? Oh, no. Oh, yeah. The National not Pope. Sorry, National Poetry Writing Month. So the pressure is on because I think the whole idea is to write every day, even if it's crap. I mean, really?



12:03

Yes. I will. I don't know. I really like poetry. And I think it's because I just, I think in fragments, and I think free is not necessarily about the words, it's about the feeling you're creating with the ones. And I mean, obviously, I like words, because I want to edit them. But I also, I feel like that's how I communicate is more through energy and feeling. And that's how I really like books that I love. It's more about, like, whatever atmosphere that it's creating whatever mood it has in it. And so I really, really like poetry. And that's usually if I'm feeling creative, that's the kind of writing that comes out.





Tara Whitaker 12:44

So good. Yeah. Well, nice. Yeah, my sister does an open mic for poetry every Thursday nights. Um, just let me know if you're interested. Because, again, you don't have to share. And it's not a writing class. It's basically a poetry open mic. But then it's been it's sort of expanded to open mic in general. So sometimes people sing. I mean, that's lyrical. Right? Or are they? Because there's songwriters and some people? I'm really, I mean, some people have shared their prose, really flash fiction, and micro fiction and really short pieces. That's yeah. Is it on Zoom now? Or is it? Yeah, she's been doing that actually. She started on IG. And she's been doing, it's really, I don't want to say sporadic but IG keeps dropping, like, I don't know, something technical that's happening that you know, midway through the freezes or, you know, it's live, but then it isn't. And so then she now has been offering it through zoom. So something is you're interested. It's mostly poetry, but people have been sharing their short pieces. And it's just and you don't have to share it all. You can just listen.



Tara Whitaker 13:58

I've also thought about trying to write like middle grade fiction, because I really like middle grade books too. Or like, Yeah, our kids middle grade, like something more like Percy Jackson type of age group. Yeah. And you know, there was a book, I just Oh, the girl who drank the moon. That's what I read recently. And I was like, Oh, I would love to write something. Because those really create like, and those are, you know, because you're like trying to say something big, but in like, simple language that create some sort of feeling around it.



14:32

And I yeah, you can totally do that. Lauren. As a matter of fact, there's a lot of middle grade and why a novels that are written in verse. Oh, yeah. Ellen Hopkins. If you want some emotion on that one, Ellen Hopkins, she hers is what? What have you read her Janice? Never heard of dark. There's heavy subjects. Does sound familiar? You know, I should actually keep a reading log. That's how you know, because I don't remember if it does ring a bell because when I was in grad school I My specialty was YA fiction. And we did read a lot of verse novels. And that name sounds familiar, but I'm gonna have to look it up because again, I didn't I don't I'm really bad about writing down what I've read her books or one word, so burn Oh, like, what you just one word and they're, they're thick, but of course they're verse so there's less right word. Yeah. But they're there.



15:41

They pack a punch. Like they're not they're not flour, wheat flour that can't say that word. Yeah, yeah, I agree. They're, they're heavy. They tackle some heavy subject matter. But you just get sucked in there. So good. I haven't read one out while though. Maybe I'm gonna have to bring one out. Yeah, I'm gonna look at my list. If I can find it. It's been a while. We had a grad school. In grad school, we had a list of all all the required reading. And then we were also given the choice to read whatever we wanted. But I just want to say that Angela Johnson has a good one. The first part last? Oh, it's yeah, it's called the first part. Last is why a and you know what's unusual about it? And I can only imagine what the editors were.



16:28

How they were handling this. Before it published. The first part last is it's it's a novel written in reverse. Oh, interesting. Yeah. So so the ending comes first. And in the beginning of the novel is last? How the heck, I'm still trying to wrap my brain around how bad do events so difficult to write. And she's a poet to Angela Johnson. So it's, it's kind of I mean, it is prose. Poetry. It's prose, poetry, prose. So it's, it's poetry. It's verse but it's actually written not like poetry. It sounds like poetry, because it's it's lyrical. And there's a rhythm to it. But it's this paragraph form. So okay. Yeah, very interesting experience. It's, it's a slim, very slim novel, like 818 pages. But wow, it's talk about packing a powerful punch. It's to do this. Yeah, you just made me think of something.



