

Monarch e-News



Monterey Bay Chapter RWA
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ABOUT US

Monterey Bay Chapter is affiliated with Romance Writers of America, headquartered in Houston, Texas. RWA® is a non-profit professional and educational association of romance writers and other publishing industry professionals. www.rwanational.org

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Vice President/Communications: FINISHED!

by Christie Maurer

This month's program, **Develop Your Pitch**, comes at an opportune time. I just finished my WIP. You'd think I'd be celebrating, but actually it's a bit of a letdown.

For over three years I've looked forward to the daily adventures of my hero's journey to a long-lost heretical shrine. It's stretched me as a person and as a writer. I had to come up with a rationale on why writing is evil when one of my characters believed it. I've learned to find and deal with conflict in a way I never could. I've played god(dess), rerouted rivers, moved mountains and lakes, and invented three religions, along with their customs, beliefs, and ceremonies. What a thrill when an old shaman appeared on the page and transformed my short story into a novel. Then, at the climax, "the six priests" got names, functions, and individual personalities. I've lived with my troubadour hero long enough that he started to declaim poetry in my head while I was washing dishes. And he challenged me--I, who don't know spit about poetry--to dig into Bertran of Ventadorn's poems so my hero could sing parts to the heroine. I even devised a pseudo-Norse epic for the shaman while listening to a CD of the Edda. Then I had to take an on-line course in Viking history and myth to discover the culture that goes with it.

Now the adventure is over--or in hiatus until the next book. I have to step outside my world, dip my toe into the water, and find a home for my newborn baby.

Editor's Note

by Christie Maurer

I thought my role as editor was to facilitate other people's work, but this month I donned a new hat and came up with a presidential message. Thanks to Joan Powell for faithfully contributing her book reviews. The first Editor Link article on Pitching goes with this month's program. The second article has us find and correct common errors in English. The third discusses some helpful tech tools for writers, and the fourth gives preliminary steps in designing a website.

WIP Article: Don't want to join the Chapter's Blog? Then write a WIP article. Did you finish a scene? A book? Write a (or lots of) paragraph(s)? Find a research source? If "life" has gotten in the way, or you're ready to quit--share that, too. **Deadline: May 20** - maure4cr@baymoon.com

May 1 Meeting - Develop Your Pitch

Monterey Bay Chapter's next meeting is **May 1, 2010**, 9:30 a.m. at the **Watsonville Hospital Senior Circle Room**, 75 Nielson Street, Watsonville, CA 95076, (831) 724-4741.

Directions:

Exit Highway 1 at Airport Boulevard, go left onto Airport Boulevard. Nielson is the second street to the right. Link to map: http://www.montereybayrwa.com/special_location_maps.htm

We will have directions posted in the lobby. For caffeine addicts--there's a coffee kiosk on the way.

Program:

9:30 a.m. critiques: First-come/First serve: Bring up to 3 double-spaced pages--copies for everyone--for feedback.

The Perfect Pitch. Bobbi Boes, screenwriting instructor at Monterey Peninsula College, will teach us how to develop the perfect pitch. She holds a B.A. in Creative Writing and a M.F.A. in Film and Screenwriting from UCLA. Having written and produced two seasons of a National Endowment and Student Emmy award winning television magazine program for UCLA in addition to her commercial music video credit. Boes has worked as a script doctor on several independent projects, including the recently released April Moon. Boes is a recipient of the Samuel Goldwyn Writing Award for her screenplay, Sacramento; in addition to receiving the Bridget and Bob Colleary Award for Best Romantic Comedy, as well as the Stephen Gershenson and a Screenwriting Diversity Award for the screenplay, White Trash Cooking.

