

Funds for Writers

Hope Clark produces one of my favorite websites (www.fundsforwriters.com), and I love her newsletters and her blog (<http://hopeclark.blogspot.com>). I've been a subscriber to Funds for Writers (free newsletter) and Total Funds for Writers (subscription only, \$15 a year for 26 issues) for many years and am always amazed at Ms. Clark's ability to put out fresh content.

There are several things I appreciate about the newsletters: they have a short editorial piece by Ms. Clark, a guest post, contests, grants, and job listings (only in the Total Funds for Writers). I have entered many of the contests and queried several magazines, agencies, and publishing houses, and have met with some success in doing so. It was in one of the Funds for Writers newsletters that I found my publisher, Musa Publishing.

I have learned much through her struggles to get her books published, and have cheered her on from the sidelines. She makes it clear that writing is a tough business, and doesn't hesitate to share her ups and downs. I love her honesty: when she feels she has to take the writer by the shoulders and shake a little to get her point across, she does so without apology.

What I think draws me to Ms. Clark the most, is her obvious love of writing and her desire to help other writers succeed. She is genuine in her care, and I feel like she's my friend even though I've never met her. I know about her garden, her chickens, her children, and her dogs. I know what she thinks about those who try to shortcut the writing process and those who think they can self-publish and be an overnight sensation. I also know what she thinks about critique groups and public speaking.

Ms. Clark has worked hard to build her platform and her following, and she deserves to be recognized year after year in *Writer's Digest* as having one of the top websites. Her success has taken time and patience, but she is an example of persistence paying off.

I definitely recommend both of her newsletters and her blog to every writer—I look forward to seeing her name pop up in my Inbox week after week.