18:08

So in the have you guys logged into podia, yet, where you bought for the membership. So there's a link in there to join the Facebook group that I got. I'm going to create a document, you can create a document in Facebook. And I'm going to start a book rec list that everybody can add to so if you think of a book or want to add a book under a certain category, let's keep a tally. Let's keep a reading log, so that we can remember all of these books because I can never remember them all. I have good rates. Yeah, good reads, but I can't find that I've got 1000s of Goodreads. I love Oh, no, I think I think a list on Facebook is great. You know, for this group. I was just like to keep up with your own reading. That's what I



Tara Whitaker 18:15

Yeah, yeah, totally. Yep. And the reading challenge every year.



Tara Whitaker 18:21

I can't do that. As soon as I put a number on there, it makes me not want to read any more. I don't do well with having to read a certain thing or even like, you know, the reading challenges where it's like, read a book set by an author or by an author in another country or set in the morning. And I'm like, I don't know, for some reason, I just can't do it. Too many restrictions are too many.



18:43

Yeah, I've tried so many times. I'm so I'm just a mood reader. That's what I've come to the conclusion.



Tara Whitaker 18:47

Yeah, totally. Totally. Mood reading. So but when your mood reading, do you find yourself Lauren doing like, you know, six books at a time, depending on your mood.



19:00

I've tried to every sometimes I'll do two at a time. Like especially if there's a book that I like, but I'm just not reading it as fast as I want, like, have Yeah, that's maybe because I'm not exactly in the mood for it. I'll start another and sometimes I'll have a print book and a book on my Kindle going at the same time. So sometimes I'll have like a super chick lit book, and then something heavier, but most of the time I read and sometimes I'll kind of read both of them until I'm more interested in one and then I'll just binge that one. I don't know. I generally have just been a one book at a time person most of my life.



Tara Whitaker 19:37

Good, good. Yeah, that's probably best because then you can actually finish a book.



19:42

But then if we're not finishing it, then it takes you like six weeks to go learn to just stop and move on to something else if I'm not going to cry.



Tara Whitaker 19:54

I used to have a really hard time giving up on a book. I felt like if I started it, I had to finish it. Yeah, and I just couldn't. I got rid of that, thankfully, because I would just, there's too many books too little time.



Tara Whitaker 20:16

Yeah, gotta do better about it now. And I honestly, I have a really hard time. If I love a book, I have a hard time moving on to something else. Oh, yeah, a book hangover. I have bad luck.



20:20

And I mean, I had, like, you'll probably hear me talk about a million times. But I love station 11. And I had like, five yearbook hangover from it. And I finally just realized, like, maybe I should reread it. And I did. And it was great. And I finally have closure. And I'll probably reread it again in like five years, but I still love it. And I think I realized, because I was listening to a podcast the other day, and they were talking about a genre that I've never really heard much about. And I was like, I think that's what I love. It's romanticism.



20:49

So it's not romance. It's not It's basically the opposite of Gothic because you know, like Gothic is that like real moodv. And but. but there's some kind of like. darkness to it. So romanticism is

opposite from that. It's like there's lightness to it, but it's like, really? I don't know, it's not even so about the words. It's just like the mood, whatever it creates, and, like the secret garden is like that. And that's Oh, all time book. And that's what is my genre. I finally.



Tara Whitaker 21:20

Yeah, that's a good that's, that deserves a good reread. Yeah, yeah,



21:25

reread it, like a month ago. I mean, rereading stuff a lot lately.



Tara Whitaker 21:31

That's great. I'm gonna put that on my just to do list as to decompress even more to kind of as an escape and a good way and still maintain that, you know, just beautiful language and kind of, I mean, there's, there's, like, you know, guilty pleasure. But then there's also wanting to be escapism with substance, I guess, if that makes sense. Because you get something out of it as a writer. It's like, oh, that's a nice term to use, you know? Yeah, definitely. Well, speaking of that, because Janice, so Janice, and I both got this book from the library. Same time, I didn't totally we unintentionally.



