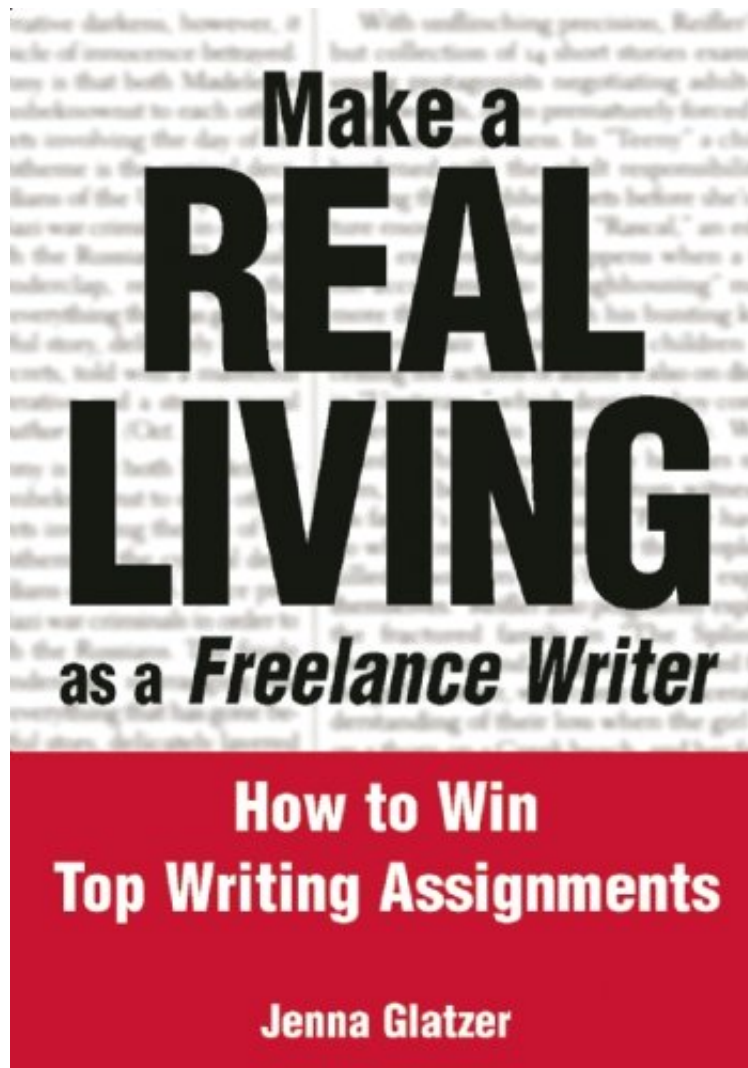


Make a Real Living as a Freelance Writer: How to Win Top Writing Assignments

Jenna Glatzer

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Jenna Glatzer : Make a Real Living as a Freelance Writer: How to Win Top Writing Assignments before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Make a Real Living as a Freelance Writer: How to Win Top Writing Assignments:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent book, highly recommendedBy Laura BurkeI bought this book for a friend who is getting into freelance writing, but of course I had to read it first! :) It's a lively and helpful discussion of everything you need to know in order to do the necessary research, polish that query, present yourself professionally, and get the assignment.Jenna writes with authority and just the right touch of humor. She includes lots

