How to Make Money Writing

John Hope

The Story of the A-B-C-D "Hot Dog" Friends



Amy



Betty



Carol



Australia

Debbie



Amy's Hot Dog Business



- Problem #1: Hot dogs contains rat droppings
- Solution #1: Amy upgrades to all-beef hot dogs
- Problem #2: People of India don't like beef
- Solution #2: Amy switches to all-turkey hot dogs



Amy's Hot Dog Business



Amy's Lessons

- Quality
- Know YourCustomers



Betty's Hot Dog Business



- Problem #1: Nepalese people don't know what hot dogs are
- Solution #1: Betty tours the country, sharing hot dogs and hot dog information with lots of people
- Problem #2: Nepalese people must hike the Himalayan Mountains to buy hot dogs



Nepal

 Solution #2: Betty opens a chain of hot dog restaurants throughout the country

Betty's Hot Dog Business



Betty's Lessons

- Advertising / Networking
- Make Product
 Accessible



Nepal

Carol's Hot Dog Business



- Problem: Australians LOVE hot dogs so much, Carol keeps running out
- Solution: Carol sets up a network of hot dogproducing factories and keeps a daily quota of hot dogs



Australia

Carol's Hot Dog Business



Carol's Lesson

 Work Hard to Produce



Debbie's Hot Dog Business





- **Problem:** Initially discovers there are not too many people to buy hot dogs at the North Pole.
- Solution: She gets lucky.
 Christmas elves pop out and buy lots of hot dogs.
 Santa gives Debbie a multimillion dollar contract to produce hot dogs for his elves for the next 100 years.

Debbie's Hot Dog Business



Debbie's LessonBe Lucky



Hot Dog Friends



- Lessons Learned
 - Quality
 - ► Know Your Customers
 - Advertising / Networking
 - ▶ Make Product Accessible
 - Work Hard to Produce
 - Be Lucky

Who Makes Money in Writing Industry?

- Well-Established Writers
 - People who already have a fan-base and bestsellers
- Editors / Publishers
 - Those who get paid to help writers and/or make money from writers
- Specialized and peripheral companies
 - Printers, advertisement agencies, lawyers, online stores

Make Money Writing

- ► To make money, handle writing as a business
 - Art = Creative, From the Heart, Warm
 - Business = Organized, Wise Discussion-Making, Cold



How to Run a Writing Business

- Step 1: Create a business plan
 - Outlines how business will be handled
 - Plan for near-term investment and longterm gain
 - Organizes yourself
 - ► What are you planning to do?
 - ► How are you going to do it?
 - ► Short term / long term goals?
 - Weaknesses / Strengths?
 - ► Look for "Start Up Business Plan"

How to Run a Writing Business

Business Plan Example

- John's Goals
 - Artist Goal
 - ► Financial Goal
- ▶ John's Jobs
 - Writer
 - Publisher
 - Speaker
- ▶ John's Plan
 - Schedule DEADLINES
 - Budget
 - Structure

How to Run a Writing Business

- ► Next, Learn from the Hot Dog Friends
 - Quality
 - Know Your Customers
 - Advertising / Networking
 - Make Product Accessible
 - Work Hard to Produce
 - Be Lucky

Writing Business: Quality

- Writing Critique Groups
- Classes / Writing Workshops
- ▶ Talk to / Meet Good Writers
- Write and Re-write

► READ, READ, <u>READ</u> Inspiration could come from anywhere

Example:



Writing Business: Know Your Customers

- Read books in your genres
- ► Talk to / Meet people who read the books you write
 - ► What does your audience want?



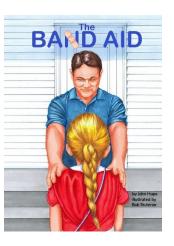
Kid-Friendly
Cuteness

Series of Stories

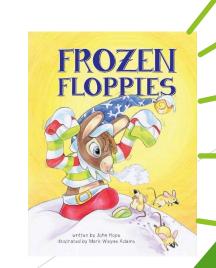
Make Your Own Floppy

Game /
Merchandising

Example:



- VS -

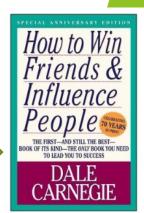


- ▶ Website / Blog
 - ► Need a place to send people
 - Website Hosting (requires some web knowledge)
 - ► Wordpress, Blogger (Google)
 - Author Central (Amazon)
- Advertising companies
 - ► Ads average 10% effective

- Freebees promoting / advertising you and your books
 - Bookmarks, Flyers, Calendars (Uprinting.com, etc)
 - Coloring pages, word searches
- Promotions
 - ► Free / Discounted books
 - Attend book fairs / other events -Book Prizes

- Book Reviews
 - Invaluable way of drawing attention to your book
 - Notable reviewers
 - Local / National Newspaper, Goodreads.com, etc
 - ▶ Give out copies of books with the promise they'd write a review
- Writing Contests / Awards
 - Sometimes hard to win / attend
 - Can be very attractive if you win

- Mailing list
 - ▶ iContact.com, MailChimp.com
 - Start a list by asking friends / existing fans
 - ► Give option to opt out
- Periodical newsletter
 - ► Email / website
- Attend writers conferences / book conferences
 - Meet people



World's Economy



Buy Low, Sell High

God's Economy



The More You Give, the More You Get

Networking

- VS -

Writing Business: Make Product Accessible, 1

- Again, need a website
 - List your books, links to read / buy
 - Add "Contact" page to allow people to ask questions / requests
- Hardback, paperback, eBook, audiobook
 - ▶ The more formats the better

Writing Business: Make Product Accessible, 2

- Distribution (publishers' superpower)
 - Bookstores
 - ▶ Big chains are dying
 - ► Local, small shops are not
 - Amazon and Barnes and Noble websites
 - CreateSpace, Kindle Direct Publishing, Nook Press

Writing Business: Make Product Accessible, 3

- Book Fairs
 - Check for invites for local authors
 - Never hurts to ask
- Book Signings
 - Find locations will a lot of traffic
 - ► Find your audience
- Give Presentations
 - Offer signed copies of all books purchased

Writing Business: Work Hard to Produce, 1

- Set daily word count goals
 - ► Keep a "Word Count" log / journal
- Balance with attending conferences / meeting with friends

Frank hated Brent's guts. Fortunately, the brotherly hate was mutual.

Rigid and awk ward, Brent ran alongside Frank and Buddy, peer Bithlo College cross country runners. They clambered down the Chuluota trails in their early morning "easy run" at 8:30 per mile, a crawling pace. Fortunately, Frank and Buddy appeared to be just as stiff-legged that morning. The path was barely wide enough for two runners side-by-side so they ran single file, Brent sandwiched between older brother Frank in front and roommate Buddy behind. Like the dirt road heading into the trailhead, cathedral walls of trees stood solid on both sides, peaking overhead, and extending straight ahead into infinity. The late summer Florida humidity hung heavy in the air, laboring their breathing. The sky was barely visible; the morning, purplish light was still too dim to see much of anything.

Tucked within Brent's right hand he held an Ewok, a small, plastic action feature. The Ewok's







Writing Business: Work Hard to Produce, 2

- Find a writing spot
- Don't wait for inspiration
 - Let feelings follow actions
- Finish as quickly as possible



Writing Business: Be Lucky

- ALL successful writers have a lucky break story
- Try and try and try and try
 - "You miss a hundred percent of the shots you don't take." - Wayne Gretzky



How to Make Money Writing

Insert inspirational story here





John Hope Writing

www.johnhopewriting.com

john@johnhopewriting.com

How to Make Money Writing

Questions?



