



MEET YOUR FACULTY

Editors:

Sherri Langton ~ *Bible Advocate* and *Now What?* ~ Associate Editor

Sherri Langton, associate editor of the *Bible Advocate* magazine (baonline.org) and of *Now What?* e-zine (nowwhat.cog7.org), has worked in Christian publishing for more than 30 years. She is an award-winning freelance writer whose work has appeared in Focus on the Family publications, *In Touch*, *The Upper Room*, *Today's Christian Woman*, *Marriage Partnership*, *Discipleship Journal*, *Decision*, *LIVE*, and other publications. She writes on assignment for AG News and *Standard*. Sherri also has contributed to two Chicken Soup for the Soul volumes, *My Turn to Care*, *Teatime Stories for Women*, *Becoming a Godly Man*, *Faces of Faith*, *Hurray God!*, and *Understanding Depression and Suicide: Hope in the Darkness*. In addition, she teaches workshops at several Christian writers' conferences. Sherri lives in Denver, Colorado, and plays drums at her church.

Sherri is **looking for** nonfiction articles, personal experiences.

Sherri is **not looking for** fiction, devotions, sermons.

Sherri's Workshop: "What Magazine Editors Wish Writers Knew"

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**Linda Howard** ~ Tyndale House Publishers ~ Associate Publisher for Children and Wander

**Linda Howard** is Associate Publisher for Children and Wander (an imprint for young adult titles) at Tyndale House Publishers. She brings an extensive background working with children and children's products to her role, including teaching, marketing, and product development for several brands. Linda currently leads the kids' team, developing overall strategy for Tyndale Children and Wander, acquiring projects, and overseeing product development of all books. She has also worked in the marketing arena and built strong relationships with several of Tyndale's publishing partners. She has worked with best-selling authors Ann Voskamp, Mike Nawrocki, Amy Parker, Esau McCaulley, and more.

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Rachel Kirsch ~ Kregel Publications ~ Managing Editor

Learn more about Kregel: <https://www.kregel.com/>

Rachel is **looking for** nonfiction articles, personal experiences.

Rachel is **not looking for** fiction, devotions, sermons.

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**Jane Daly** ~ Author ~ Acquisitions Editor ~ Elk Lake Publishing, Inc.

After a successful career in banking, **Jane Daly** took the leap to pursue her true calling as a writer. Her words paint vivid pictures of heart-wrenching loss and the complexities of caring for

aging parents, but it is through her fiction that she truly shines. With 11 novels under her belt, Jane fearlessly tackles the issues facing Christian women in today's world. When she's not pouring her heart onto paper, she serves as an acquisitions editor at Elk Lake Publishing, Inc., carefully selecting stories to bring to life. Traveling is another passion of hers, often found riding alongside her husband in her motorhome, discovering new places and meeting new people, eager to hear their unique stories.

**Jane's Workshops:** "How to Write Faster" and "Writing Against the Wall"

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Sarah Brickens ~ Senior Associate Editor ~ *Brio* and *Focus on the Family* magazines

Sarah is a Senior Associate Editor for *Brio* and *FOTF* magazines and has edited and written numerous pieces for both magazines. In addition to her editorial work, Sarah is a Licensed Professional Counselor Candidate (LPCC) and has her master's degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. She lives in Colorado and in her free time, enjoys traveling, dancing, and experimenting with new recipes.

Sarah's Workshops: "Targeting Publications: *Brio* and *Focus on the Family* magazines" and "How to Write Feature Profile Articles"

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**Shadia Hrichi** ~ Representative ~ Leafwood Publishers

Shadia Hrichi is a passionate Bible teacher and award-winning author who loves seeing lives transformed by the power of God's Word. She holds a master's degree in biblical and theological studies as well as a master's in criminal justice. Shadia is the author of several Bible studies, including *RAHAB*, *TAMAR*, *HAGAR*, *LEGION*, and *WORTHY OF LOVE*, and the recipient of several literary awards. Shadia is often invited to speak at conferences, retreats, and other events and has served on faculty for a number of Christian Writers conferences. Currently residing in northern California, Shadia loves to visit the ocean each week for "a date with Jesus."

