

And about the New Secret Writing Course...

written by Holly
September 18, 2023
By Holly Lisle

I discovered there were two essential lessons I left out.

So I wrote them.

And now THEY'RE done.

Now I'm contemplating some sort of bonus for the course, but in the meantime, I'm going to be setting up the new classroom with the lessons, and getting everything ready to make the course available to students.

The guitar-playing dogs are in one of the lessons, by the way.

And once this thing goes on sale, I am looking desperately forward to getting back to the Ohio novels, and getting those out into the world, too.

HollysWritingClasses.com Member Updates

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The Secret Writing Class is

finished... except for bonus course...

written by Holly
September 18, 2023
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Yesterday I finished the final lesson on the new writing course.

So I'm taking today off, and relaxing. I'll be thinking about the bonus course. I have several ideas, and I'll be digging through the [HollysWritingClasses.com](https://hollylisle.com) forum for additional ideas.

I have a specific topic – Big Course... Bonus Brainstorming – and if you're a member (membership is free), just log into the forum and let me know what's on your wish list for a short course you'd like to get as the bonus for the NEW class when it goes live – something that would help YOU.

If you're not a member yet, you get a free class when you join, and there is NO membership fee EVER.

You can buy classes, or you can just use the free one, and hang out in the forums and write fiction, and talk about writing fiction.

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Just 6 more lessons to build on the new Secret Writing Course

written by Holly
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Today went really, really well. Finished the lesson (did most of it yesterday), and built out the worksheet today.

I'll be working light the rest of the week, because my best friend from high school is going to be in town for her reunion (she was a year ahead of me).

So I'll be sort of around, but probably not a lot.

I'll get back to the last six lessons of the class after her visit.

And then start considering possible bonus classes.

If you want to be invited to the class, **the sign-up to be notified when the class goes LIVE is linked below**. The actual URL starts with *winning-innovator* and a *wacky letter-number combo*, but it is a real and secure sign-up link provided by Convert Kit.

It's just kinda fugly.

LET ME KNOW ABOUT THE CLASS WHEN IT GOES LIVE:
<https://winning-innovator-5948.ck.page/89150d4b07>

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NEW SECRET BIG COURSE: Lesson 15 is Started. And finished.

written by Holly
September 18, 2023
By Holly Lisle

Sat down. Wrote. I knew what I wanted, I knew what I needed...

And I love it when a plan comes together.

Damn!

Granted, I'm out of bed at 6 AM, and hauling ass for five straight hours on just this one thing, so this project is NOT coming together out of magic and fairy dust.

This is butt in chair, hands on the keyboard, don't-get-up-to-get-a-drink-or-go-to-the-bathroom work.

It's focused, it's intense, and when I'm done, ***I can feel the tired***. Seriously.

But I LOVE what I got. I think writers are going to really enjoy the process in these lessons.

Now, however..?

Nap.

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Secret Course Lesson 13 now done, worksheet has to wait until tomorrow

written by Holly
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This particular lesson was tougher to break down into pieces – so it took me from 6 AM until just now just to lay out the lesson, and then write it out.

So now I have to stop, but I'll come back in tomorrow, and do a read-through, and from that, figure out some ways to break the necessary tasks into simple worksheet steps.

Just cannot do anymore today.

1892 words for the day, one long writing session... BUT one lesson written from brainstorming through lesson start to lesson finish (excluding worksheets).

That counts as a good day.

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Finished Lesson 8 of the new (name withheld) Fiction Writing Course

written by Holly
September 18, 2023
By Holly Lisle

Got over 2000 words today. I am pushing hard on this class,
and looking forward to:

- A) Finishing all the lessons... and
- B) Putting the class on sale

I needed to get some distance from the Ohio novels, so I can
read back through the books I already have, and take a look at
a couple of conflicting story ideas that I realized I was
pursuing simultaneously.

Writing nonfiction moves me out of that world for a while,
lets me get cold on the writing, and allows me to see where
I've made mistakes or pursued wrong (or spectacularly right)
directions.

