

## BREAKING INTO PRINT

### General Advice

Seeking to publish your first article/book? The items listed here provide some sage advice. Some material related to popular or inspirational writing is included, but the major emphasis is on scholarly or academic literature.

Belcher, Wendy Laura. *Writing Your Journal Article in 12 Weeks*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage, 2009.

Assumes you already have a paper or dissertation chapter and wish to revise it for publication as a journal article. Specific step by step instructions. See especially what it says about making an argument and creating a logical whole. Also deals with motivation.

Benjaminson, Peter. *Publish Without Perishing: a Practical Handbook for Academic Authors*. Washington, D. C.: NEA Professional Library, 1992. Z286 .S37 B46

Practical advice about agents, co-authors, reviewers, royalties, copyright, editors, etc. A quick read.

*The Christian Communicator*. Periodicals stacks.

Monthly. Practical advice on non-academic writing.

Derricourt, Robin. *An Author's Guide to Scholarly Publishing*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1996. Z286 .S37 D46

How to find the "right" publisher. Working with publishers, editors, marketing depts.

Fox, Mary F. *Scholarly Writing and Publishing: Issues, Problems, and Solutions*. Boulder, CO: Westview, 1985. Z286 .S37

"Addresses the behavioral, attitudinal, and social process of writing and publishing."

\*Germano, William P. *From Dissertation to Book*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2005.

Specific detailed advice on how to revise the dissertation for publication as a book. Also explains why the average dissertation should be published as one or more journal articles, not as a book.

\*Germano, William P. *Getting it Published: A Guide for Scholars and Anyone Else Serious about Serious Books*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2008. PN161 .G46 2008

Book publishing. Practical discussion of topics like what to expect from a publisher, submitting proposals, peer review, responding to editing, contracts, copyright, how to deliver a MS, etc.

Gump, Steven E. "Writing Successful Covering Letters for Unsolicited Submissions to Academic Journals." *Journal of Scholarly Publishing* 35:2 (Jan. 2004): 92-102.

Demonstrates how a cover letter can establish the author's credibility, help ensure that a publisher seriously considers the manuscript, and begin a positive rapport with the editorial staff.

Harman, Allan M. "Writing a Journal Article." *Reformed Theological Review* 67:3 (Dec. 2008): 146-48.

What the editor of *RTR* looks for in an article.

Huff, Anne S. *Writing for Scholarly Publication*. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications, 1999. PN146 .H84 1999

Advises the writer on both scholarly writing and publishing. Includes practical and often detailed advice by an experienced researcher.

Kostenberger, Andreas J. "Editorial." *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 44:1 (March 2001): 1-3.

What the editor of *JETS* looks for in an article.

\*Luey, Beth. *Handbook for Academic Authors*. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2002. PN146 .L84

An introduction to scholarly publishing covering topics such as choosing and working with a publisher, submitting journal articles for publication, and revising a dissertation for publication. Supplement with Jeffrey Cantor, *A Guide to Academic Writing* (Westport: Praeger, 1993). PN146 .C33. which distinguishes the process for journal articles, conference proceedings, books.

Luey, Beth, ed. *Revising Your Dissertation: Advice from Leading Editors*. Updated ed. Los Angeles: University of California Press, 2008. LB2369 .R49

Practical tips on how to rewrite your dissertation so it attracts a publisher.

Matthews, Janet R., and Stephen F. Davis. "An Introduction to Textbook Publishing: What We Did Not Learn in Graduate School." *Teaching of Psychology* 26, no. 1 (January 1999): 40.

Practical tips on how to approach textbook publishing.

Powell, Walter W. *Getting into Print*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1985. Z479 .P68

A published PhD dissertation on "how editors in scholarly publishing houses decide which books to publish."

Scharlemann, Robert P. "Publishing in Scholarly Journals: Advising Junior Colleagues." *Council on the Study of Religion. Bulletin* 15:3 (1984): 73, 75-76.

By former editor of JAAR. Notes that most articles are rejected. Suggests being focused, writing to advance rather than rehash knowledge, and carefully noting reviewers' comments.

Silvia, Paul J. *How to Write a Lot: A Practical Guide to Productive Academic Writing*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association, 2007.

Common sense encouragement and exhortation to set aside phoney excuses, schedule time for writing, and get busy. Also advice on how to write, submit, revise, and resubmit.

\*Silverman, Franklin H. *Authoring Books and Materials for Students, Academics and Professionals*. Westport, CN: Praeger, 1998. PN146 .S55

Selecting a publisher, preparing a proposal, negotiating a contract, marketing, taxes, etc.

*Writer's Digest*. Periodical stacks.

Monthly. Focuses on writing for popular secular markets. Sometimes addresses religious publishing. Ignores scholarly literature. Practical stuff: how to overcome writer's block, how to work with editors, how to generate fresh ideas, etc.

### **Publisher Specific Information**

Assuming you have already written an article or book, use these books to identify publishers who may be interested in your topic/manuscript. Information in these sources is not current. However, almost every journal and publisher has up-to-date editorial policies posted at a website. This includes information on what topics the publisher is interested in, how to submit a

manuscript, how to format the manuscript, etc. For example, find instructions for contributors to *JBL* at:

[http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/PublishingWithSBL/JBL\\_Instructions.pdf](http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/PublishingWithSBL/JBL_Instructions.pdf).

*Christian Writers' Market Guide*. Reference BV2369.5 .U6 S78

Annual. Lists book publishers alphabetically and topically. Tells where writers can find other helps.

\*Dawsey, James, ed. *A Scholar's Guide to Academic Journals in Religion*. Metuchen: Scarecrow, 1988. Bib-Center Z7751 .D33

Important. Lists 500+ scholarly journals. Describes each publication's audience, subject matter, and editorial policies. This is the place to discover, e.g., whether a given journal will consider an unsolicited manuscript. Indexed by subject and journal.

\*Farry, Mike. *The Directory of Publishers in Religion*. Atlanta, GA: Scholars Press, 1997. Bib-Center Z479 .D57

177 US publishers with extensive contact information, description of company mission, specialization etc. Many subject indexes.

Fieg, Eugene C. *Religious Journals and Serials: An Analytic Guide*. Metuchen, NJ: Scarecrow, 1988. Bib-Center Z7753 .F53 1988

Describes 328 scholarly and popular periodicals. Includes indexes for target audience and subject matter. Use this as a supplement to Dawsey.

\*Gentz, William H. and Sandra H. Brooks. *Religious Writers Marketplace*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1993. Bib-Center Z479 .R44

Coverage strongest for popular literature but academics should also consult this tool.

\**Writer's Market*. Reference PN161 .W83

Annual. "Where and how to sell what you write." A standard listing of [mostly] non-scholarly book and magazine publishers ranging from Moody Monthly to Playboy. Includes names of editors, types of desired literature, submission requirements, payment rates, etc.