of writing examples, which are a huge help in understanding what works and what doesn't, and most important, WHY. The book also covers the jargon of freelance writing and guides you through the business aspects of it. I believe it's an indispensable tool that should be on the bookshelf of anyone looking to get paid to write (or better yet, open on the desk in front of them!) I was very pleased with the book and recommend it without hesitation. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. This book got me my first paid assignment! By K. Kennedy I practically hyperventilated with happiness while devouring the pages of Jenna Glatzer's 'Make a Real Living as a Freelance Writer', which I stumbled upon on .com while ordering the 2009 Writer's Market. Her book was exactly what I wanted and needed. By the second chapter I thought "Wow- I've already gotten my money's worth." I laughed out loud when she wrote "Writers can go from thinking they are the greatest writer who ever lived to worrying they're illiterate tree stumps, in the course of five minutes." She starts out by informing us that her freelance writing bought her a house on a lake, a boat, a car, and interesting, expensive gifts for her boyfriend. Isn't that what we all want? It is full of useful information and websites, such as how/why to get a business license and where to find quotes. Two highlights of the book for me are: 1. Her actual examples of successful query letters that resulted in paid writing assignments 2. Her encouragement. She wrote something like "You don't have to be the world's best writer to succeed in this business, just a resourceful one with fresh and interesting ideas to pitch." What freedom to think that I don't have to be a Hemingway or Fitzgerald in order to be "a writer." In my working life I'd cranked out some pretty good correspondence, communications, and grants, all spelled and punctuated correctly. I've subscribed to scores of magazines and know I can write like them. I've been complimented on my thank you notes over the years, so I know I am "good enough" to write, and this statement unleashed me to take a stab at freelancing. I like writing and have lots of ideas to share! I read and highlighted Jenna's book, followed its advice, and shot off some query letters. Yesterday I opened a random email, and it was from an editor who wrote: "We like your idea very much. We would like to use it as an evergreen piece and want 1200 words at 50 cents a word." It's just like Jenna said! I got a paid assignment! Because I read the book, I knew what "evergreen" meant, and could calmly and professionally write back that I'd look forward to receiving the contract. Unknown to the editor, my eyes grew wide with disbelief when I read her words, and I then collapsed on my keyboard and wept heaving tears of joy. Thank you Jenna! 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The Goal of Freelance Writing By jabgw2 After the first read, I put the book down feeling both intimidated and discouraged. The amount of information was a bit overwhelming for me, which is by no means the author's fault, of course. I think the intimidation came from my trying to read and process everything in one sitting. Since I am very much a beginner, with only two clips to my name, there were a lot of new ideas to be found. Now I am trying to read through it again, a chapter at a time, and carefully complete the exercises slowly as I go. All that being said, the author definitely took quite a bit of care in putting together this book. Her tone indicates that she really does want to help the reader succeed. She presents what seems to be a very realistic view of freelancing. My only suggestion is to try to process everything in smaller chunks if you are new like me. It is a very good book and I am glad to have made this purchase! Definitely at least four stars, despite my few moments of self doubt. Worth the purchase price!

Step-by-step instructions on how writers can earn top dollar writing for magazines are provided in this book. Secrets are revealed about what the high-paying magazines really want, how to build relationships with editors, how to ascertain which sections of a magazine are open to freelancers, what kinds of stories are in demand, what to do if a deadbeat publisher doesn't pay up, how to market reprints, and how to become an expert in one's chosen writing field. Basic terms like query, clips, and source sheet are defined for beginning writers, and tips on everything from coming up with an idea to pitching a syndicated column are also included. Writers learn about the little-known sources top freelancers use to find new stories and experts. In addition, they learn how to get their first paying assignments even if they have no prior clips, how to negotiate for better pay, how to find high-paying magazines that aren't swamped with queries, and how to worm their way into editors' inboxes even if their e-mail addresses aren't publicized.

From Publishers Weekly Beginning with plenty of realistic words of caution, veteran freelancer Glazer (Outwitting Writers' Block and Other Problems of the Pen; Words You Thought You Knew) provides a practical guide for aspiring writers who want to earn a living doing what they love. Glatzer takes readers through the must-do basics—from sending clean, spell-checked cover letters to avoiding harassing busy editors—then delves into the processes of generating ideas, pitching, landing assignments and negotiating contracts. Once a writer has the assignment, she also has to know how to do research, conduct good interviews with experts and provide solid back-up ("if a fact-checker complains loudly enough that Writer X's article was full of holes, or that the source material was badly organized or unreliable, an editor might not hire Writer X again"). In this honest and thorough volume, Glatzer gives the inside scoop on all of these things, and many other facets of the business that novices (and, quite frankly, many experienced writers) might not realize they need to consider. Copyright copy; Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "An in-your-hand education in professional writing."