Tara Whitaker 22:16

So I was I wasn't going to start book club yet. But Lauren, if you're interested, if you want to grab it, and then you if you guys want to read it this one? Yeah. I mean, I It's from the library. So I only have a limited time with it. But right, right. Yeah. It's like, right, it makes me so sad when I see. Okay, I want to push down all the corners. And anyways, um, yeah, so let's, let's do that. And we'll discuss it the first call in December. Give us a month to read it. Because, you know, we've got things going on and distractions. And that's, that's to make sure we have time to learn if you get it from a library, if you have times. I'm gonna look right now. So I'm doing because I had I was on a waitlist for a couple people who didn't get it. So. Yeah. Was it inevitable? I think it was 2017. But oh, did you know it was the University of Chicago Press that? Oh, I didn't realize that. Yeah. 2017. But my library's also under renovation. So renovation mixed with the pandemic has created a huge backlog. Huge, but it's okay. It'll be fine.



23:32

Yeah, it's available.



Tara Whitaker 23:34

I just put it on hold. Awesome. Baby ready to pick up tomorrow. all right, first book club, what editors do. And that also leads into another good thing, which, so podia is where I'm going to

keep like the evergreen content. So like the recording video recordings or call recordings, worksheets, that sort of thing. But then Facebook is where I'm picturing we have more chatting discussion, I'll post things that pop up like announcements, or if I find something cool, or or if you guys find something cool or want to share it. That's where I'm picturing that will go is on Facebook.



Tara Whitaker 24:19

Full disclosure, I really hate Facebook. But I know that it's yeah. I'm glad you said that. Because when you mentioned about a Facebook group, I go wow, when was the last time I was on Facebook, my goodness. And I'm only on it for the group's like I see. And there's a group tab on the mobile app now. And that's all I look at is just the group's there's a way to get into the group without you know, just filtering through all that mass and especially, yes, yes, because I don't I don't I haven't looked at my newsfeed in right months. So, I mean, if you can, can you see that at all? Yeah. So there's a home button. And then there's this group home button.



Tara Whitaker 25:08

This is your feed for your group. Oh, got it, the group you're in, right? It. It bypasses or just ignores, you know, whatever the feed because I don't really want to go anywhere. Your stuff. No, no, no, that is Oh my god. No, I don't I don't feel that way. With IG though. I actually I mean, I don't know what I Yeah. But just with Facebook, and with Facebook is supposedly people that you actually know and are related to, and, you know, and people you worked with, it's just but then it's like, do you really want to know all of that? I mean, really? Yeah, no, that's so. And I picked Facebook because honestly, it's free. And everybody has it in. In my dream world, I would love to move off of it.



Tara Whitaker 26:00

There's another app that's really getting popular called Mighty networks, which is essentially a Facebook group without the Facebook. Like it has its own app. It's got, you know, all of the features of a Facebook group, but you have to pay for it. And not quite there yet. So three Facebook, it is but there's definitely a way to bypass all of the junk, is that look at the group, you just have to pay for it as the creator and then people who are in the group can use it for free or Oh, okay, so mighty networks. Yeah, it's you have to pay by user, I think. And then, or it's something like, so as a free user, you pay a fee, you pay more, okay. And then of course, there's a free version, but you can't do certain things, and you have to pay for it, and you get certain things. And then the next level is certain things. So for now, we'll just go with the free version. It's private, it's hidden, no one else you like I have to approve you. It's locked down. But in the future, I would like to move. But that's where I picture it for now.



Tara Whitaker 27:06

So that's what it's that's where all the content will be. And there if I'll let you know. But I'm trying to figure out where to put things in podia from a tech perspective. So I'll keep you posted on what that looks like. Because it's tech, I'm just trying to figure out the easiest way, but just

to let you guys know, I'm taking the workbook workbooks, smashing them together, which is actually like 100 pages, talking. And I'll probably edit it a little bit and add, delete whatever. So then whenever someone joins the club, they get immediate access to that big workbook.



Tara Whitaker 27:52

And I don't know if it's going to be in a Workbook format, and a course formats. unclear, but they'll get access to the content, and then every month will be the new stuff, too. I'm having a hard time with words today. What is the word? complement it? enhance it? extra? Extra stuff. Wow, wow. It's always fun when you're talking to someone that knows you're an editor and you can't come up with words or you can't think of a word. You're like.



Tara Whitaker 28:28

Yeah, I'm terrible about that. Especially when I'm like leading a call. I did that today when I was doing that team meeting for the first time and I couldn't even think of the word like automation to do like automated checks in the database. I was just like, you know, we're going to check things you know where it happens all the time.