**Shadia's Coaching Class:** "Crafting Life-Changing Bible Studies"

**Shadia's Workshop:** "Ink to Impact: Amplify Your Message Through Speaking"

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Miralee Ferrell ~ Editor ~ Mountain Brook Ink

Miralee Ferrell is an award-winning, best-selling author of 27 books. Five of her books have aired on both UP TV and Hallmark on Demand as made-for-TV movies. Miralee is the owner and founder of Mountain Brook Ink, a traditional publisher with more than 140 titles, many of them award winners. She lives in the Pacific NW with her husband, two cats, and one very spoiled little dog. Miralee loves horseback riding and hiking with her married daughter. When not editing or writing, Miralee also does custom painting on Breyer horses and has a group on Facebook where she showcases her work, Miralee's Custom Breyers.

Website: <http://www.miraleeferrell.com>

Website for MBI: <http://www.mountainbrookink.com>

Instagram...Miralee_Ferrell_Author

Miralee is **looking for**: YA and adult spec fiction (sci-fi and fantasy only right now), suspense and cozy mystery (including romantic suspense), contemporary romance (with depth and heart), women's fiction (no human trafficking at this time), and historical (from 1900–1950 only at this time).

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**Taylor Bennett** ~ *Vesper* ~ Acquisitions Editor

**Taylor Bennett** is the founder and editor-in-chief of *Vesper*, a digital magazine startup founded in 2025. A veteran of the Christian publishing industry, Taylor holds a master of education in instructional design and has written six books and countless articles for publishers and publications such as Tyndale, *Brio*, *Clubhouse*, and *Evie*. Published quarterly, *Vesper* focuses on offering classic style advice, helping women live luxuriously on a budget, and promoting graceful, faith-filled modern living. Please be aware that *Vesper's* mission is to inspire and encourage women to live a life which is gracefully glamorous—built on faith and trimmed in fashion. Ensure that your content and tone are congruent with this before submission. Learn more at [www.readvesper.com](http://www.readvesper.com)

Taylor is **looking** for articles and short personal narratives about news and inspiration in the areas of faith, beauty, wellness, fashion, homemaking, cuisine, travel, entertainment, and poetry.

Taylor is **not looking** for: short stories/flash fiction or devotionals.

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W. Terry Whalin ~ Morgan James Publishing (*Pay-to-Publish*) ~ Acquisitions Editor

W. Terry Whalin understands both sides of the editorial desk—as an editor and a writer. He worked as a magazine editor, and his work has appeared in more than 50 publications. A former literary agent, Terry is an Acquisitions Editor at Morgan James Publishing.

He has written more than 60 books through traditional publishers in a wide range of topics from children's books to biographies to co-authored books. Several of Terry's books have sold more than 100,000 copies.

Terry's most recent book is *Book Proposals That Sell: 21 Secrets to Speed Your Success* (revised edition), which has more than 150 five-star reviews. He has also written *10 Publishing Myths: Insights Every Author Needs to Succeed* and *Billy Graham: A Biography of America's Greatest Evangelist* (all from Morgan James Publishing). Terry is a popular speaker and teacher at numerous writers' conferences. He lives in Southern California and has an active following on X.

Terry's Coaching Class: "Jumpstart Your Publishing Dreams"

Agents:

Nick Harrison ~ WordServe Literary – Literary Agent

Nick Harrison is a literary agent with WordServe Literary and the author of more than a dozen books, including *Magnificent Prayer*, *Power in the Promises*, and five books in the One-Minute® Prayer series, including *One-Minute Prayers® When You Need a Miracle*. Nick graduated from San Jose State University with a degree in English and a minor in journalism. While in college, Nick began working for the county library and there began his work with books, which would continue throughout his adult life. After graduation, Nick transitioned into bookstore management and eventually owned his own store. For 15 years Nick served as a senior editor at Harvest House Publishers, acquiring both fiction and nonfiction. Nick has a long history of championing new and unpublished writers. Nick and his wife, Beverly—an avid quilter—are the parents of three grown daughters and grandparents to two boys and two girls.

