

# Author Bio Worksheet

Writers like to tell stories but sometimes hesitate to tell their own stories. The key to getting over this shyness is to understand that the author bio does not exist so you can tell everyone how great you are. Its purpose is to show others a little bit about you so they'll feel they could know and like you. Here are some of the things your author bio can contain:

Real name: \_\_\_\_\_

Pen name, if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_

Genre(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Present occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Past occupation, if relevant: \_\_\_\_\_

How your occupations inform your writing (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Life experiences that have influenced your writing (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Writing credits: \_\_\_\_\_

Writing awards: \_\_\_\_\_

Writing groups and associations: \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer work, including church duties: \_\_\_\_\_

One hobby: \_\_\_\_\_

Another hobby: \_\_\_\_\_

Family: \_\_\_\_\_



## Very short bio

Use this template to construct your first draft. Aim for about 50 words. Take time to rewrite. Your author bio should not only state your achievements, it should show your voice.

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(Full Name) is an (occupation) in (City, State). (Pronoun) writes (genre of work).

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(First Name) was previously (occupation), which gives (pronoun) great insight into

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(subject matter of book). (First Name)'s (type of work) (title) was published by

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(name of publisher or periodical or website) in (month and year).

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(Pronoun) is a member of (name of writing group or other applicable organization).

If your work experience isn't relevant, include church work, volunteer duties, or a hobby. Expand this up to 80 words for a query letter and up to a page for your proposal if your writing credits warrant it.



## Kristen Stieffel — Writing Coach

My mission is to help writers polish their work till it shines and to help nonwriters get ideas out of their heads and into print. I'm a member of the Florida Writers Association, the Editorial Freelancers Association, American Christian Fiction Writers, and the Christian Editor Network. Find me on LinkedIn, Facebook, or Twitter.

I hope this worksheet helped you. Please send me your writing-related questions. I'll answer directly and on my blog, so please let me know if I may use your name.

