

# What About YOUR Success Story?

written by Holly  
February 27, 2008  
By Holly Lisle

Have you had success with one of my courses? If you have, I really want to hear about it. Please tell me below.

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## Members-only Sale Updates

written by Holly  
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If you're on the Writers' Updates newsletter and you have questions about or need help with the **February Sucks** sale, you can ask or post here. I'll be checking the blog all day. And all day tomorrow. And by putting everything here, some questions might be answered that folks participating while I'm asleep might need.

If you're not getting the newsletter, it's not too late to join. Still about twenty minutes left on the countdown before things actually start.

Added.

Typing in the live countdown by hand. Four minutes left.

10:21

## **Gone In Seven Minutes**

The Hawkspars and All the Talyn Hardcover plus the Talyn ARC were actually gone in seven minutes.

Lots of stuff left. I'm doing a mad cut and paste just to keep people up with the book they got. Thank yous will go out when things slow down.

Holly

## **Last 13 Books**

I can't believe it, but I'm already out of all the books but the last thirteen, which are one-offs. I got caught up on the notifying folks of which book they got (check your PayPal email if you haven't heard from me yet), but I haven't had time to send out thank yous. This is the first time I've had a chance to breathe.

## **Corrected Hawkspars**

Uploaded the correct versions of the Hawkspars First Draft Manuscript and the Hawkspars Revised Manuscript. Very sorry about the error. Weather here is unreal, but for now, power is still on.

## **Power Went Off, Came Back On**

We're through the first line of storms, but there's another even bigger one behind in. Keep your fingers crossed that the hamster stays healthy.

# Have Lost Internet Twice

And the next line of storms is almost to us. I've been answering e-mails in the meantime, but I'm not holding my breath on us having either internet OR power when the next storms come over.

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# The Coupon Has Been Fixed

written by Holly  
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If you tried to use your coupon earlier and it didn't work, you can go ahead and order now. It's fixed.

I apologize. I thoroughly tested the thing before I took it live; I don't know what I managed to screw up afterward.

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# Moderately Grand Reopening Sale

written by Holly  
February 27, 2008

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Yesterday through the 30th, everything in the e-book shop is 10% off, to celebrate the fact that we're up and running again.

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# Fever Sale

written by Holly  
February 27, 2008  
By Holly Lisle

In honor of the fever. I'm already tired of this. Drinking fluids, resting.

The sale is my sense of humor, such as it is when I'm sick, anyway. It runs through Monday so the folks who surf from work aren't left out.



**ALL CLINICS \$2 OFF!**

**EBOOK AND PRINT VERSIONS**

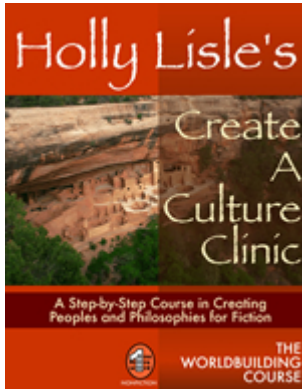
Sale Runs From Saturday July 28 through Monday July 30th.

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# Clinic Week Sale

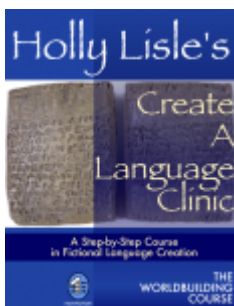
written by Holly  
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I've put all three Clinic books on sale from today through Friday, each one \$2.00 off.



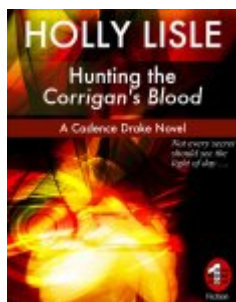
Why? For karma. I'm struggling on the **Ruby Key** revisions, and the last time I put books on sale, the bad karma cleared. The line-for-scene is crawling, and most of the cards so far are red or orange. Not good. My stress level is rising, my confidence is falling.