Since I've done at least two takes on most of the five planned
novels (and possible sixth)... I very much want to have the
necessary distance when I read through what I have this time.

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**Get Holly's Free Fiction Sampler, plus Weekly-ISH Fiction
Updates, and when these books go on sale, *get invited to the
launch.***

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Lesson 7 on the new writing course done

written by Holly
September 18, 2023
By Holly Lisle

So I now have seven full Big Course lessons and worksheets built. And my course tester is working through them as I finish each one.

I'm not giving any hints on what this course is or when it's going to be available until I have the whole thing built.

I will note, however, that I'm now officially one third of the way through the PLANNED lessons.

And I'll add that I have in the past noticed the occasional important concept or process I've left out of my outline while building the lessons, and created extra lessons to cover those concepts and processes... so I cannot say that the number of lessons planned will be the number I end up with. There may be more.

There won't be fewer.

Writing-wise, though, today was a GOOD day.

FICTION WRITERS! Sign up for Holly's Thursday Writing Tips

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Secret Big Class: Day 2

written by Holly
September 18, 2023
By Holly Lisle

Today's objective was 1000 words on Ohio 4, and both starting and finishing Secret Writing Class Worksheet #1.

It always amazes me how much harder it is to build a worksheet than to write the actual lesson it supports.

It also amazes me that I forget this fact. I decided to do the worksheet before my fiction today, because "It's just the worksheet, and I know what my writers have to be able to do... I can put that out in half an hour, maybe an hour tops..."

And I thought this because it's been a while since I've built any worksheets... and I FORGOT how difficult it is to build a good worksheet that walks someone through a complex process a step at a time.

So... I did not finish the worksheet.

I'm maybe 25% through it.

Which meant that I did not get any words on the Ohio Novel today... because I did the worksheet first, and the worksheet is kicking my ass.

I made **good progress** on the worksheet.

I'm hoping to be able to finish it tomorrow.

BUT EVEN IF I DON'T, tomorrow I'm not working on it until AFTER I get my words on Ohio 4.

Live. Learn. REMEMBER what you learn.

My motto for the rest of this time when I'm writing a novel and building a class.

Want to be invited to the secret Big Course launch?

And get updates on how it's coming along, and how close I am to taking it live? (It's closer than you think...)

□

Add yourself to the **Secret Big Class Updates** list...

Yes, send me the Secret Big Class Updates! AND THE GO-LIVE INVITATION!

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The Other Shoe Dropped – Ohio 4 and the Friday “Say WHAT?!”

written by Holly

September 18, 2023

By Holly Lisle

In the first version of these novels, I had one main character who I was having do a lot of chasing around because my main character was being stubbornly stupid about an activity that was bad for her – except she refused to see it.

I made her smarter.

And because she stopped doing stubbornly stupid things in Book 2, my VERY important character disappeared from the Book 2.

And then, because she stayed smarter, from Book 3.

He’s still massively important to the story.

And this morning, I was outlining him into the next scene, and realized it had been a while since I’d written him...

So I searched back through the first three novels.

And. Yeah. He was well-represented in one. Then gone completely in two and three.

TWO whole books.

So while I’m resting and relaxing over the weekend, I’m also going to be brainstorming how to make him relevant to her my MC’s more intelligent current activities, so I can put him back to work.

He’s crucial for the series. So I need to get this right. His being in those earlier two books HAS TO MATTER, because in this book, he has EPIC work to do.

So this can't just be folks bumping into him at WalMart, or the equivalent.

I'm so annoyed at myself.

But... it's FRIDAY. So having discovered my oversight, I'm now heading off to relax for a bit.

...^...^...^...^...

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That which cannot be unseen... 45,783 and 699 for the day.

written by Holly
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This was a tough scene to write. It was emotional, and painful, and just mean. But it allowed me to bring together two characters who need to build a relationship that's going to affect the rest of the novels...

And it sets me up to bring BACK a character who has been silent so far in this book, but who is crucial to the entire series, and to my MC.

I'm satisfied that I got this right, and I worked out what I'm going to be writing tomorrow. So... GOOD writing day.

Just not an easy one.

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