Tara Whitaker 28:55

I'm glad you misery because I feel like an idiot sometimes would have like, I don't know that word. I can't think of it. Oh my goodness. Anyways. Very odd noise sorry. And it's getting dark. So I'm like, okay, cat must been my cat anyways. So I wanted to run some ideas by you that I'm thinking of doing for the monthly content, the new stuff. Yay or Nay or something else. Like I will not be offended if you're like now that sounds stupid. I just want to know ahead of time, so I know what to create. So I'm thinking of like many trainings, and I've got how to query an author. You know how to do that. Does that be helpful?



29:53

Anytime once they come to you and say, Hey, what you edit my stuff, or you tell me exactly how to make pitches.



Tara Whitaker 29:59

So How once you have a project once you have, say a book, and you need to ask them a question, or you need to address something, how to do that within Word, like, how do you format it? How do you word it? How do you? How do you just do it? Like? Yeah, I think that sounds okay. I put that because I had no idea how to do it when I started. I did see what other people did not know what to do. Okay. Sounds great. I haven't actually been doing that. Because it's been so informal with my class. We didn't know each other already.



Tara Whitaker 30:37



Tara Whitaker 30:57

And I, you know, obviously hear or listen to snippets of their work anyway, or they submit it to me. And but something formal like that, you know, once you get close, once they get close to publishing now, that would be helpful. Yeah. Because like, for the clients that I have, I never speak to the author. I have no contact with them. So I have to be very clear about what I'm saying. And I have to mark it, like, I have to say, au colon so that the author knows it's for them. Yeah. But I didn't know that when I started. That's why I asked if that would be a good thing. So okay, I'll do that. And then to go along with that.



Tara Whitaker 31:18

Just some tips and tricks about word track changes and how to search for certain things using wildcards. So I think they're called like, symbols. Would that be helpful? Yeah, it'd be nice to revisit Track Changes, again, because it's been so informal. With my students, some of them actually don't like track changes, because it can be them. And then it confuses me. And then we're all confused. But I'd like to be able to, yeah, revisit that. It's, there's a lot of quick search, or find, search and replace things that you can do that make things a whole lot easier. Especially with like spacing and tabbing. And all of that business, so Okay. We'll add that to the list. book publishing industry terms, or lingo? Yes, like pilcrow. Widow Orphan? frontmatter, backmatter. That'd be helpful.



32:20

I know. None of those. I do know Norfolk.



Tara Whitaker 32:26

Perfect. Okay. How to create a style sheet? Yeah. Yeah, we never we didn't. We ran out of time with the coaching thing. There are so many things that I wanted to talk about. That was one of them was how to create your own style sheet for an author. Yes, please. And how to write an editorial letter. more along the lines of developmental editing. Hmm, definitely. Thank you. Yes. Okay, and then practice. So when it comes to practicing, like the mechanics of editing? Do you want something more like? Here's a worksheet on commas. And here's a worksheet on semicolons. And or do you want something like a book chapter where you can actually practice on the words? Did that make any sense? Like a worksheet versus a real life example? Do you want one or the other? Or both?



33:21

Hmm. It makes sense. I'm trying to think what my preference.



Tara Whitaker 33:27

And my thought, which I don't want to speak ahead of myself. But my goal is to find an author who has who I know who has written something that they don't want to publish, that they will sell to me that I can use as test material or practice material. so that it's an actual story that

sent to me that I can use as test material or practice material, so that it's an actual story that you can work on. Whether that's possible or not, I'm not 100% sure, but in my dream world, that's what I'm hoping. But I didn't know if you were looking more for practice like that, or practice like a worksheet.



Tara Whitaker 34:04

Yeah, would this be? What stage of editing process though? This would be more along the lines of copy editing and proofreading for the worksheets? I think. But I guess, yeah, I'm thinking the developmental and the line editing practice would be more toward like that sample book chapter or or chunk of text because I'm trying to think of how you do a worksheet for developmental editing.



34:33

Yeah.



Tara Whitaker 34:35

There might be a way that I'm not thinking of off the top of my head. If you have ideas, let me know. But I'm thinking that would be more. The chunks of text would be the developmental inline editing practice and the copy editing and proofreading would be more like what the worksheets would cover but it could be both.



