

# Discussing “Fun...With Teeth”

written by Holly

July 30, 2011

By Holly Lisle



Fun...With  
Teeth

Back when I first got published, I signed a lot of my books with a little extra exuberance—I drew a toothy smiley face and wrote in under it the words “Fun...With Teeth.”

Which was how I saw my fiction—I always wanted my readers to laugh, but I wanted some real edge in there, too.

Because, let’s face it. Sometimes I want to scare your socks of.

As the wear and tear of publishing (and some pretty hard times in my life) began to get to me, I lost some of that exuberance. All of my books have funny places in them, but with some of them, you have to wade through a whole lot of darkness to find it.

But when I decided to walk away from the meat grinder that is professional publishing, to deal directly with my readers, and to publish my own work, something strange happened. It was as if someone switched on a light inside me.

I was digging through my early works, the ones for which rights have reverted to me, and I discovered how funny some of

those early books were.

I'd forgotten. From cats with hands who liked to play with matches to winged horses with bad brakes to a Miata-driving, beer-swilling dragon to infesting the entire state of North Carolina with the denizens from Hell (to the serious detriment of Hell), I had a lot more fun back then.

I want to find my way back to that.

I'd like to have you share a part of my return to laughter. In my case, laughter with really big, sharp, pointy teeth.

In the next couple of months, as I start getting my reverted novels converted into digital and print versions and moved onto platforms like Kindle and iBooks and Nook, I'm going to put together a little private membership site especially for the folks who like my fiction. You'll have a bulletin board there where you can talk to each other, and tell me what characters you've missed and who you want to read about next, as well as a place where I'll post some snippets of work in progress, cover images, and news about each book as I release it.

I don't know what else I'll put in there. But it'll be free, and I'll make sure to include some nice surprises from time to time.

Here's the place to ask questions, offer your wish list, comment on my radical career change...

I'm glad you're here.

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# Heads Up on the Book That Changes Publishing

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**Last week, like a zillion other writers, I received notice of the publication of John Locke's *How I Sold 1 Million eBooks in Five Months*.**

I bought it.

It fits PERFECTLY with **How To Think Sideways** and **How To Revise Your Novel**.

I've been focusing heavily on teaching the traditional path to publishing because I'm good at it, I know how to do it, and I know how to show others how to do it. And one look at the Eureka! boards will show you my students are succeeding.

**BUT...self-publishing has been as good to me as professional publishing.** The only problem is, I can't teach what I do with self-publishing because my method starts with, "First, sell 32 novels to top New York Publishers..." and ends with writing **non-fiction**. Not exactly a path most of you have any interest in following.

Certainly not a way to sell your fiction yourself.

**EVERYTHING changed when I read John Locke's book.** He made himself into the first self-published million-seller, and then

he wrote a book on how he did it. It's a good book, and the parts he goes into detail on are genius.

But HE DOESN'T COVER EVERYTHING. He has whole vast swatches where he says "You're going to have to learn how to do this yourself."

I realized reading through what he's leaving you to figure out on your own that I ALREADY KNOW this. Every bit of it. The week six lessons are on developing your own personal genre, finding your target market, and writing books to that target. These are steps in Locke's process.

So the Walkthrough for WEEK 6 of How To Think Sideways—Finding Or Creating Your Market—is going to be **the step-by-step on what John Locke left out and said you were going to have to learn on your own.**

His book is available as an e-book via Kindle, Nook, and iBooks, and there are software readers out there you can get for your computer if you don't have one of these e-readers.

**Please understand that I CANNOT and WILL NOT reveal the parts of his system he covers in depth.**

He earned his \$4.99, and I'm not going to violate his copyright—so to get full benefit from Week 6, you're going to have to get a copy of John Locke's **How I Sold 1 Million eBooks in Five Months.**

This is about building your career yourself—controlling your fiction, making sure that you and your hard-earned career don't get dumped into professional publishing's "didn't do as well as we had hoped" bin after three books. **I've been there.** Remember? It sucks, and here's the thing.

# YOU DON'T EVER have to be there.

This is your path to full-time writing if you want it, and I'm going this route with some of my own work.

This is the book, the system, the process I've been waiting for. If it's what you've been waiting for, buy his book and get ready for Thursday, when the Week 6 Walkthrough Talkthrough: What John Locke DIDN'T Cover goes live and I walk you through the rest of how to make his system work for you.

Here are links to buy the book. They are NOT affiliate links. I want the man to keep full price on each sale—this book is that much of a game-changer:

Kindle:

<http://www.amazon.com/Sold-Million-eBooks-Months-ebook/dp/B0056BMK6K>

Nook:

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/how-i-sold-1-million-ebooks-in-5-months-john-locke/1103948392>

iBooks: From your i-device, go to iBooks and search "John Locke 1 million ebooks"

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