Nick is **looking for**: Well-written contemporary fiction (no historical or biblical fiction) Targeted devotionals, Nonfiction on prayer, Christian growth, answers to problems Christians face, gently political books. I would love to find a book proposal that is unique and surprises me, but isn't so out of the box as to scare away publishers.

Nick is **not looking for**: Prophecy, Gift books, children's books, personal experience books.

Nick's Workshop: "Troubleshooting Your Unsold Novel"

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### Linda Glaz ~ Linda S. Glaz Literary Agency – Owner and Agent

**Linda Glaz**, owner of Linda S. Glaz Literary Agency, understands authors because she is one. Married with three grown children, she also brags about six grands and two greats (and there might just be twin greats on the way). Needless to say, she *loves* books. Speaking about them at various conferences, she's always looking for that next great best-selling novel. She handles nonfiction and fiction in both the Christian and general markets (clean reads only). She loves suspense, historicals, and romance—sometimes all rolled into one.

Linda is **not looking for**: speculative, children's (including YA), or memoirs.

**Linda's Workshops**: "The Weight of the First Page," "Writing and Acting: They're Almost Twins!" and "Deep POV"

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Debbie Alsdorf ~ Books & Such Literary Management – Agent

[Debbie Alsdorf](#) is a best-selling author, speaker, and Bible teacher, who is known by many as a cheerleader of hope. Her mission is to help women live a better story by leading them to the heart of God's love and the truth of His Word. She has spent most of her adult life in Women's Ministry—leading, shepherding, and encouraging women. She has been on many popular podcasts, national television—appearing on The Today Show—and has spoken internationally. She helps others find their God-given path through being a literary agent with Books and Such Literary Management. She is the author of 16 books, with two new releases coming in 2026. She loves dance parties with the grandkids, silly fun, a good book, and a good chocolate donut.

Debbie is **looking for**: Christian Living with a bent toward spiritual growth and lifestyle change, Devotionals, Mental Health, Ministry-related, Inner healing and recovery, Health, Growth through hardships, Marriage and Family, Blended Family and Step-Parenting, Lifestyle (décor, home, diet, food), Purpose and Identity, Leadership and Discipleship

Debbie is **not looking for**: Fiction, Memoir, or Children's Books

Debbie's Workshop: "The Power of Story"

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### **Karen Neumair ~ Credo Communications – Senior Literary Agent and COO**

**Karen Neumair** is a Senior Literary Agent and the Chief Operating Officer of Credo Communications, where she assists authors with their book proposals and connects them with potential publishers. Since 2009, she has worked alongside nonfiction authors who write about Christian living and spiritual growth as well as topics geared toward women and families. In 2017, she expanded her representation to also include picture and board books.

**Workshops**: "Landing A Literary Agent" and "So You Want to Write a Children's Book"

### **Authors/Promoters/Mentors:**

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#### **Tara Johnson ~ Author**

**Tara Johnson** is an author and speaker and loves to write stories that help people break free from the lies they believe about themselves.

Tara's debut novel, *Engraved on the Heart* (Tyndale), earned a starred review from *Publishers Weekly* and was a finalist in the Carol and Christy awards. Tara has been published by Tyndale House, Annie's, and Guideposts. In addition to being published in a variety of digital and print magazines, she is a certified body language expert and has been on radio, television, and podcasts. She is a history nerd, especially regarding the Civil War, and adores making people laugh. She, her husband, and children live in Arkansas.

**Coaching Class**: "Body Language 101"

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Roseanna M. White ~ Author ~ Owner of Whitefire Publishing Group

Roseanna M. White is a best-selling, Christy Award-winning author who has long claimed that words are the air she breathes. When not writing fiction, she's homeschooling, running WhiteFire Publishing, designing book covers, and pretending her house will clean itself. In addition to her own slew of historical novels, Roseanna brings her passion for all things bookish to WhiteFire Publishing, which she founded with her husband in 2005. You can find out more about Roseanna as an author at www.RoseannaMWhite.com and WhiteFire publishing at www.WhiteFire-Publishing.com.

Workshops: “Two Four Roads Diverged”, “What Are You Looking At? A Fun-filled Tour of the Cover Design Process,” “Media Ready,” and “How to Do It All.”