I'd had some serious, bad stuff going on for a while the last time I put books on sale (also for karma), and

*everything* got better. It may be New-Agey, it may seem crackpot. No matter. It worked last time, so I'm trying it again.

ADDED LATER:



Also put *Hunting the Corrigan's Blood* on sale for a flat \$3.00 (57% off). It's not a clinic, but...

Anyway, I hope the discounts are a good thing for some of you, and provide good content and a useful service.

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## One-Day-Only Hump Day Sale

written by Holly  
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By Holly Lisle

☒ Wednesdays suck in general. Today, mine is worse than usual, so I decided to do something good to offset all the bad karma.

There's a one-day-only Hump Day sale on my writing books—15% off on any of them that you buy. Buy one or all three and get the discount.

- Character Clinic

- Language Clinic
- Culture Clinic

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# French review of Create A Language Clinic

written by Holly  
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My French is nowhere near what it used to be, I've just discovered. Once, years ago, I could comfortably read Spanish and French at the newspaper/ novel level and was working hard to add German to my language list. No more, alas. I was stunned and dismayed to discover how much I've simply lost. I can still manage some Spanish, both conversationally and in reading, but German has become an indecipherable sea, and while my French grammar remains, the vocabulary has all but disappeared.

However, I still read well enough that I got the general gist of a fascinating review of *Create A Language Clinic* (and fell back on free translation to fill in what I missed).

Reading the review, I discovered that the reader had worked through the book the same way I worked through the post; using a translation service. That's a hard, hard way to learn to build a language—weirdly recursive, in that you're working from a language you don't know through a translator that translates like a multilingual drunkard with comprehension issues to convert into your language the method for creating

other languages. I lift my glass to the diligent Leppiya, who definitely did the course the hard way. And apparently still got the humor. I'm glad that came through.

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# **Holly Lisle's Create A Language Clinic now in Paperback**

written by Holly  
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✖ Have done the copyedits. Have fixed typos and clarified a few things. Have redone the font, made it all pretty for print, and now Holly Lisle's Create A Language Clinic has passed muster and is now available for purchase.

In a few days, a revised PDF version will be available for download from the shop, free to anyone who purchased it previously. It will take me that long to get everything switched around.

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# Sproing! Another week begins.

written by Holly

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The print version of **Language Clinic** landed on my front step late last Friday, and it turned out beautifully. I'm going through and copyediting, will do final revisions, and have the thing available for sale in the next couple of days.

Other than copyediting most of that, I did nothing writing-related over the weekend except let my sizzlin' brain rest. Turned out to be a good plan. The opener for **Create A Culture Clinic** was really dragging, and I was having a hard time figuring out how to make the book useful from page one; I wanted to skip long-winded theory and go straight into creation, but theory kept wrapping its vines around my ankles and tripping me.

Something clicked last night. Here's how the thing will go. Maybe you've never created a culture. If you haven't you may be heading for a problem. Maybe you have created a culture, but it already has a problem.

## Ten Problems Your Culture Might Have:

- Your good culture is fighting an evil culture.
- Your culture is feudal Britain in drag.
- Your culture only exists to grind a religious, political, or philosophical axe.
- Your culture exists in the "American Dark Ages"—that is, you could give any one of your characters a driver's license and an ATM card and he would be indistinguishable from everyone you know.
- Your culture contains only paladins, clerics, bards,

rogues and healers, and maybe the occasional barmaid or whore.

- You can only list the things your culture is against, not the things it is for.
- Your culture contains nothing you disagree with.
- Your culture contains dwarves, elves, or ents... or all three.
- Your culture consists of you, your friends, and your local Starbucks, only far in the future, or far in the past. Or maybe even in the present.
- Your culture boldly goes where TV has been going for a long, long time.

The **Culture Clinic** will drop you right into the middle of religious, government, home and family design on page one, and you'll be slashing your way through the thorny thickets of everything that is trite and overdone, heading straight for those fresh, exciting cultural ideas that are born from your own experiences. You may not realize it yet, but you have had worthwhile experiences.

Figuring out the problem-solving direction of the book is going to make writing it this morning a lot more fun.

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