35:06

I think maybe the worksheets, I think it would be good to do them by I guess subjects like commas and semicolons, et cetera, and then maybe have one that's just okay. Now, here's put it all together, in, you know, however long you want to make it, whatever you end up finding, and then, you know, you can show your sample and it on that one



Tara Whitaker 35:32

thing, kind of like a mash up, like have both. Yeah, so I guess it's both but it wouldn't be super heavy on the full chapters of Yeah. Yeah. Because it'd be very hard to practice developmental or line editing without a decent chunk of text. Oh, looking for setting and plot and, you know, continuity and all of that stuff that you can't really do with a page. Do I would need to buy it from someone because I can't write.



36:04

Do you know a lot about different types of story building? Like, let's say the hero are could the I don't know, because I feel like that's the kind of stuff I want to do research on. And I do for Rome, I had to find, yeah, I might have to find some books on stuff like that.



Tara Whitaker 36:23

I can talk about character arc. Specific to romance. I can talk about goals, motivations and conflicts with trope romance. My I would not feel confident doing it for like literary fiction, because I just don't have a ton of experience with that. I could do it for mysteries to mystery thrillers. That would be a great guest speaker guest Yes.



36:51

For there's, there's a podcast I really like and they they break down classics. And so they mentioned different literary devices and those types of things like very literature driven and English teacher type stuff, and I love it. And I need to look more into that. Yeah. What's it called Lauren? Novel pairings. So they break down, okay, they break down a classic. And then they give pairings at the end that either have a similar theme or some something that made them think it will pair well together. So they each, they each give three and it's two teachers, okay. And one of them actually just stopped teaching and became and she's doing content and writing and editing. And then I think the other one just started teaching college classes because they both used to be high school English teachers.



Tara Whitaker 37:46

Wow. Oh, okay. Yeah. So once I created doc and Facebook, you should add this to it as well.



37:53

I'm castes. I do like my book podcasts.



Tara Whitaker 37:59

Hey, I listened to a few of Merriam Webster's new podcast episodes. Those were interesting.



38:07

They had they had a new episode this week. So so novel, Perry's, like, that's the whole premise of their podcast, but they do extra episodes, too. So they just had one where they broke down the new movie, Rebecca, that Netflix. Oh, yeah. Oh my God. They hate on it so hard. It was hilarious.



Tara Whitaker 38:23

What was the movie that they not that novel?



38:25

Okay. Oh, yeah. They love the novel they're talking about?



Tara Whitaker 38:27

Oh, yeah. Oh, my gosh, you could have a total podcast like the whole podcast just about movies. Based off books. Oh, yeah. And how they compare? Yeah, there probably is.



38:40

There's another like called SSR. And it stands the podcast title is shit she read. But if you remember, if you remember like back in, in my probably Terry your middle school days as well. There was SSR which was silent, sustained reading. So this girl she she goes back. She has a guest speaker on every episode. And she goes back in to middle grade books and kind of like, brings them into the 2020 Spotlight. Like this works. Now this doesn't work. Like is it a good book? And so she's done some Roald Dahl books and some Nancy Drew. Wow. Like, yeah, she has some pretty opinionated things to say about them. I like it, too.



Tara Whitaker 39:29

So those are but you can see how some of those things might not have aged well.



39:32

Yeah, some of them really haven't aged.



Tara Whitaker 39:37

It'll be curious to see what books now how they age well to. Cool now when you said SSR that's the first thing that came to mind. Is this the same? Sustained okay.



Tara Whitaker 39:47

I wasn't sure how, like if that was like a brief thing that happened just like when you're in school. Yeah. Yeah. What's interesting is that I kind of wanted to bring that back, at least for me to have some sustained silent reading Well, I'm from from myself here at home. Yeah, that's why



40:09

I read Rebecca in sixth grade because it was worth a lot of points on Accelerated Reader.



Tara Whitaker 40:15

tolerated reader that's what I was thinking of. Yes. Yeah. And like the time they had set aside so you could read your Accelerated Reader books was SSR that's did you have deer to drop everything and read Oh my God, that's a good acronym. Right you know, or sort of funny that the acronym for the club is back. It makes it so I just read it in a French book. Do you guys read Tana French? Yeah, so I'll agree love her writing? Yes. But her so a lot of her books are in Ireland or and they the last one was in Ireland so she writes with that accent and they say sack a lot obviously for the other words so then I was like well now I really can't call it fac because it sounds like I'm saying a bad word with an accent but I think I'm still gonna do it.



