

THE BOOK YOU SHOULD WRITE

a) If you could only pick one favorite work of fiction, what would it be?

b) You tend to read what genre or type of books the most?

c) Do you find it more natural to write about your characters in the abstract so you can cover many characters or focus on one or two? Choose and circle.

d) What is your favorite talent or ability that you have? What else do you like about yourself?

e) What do you wish you could change about yourself? Put your first thought here.

f) What do you hate with a passion? What are some of your pet peeves?

g) What do you dream about for the future? Or what do you see as the perfect life?

You should write an (a) type book, but in the (b) genre. You will use third person voice if you like many characters or first person or 'through their eyes' POV if you prefer only one or two characters. Your primary character has your favorite talent, but even more so. However, he or she also has what you wish you could change about yourself, but even more so. His/her main adversary want what you hate with a passion to control the world and will love your pet peeves. But against all odds, your main character will work toward what your dream and that perfect future.

This exercise is designed to help you see your natural bent and how you write/think.

1. Pick a sentence.

- a. History dictates that man will repeat.
- b. The phantasm defied description.
- c. It might be difficult to choose.
- d. Alice wondered how on earth the Rabbit got through.

2. Complete a sentence.

- a. _____ cannot be _____ when you _____.
- b. The _____ infuriated _____ _____ _____ begin to respond.
- c. A little _____ _____ improve _____ _____.
- d. _____ _____ _____ easy.

3. Edit a sentence

- a. The dog lay down to lie as sleeping dogs do.
- b. Jabberwocky is an eloquent perusement on the condition of man.
- c. One won an eye's I, said me, by and bye.
- d. It mayn't make cents but you can help but chuckle.

4. Pick a book.

- a. A Christmas Carol
- b. The Hobbit
- c. The Gospel of Luke
- d. War and Peace

5. Write a book title. It can't exist to the best of your knowledge.

6. Write an opening line that would intrigue you.

7. Write an ending line that would feel satisfying.

8. Describe your favorite type of content in a novel or movie. What scenes or chapters move you the most?

9. Pick three adjectives to describe yourself.

10. Pick three adjectives how you believe God would describe you.

11. How would your neighbor or pastor describe you in three adjectives, without using physical modifiers?

12. Have you got anything out of this exercise? _____

If so, what?

Each of knows ourselves better than we would care to admit. The previous exercise, as silly as parts of it are, is designed to help you focus on yourself as a God-given blessing, uniqueness, etc. It is critical, as well, to know our weaknesses. As we write, our characters should reflect the strengths and weaknesses we know so well. On a personal level, seeing our strengths can remind us that we are created in God's image and that He designed us to pass on those strengths. Seeing our weaknesses can increase our empathy for all humans who struggle against sin.

List 5 of your strengths, as they relate to writing, below:

If God would talk audibly to you, what would He tell you to do about those strengths in 2017? List one example to share and two others for your personal benefit.

We CAN do ALL* things through Christ who strengthens us!

(*All most definitely includes our writing!)