

2 (+ 14) Easy Steps to Becoming a Writer

Have you always thought being a writer was really cool? Fantasized about being stereotyped as living in a messy room and working out of cafes, being a recluse yet writing mostly about human affairs? Wanted to be one of those people who observe the bustling world, occasionally snatching pieces of inspiration from your surroundings like pulling out threads from a fabric that flows across your body? Well these days anyone can do it, and if anyone can do it, surely you can, too!

Becoming a writer must be done properly, but luckily, it is easy. There are only two steps.

1. Prepare to write
 - a. Read a book. It may seem paradoxical, but in order to be a better writer you have to *read* more.
 - b. Attend a writer's workshop. *This* is where you will hone your craft. Were you really thinking of just sitting down, cutting the crap, and writing whatever dribble your brain might spew? Good thing you read this before you tried that.
 - c. Join an online writers' community. Being connected is key.
 - c.i. Fill out your profile so that people know what you're about and nobody tries to copy your *je ne sais qois*.
 - c.i.1. Delve into your previous works to look up all your credentials
 - 1.c.i.1.a. Reread previous works to pull out those choice quotes to wave as your flag
 - c.i.2. Upload your photo
 - 1.c.i.2.a. Look through your entire photo collection to find the one that really captures the "true you"
 - 1.c.i.2.b. Look through your facebook photos to see if maybe there is one there that does it better. After all, facebook knows you better than you know yourself. It knew you wanted a Hemingwrite before you did.
 - c.i.2.b.i. Look through your friends' photos to see if maybe you weren't tagged in an offhand photo where you're at the edge of a party. It would perfectly showcase your wallflower quality.
 - c.ii. Upload some writing samples and wait for feedback. In the meantime, read through other people's stuff and work on your critical feedback skills.
 - d. Look up writers' conferences in the area that you might attend but probably won't
 - e. Make sure you are fed, watered, and excreted before you sit down to work so that you will have minimal interruptions
 - f. Check facebook *one last time* so that you won't be tempted to do it while you write.
2. Write.