

 Chattanooga
Writers' Guild

Your monthly news & updates

Greetings, fellow writers! As we find ourselves in the spookiest time of the year, I, like many of you, probably, have been reading a lot of scary stories. My favorite kind are the ones that make me feel off-balance the whole way through, before... BAM! ...revealing the sinister truth at the very end. The *not knowing* is what terrifies me. *What is this presence in the house? Who is stalking her? Where did everyone go?*

Likewise, when I'm writing, the *not knowing* is the best part! When we sit down with our plots and characters, we usually have at least a small inkling of an idea of where we want the writing to go. But how often does the story come alive, grab the steering wheel and veer into another direction? Our sweet little schoolteacher stops seeing the point in using euphemisms. Our honeymooning couple both reveal themselves to be serial killers who kill on their wedding night. The retired engineer kayaking solo down the Amazon in your man-against-nature epic is beset by a troupe of laser-gun-toting space monkeys who take him prisoner and force him to build a rocket so they can fly back to their home planet because suddenly *that is the only story line that makes sense*.

One day, your characters won't need you to dictate their lives anymore. Your job will merely be to sit down, pop open your laptop, and let them manipulate your fingers however they choose as they tell their own story. You have no idea what you're doing or where you're going, but it's quite the enjoyable ride, isn't it?

Let me know what you think by sending your questions and comments to NoogaNewsletter@gmail.com

Chattanooga Readers and Writers Fair

Planning for the CRWFair of 2019 has begun! If you would like to volunteer and be a part of this wonderful program celebrating Chattanooga's readers and writers, send an email to readnwritefair@gmail.com, or contact one of the fine people seen working hard in this picture: Ray Zimmerman, Mark Anderson, Sherry Poff, and Susan Spurgeon.



Word to Know: *Vapid*, adj.

Dull. Uninspiring.

The vapid lecturer lost the attention of his students.

October Monthly Meeting

If you missed Michael Kobernus's informative presentation on Self-Publishing for Serious Writers, you can download his PowerPoint presentation at <https://driven2write.com/about/presentations/>.



Fifth Tuesday at Star Line Books!

Come to Star Line Books to meet the winners of the Chattanooga Writers' Guild 2017 writing contest and hear readings of poetry, fiction, and nonfiction. This is an excellent opportunity to meet local authors, learn more about the Writers' Guild and explore Chattanooga's independent book store! **Tuesday, October 30, 2018; 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM**

Accolades for one of our members!

Cynthia Young has published a chapbook entitled *Migration*, due out November 16. For more information and to order your copy, please visit her website by clicking [here](#). Congratulations, Cynthia!

If you have accolades or news you'd like our members to know about, send an email to NoogaNew sletter@gmail.com.



Mad Blab

Here's how to play: Speak the following nonsensical sentences aloud and try to guess the name of the famous literary work you're saying. Answers at the bottom.

La fin that I'm huff call hair rah

Awe ring gull lent I'm

Loaned summed of

Upcoming Writing Events and Contests

The Georgia Writers Association has announced their **Red Clay Writers Conference**, to be held on November 10, 2018, from 9AM to 5PM at KSU Center, Kennesaw, GA. Keynote: Janisse Ray.

Tickets: www.redclayconference.org

Sequestrom is holding its third annual New Writer Awards for writers of short fiction, nonfiction, and

poetry. Short stories and essays up to 12,000 words and poems up to 50 lines (up to three poems per submission). The contest will award over \$500 in prizes plus publication to winners and runners-up.

Deadline October 15th. Complete guidelines here: <https://www.sequestrum.org/contests>

Mad Blab Answers: Love in the Time of Cholera, A Wrinkle in Time, Lonesome Dove

STAY CONNECTED