KyLee Woodley ~ Podcaster~ The Historical Bookworm

KyLee Woodley teaches preschool at a lab school in Texas, where she lives with her husband of 18 years and their three teenage children. Having been raised in the Pacific Northwest and after spending part of her adult life in Texas, she has a deep respect for American values. She grew up in an impoverished area and began ministering to homeless, drug-addicted, and desperate people while in her teens. As a result, she feels a deep sense of concern for society’s unloved. This comes through in her stories, enriched with historical detail that shows how loving the unlovely is a timeless need. On weekends, KyLee cohosts and produces the *Historical Bookworm*—a steadily growing author-interview podcast for history lovers and readers of historical fiction.

Workshops: “Finding Ways to Build Your Platform before You're Published,” “Princess Short Story Challenge: How to Write a Short Story Romance That Will Knock Glass Slippers Off” and “The Science Behind a Broken Heart: How to Make the Third-Act Breakup Viscerally Authentic”

Karen Barnett ~ Author

Karen Barnett is an award-winning author of historical novels set in America’s national parks, including *Where Trees Touch the Sky* and *When Stone Wings Fly*. Before becoming a novelist, she worked as a park ranger and naturalist at Mount Rainier National Park and Oregon’s Silver Falls State Park. When she’s not writing, Karen enjoys hiking, photography, and exploring the beautiful places that inspire her stories. She lives in Albany, Oregon, with her husband and their two dachshunds, Montee and Fausto, who ensure she never writes for too long without a break.

Workshop: “Storytelling Techniques from Disney and Pixar”

Sarah Sundin ~ Author

Sarah Sundin is an ECPA-bestselling author of World War II novels, including *Midnight on the Scottish Shore* and *Embers in the London Sky*. Her novel *The Sound of Light* was a 2024 Carol Award finalist, *Until Leaves Fall in Paris* received the 2022 Christy Award, and *The Sky Above Us* received the 2020 Carol Award. A mother of three adult children, Sarah lives in Southern California and teaches Sunday school and Bible studies. She serves as program director of the West Coast Christian Writers Conference and enjoys speaking for church, community, and writers’ groups.

Coaching Class: “For the Long Haul: Career Planning and Goal Setting”

Julie Nowacki ~ Promoter & Coach

As a Kingdom Connector, [Julie Nowacki](#) bridges communities and fosters relationships that inspire spiritual growth. Known for her strategic thinking and visionary leadership, Julie Nowacki empowers others to pursue their God-given potential. She is a licensed minister with Renaissance Coalition and has an extensive network of relationships and experience. Julie honed her sought-after promotion skills through decades of discovery and work in the creative arts industry. Since the late 1990s, she has worked in artist management for singer/songwriters, consulted with media companies and film producers, performed event planning for authors and speakers, coordinated travel schedules, and booked media interviews. She has performed stage coordination, communication coaching, and strategic planning to develop and deploy life messages. Julie is a unique networking lightning rod, and she is passionate about bringing heaven to earth through revival and reformation.

She is a devoted wife and mother and has been married to her husband, Wayne, since 2004. They reside in Junction City, Oregon, with their daughter, Audrey Joy, who is their shining star. Julie has a heart for service and a mission to impact lives by helping to navigate the intersection of faith and community with grace and purpose.

Paid Critiques

Fee: \$30

Back by popular demand! Attendees who choose this option may submit up to five pages to be critiqued by their chosen mentor. They will meet for thirty minutes during the conference to mentor you and review their recommendations. This is an amazing opportunity to take your writing to the next level.

Critique Partners Include:

Sarah Sundin	https://www.sarahsundin.com/
Kristen Johnson aka Kristen Gwen	https://kristengwen.com/ (children's only)
Roseanna White	https://www.roseannamwhite.com/
Julie Bonn Blank	https://juliebonnblank.com (no picture books)
Lindsay A. Franklin	https://www.lindsayafranklin.com/
Melanie Dobson	https://melaniedobson.com/
Jane Daly	https://janesdaly.com/
Mary Ann Hake	https://maryannhake.com/
Tara Johnson	https://tarajohnsonstories.com/
Taylor Bennett	https://breakfastattaylors.com/
Jesse Rivas	https://abovethesun.org/