Tara Whitaker 41:17

When I need a good laugh like oh this second club that's fine. As long as it's not fac and then you add to other words and then the acronym is? F E C E S work only comes up to scoop the litter box you know? I can come up with something Freelance Editors Club extraordinaire. Society I love a good acronym. I acronym everything. Where did we get started? Oh SSR and celery reader? How about Bukit Pizza Hut book it? Oh, remember that? No. Oh my gosh. It was tied to Pizza Hut. So the more books you read, the more free pizza you got. And because my brother and I are like, you know hardcore bookworms, we would go to Pizza Hut like once a week and get one of those personal can pieces.



Tara Whitaker 42:27

Oh, good memories. Since when did Pizza Hut become literary? I have right. I think they were the sponsor. It worked. We were there all the time. are tied into accelerated reader because it was points. So many points, and you get a coupon for free pizza. Anyways. all right. So we are actually going to maybe end on time this week. Okay. So before we go, though, is there anything that you know, I'm working on the content, I still have to figure out what I want to do first, I have too many things I want to do and I need to pin it down. So is there something that you really want to learn now?



Tara Whitaker 43:15

That would be something I can bump up the list to work on? Or? I'm up for any suggestions? Any comments? It's all all fair game. After think about it, and get back to you on that. Yeah, that's fine. Ideas. Yeah, you know, just this my mind space was occupied with the book club. Like, so just I was trying to and you know, as I mentioned, that I could easily, you know, read about six to half a dozen books at a time. I mean, just a few pages here and there, because it's kind of like bar hopping, you know, book hopping. That's how your, your your term mood reader Lauren, but so because of that, I was like, Well, what? Well, yeah, what can I and so I was kind of doing the book hopping with editing books for club. But then I thought, Well, what about other things? But I was thinking I trust that you had a whole, like, Syllabus type thing, Tara for us, but But yeah, I'll think of, I'll try to think of a few things that I'd want to learn. Okay, let me know. And I will make sure to bump those up and work on those first.



44:29

Yeah, I don't think I mean, I think I'm most interested in developmental writing worksheets, or developmental editing.



Tara Whitaker 44:36

Sorry, I was like, I'm not writing at this point in time, I feel like that's where there's a big gap in my knowledge and something I want to



Tara Whitaker 44:53

I also are you looking for my website? You got this up. Gonna be What were you talking about with the developmental editing worksheets, like talking about? The literary devices and the stuff we just talked about? Or were you talking? Okay, got it?



45:13

Yeah, no, like the one that actually has text or chapters would probably be a while, right? You gotta find somebody with.



Tara Whitaker 45:22

I have someone in mind, I just haven't approached them yet. Yeah. Because I still it's Yeah. I feel like it's a bit of a weird ask, too. But yeah, please sell me a book, or a portion of a book that you've read. I know her well enough that she'll be like, No, you're weird. Don't Don't ask me that. Or we'll be all for it. So, I mean, I'm published, right. unpublished? Yes. Right. Because she would like to, you know, she would not be able to publish it.



Tara Whitaker 45:54

Or if she did, then I would have to redo all of the stuff that I worked on. Like, yeah, it's funny, because when you first mentioned it, I was gonna volunteer some of my unpublished work. And I realized, well, no, that doesn't seem right. Because then I'm, then I'm doing my own work. I don't want to do the whole thing you thinking about but my doing? was very sweet of you don't even think of that though. So I will I will find some some writing that is not. Seriously, I do need to look at someone else's work, though. Yeah. Yeah, for sure. For sure.



Tara Whitaker 46:35

Okay. So if you want to hop in the Facebook group, avoid the newsfeed. Yes. Go in the Facebook group. It'll just be us. And we can start posting and chatting. And we've got a call in two weeks. And then it's Thanksgiving. So yeah, all right. all right. I'll be in touch in the

Facebook group and Okay. Happy reading. Happy reading book club. Yeah, yeah. Thank you. And thank you again for being here. And joining like, I'm so excited. I didn't like not having a call last week. So I know. It was like this. Man could do it. Yeah, it was such a void. It was like, I know, I know. Yeah. Yeah. all right. all right. The rest of your week try and stay calm and yeah. Get through the week. Yeah. all right, you guys. Bye.