Sister Chapter Meetings

Check out the websites for what's happening at nearby Chapters. They have some terrific programs:

- ♦ **San Francisco** - <http://www.sfarwa.com/>
- ♦ **Silicon Valley** - <http://www.svrwa.com/>

Website and Blog

Take a look at our Chapter website: <http://www.MontereyBayRWA.com> Our webmistress, Carolyn Comings, has also created a Chapter Blog. Read the posts on <http://montereybayrwa.blogspot.com/> If you haven't yet joined, e-mail her for an invitation - ccomings at redshift.com

2010 Meeting Schedule

Highlights include:

- ♦ **Aug. 7 - Potluck - Report on National**
- ♦ **Dec. - Seasonal Party - Potluck and gift exchange.**

Pitch Perfect: How to Hook an Editor

by **Angie Fox**

(This article first appeared in the March edition of Rumbled Sheets, the newsletter for MORWA.)

Want to stand out from the crowd? You'll need a hook. If you handle it right, this will be your dream editor or an agent's first impression of your book. It's what sets you and your work apart from everyone else.

Sound good? It is. When your hook is both strong and memorable, you'll have that editor thinking about your book and anticipating it long after your initial meeting is over. So what makes up a good hook? Simplicity. You don't need to recite a paragraph-long pitch to an editor. You don't need to wow them with every nuance of the conflict between your hero and heroine. That comes later. What you want to do first is get them interested in you and your book's premise.

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Pitch Perfect . . . (continued)

For example, the hook for my first book (my entire series, really) is the gang of geriatric biker witches. When anyone asks me about the Accidental Demon Slayer series (and now its booksellers), I tell them it's about a gang of geriatric biker witches, oh and a reluctant demon slayer.

End of story. Either they get the hook or they don't. You'll know right away whether you're a good match for an editor, or in my case, potential readers.

So many times, authors will confuse their romantic conflict with their hook. It's tempting to tell an editor that you've written the most touching love story of the year, or a suspenseful thrill ride that will keep readers up all night. That's all fine. In fact, that's what you want your books to do. But it's not your hook.

To find your book's hook dig deep. Ask yourself:

- ◆ What is it that makes my story completely unique?
- ◆ If I could tell an editor or an agent one thing about my book, what would it be?
- ◆ What impression do I want to leave with my readers after they've read my work?

Another worthwhile exercise is to look at the books that you've bought. What about each of them hooked you? Chances are, it's also what made that editor buy.

Sometimes, a hook is worked right into the title of a book. Think of Sally MacKenzie's series: *The Naked Duke*, *The Naked Earl*, *The Naked Viscount*. Or it can be communicated in a simple sentence, like Colleen Gleason used for her *Gardella Vampire* series. "It's like *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* in Regency England."

Editors love strong hooks because it lets them know immediately whether your book will be a good fit for their line. And after they offer you that cushy contract, your publishing house will use those hooks to sell your work. Everything from Colleen Gleason's covers to her official tagline, "belles, balls, beaux... and stakes?" fit with her initial hook.

It can be hard to find the hook in our own work, simply because we are so engrossed in our own stories. This is never an easy exercise, especially the first few times. But pulling back, discovering what makes your book unique and then being able to communicate that can make the difference between an engaging pitch and an unforgettable one.

Angie Fox is the New York Times bestselling author of the

Accidental Demon Slayer series. While researching her books, Angie has ridden with Harley biker gangs, explored the tunnels underneath Hoover Dam and repelled down a wall. She thinks pitching is way harder than all of that.

Common Errors in English - According to Suzanne

by Suzanne Forrest

(This article first appeared in the February 2010 edition of the *Writer's Saddle*, the newsletter for the Calgary (CaRWA) chapter.)

[Editor's Note: None of the underlining or boldface came through in the posting. -CEM]

◆ The following excerpt is a tongue-in-cheek interactive guide aimed, I hope, to improve your writing skills—or at the very least, put a smile on your face. Some bolded words are common mistakes I see in print, be that on the internet or in a published book, and some I have used correctly. So take scrap paper, and substitute what you think is correct. After, scroll down to the bottom for a BRIEF explanation. No cheating ladies and Rob. J

Wow! February is here all ready, and you wonder why your still not published. Could grammatical errors and misspelt words be the culprit? The sharp-eyed editor knows the difference between good and poor writing, unless he has extreme left views and chooses creativity over correctness or gender-neutrality over the rule of singularity.

The English language is complex, to say the least, and is ever evolving. Also, our everyday speech is different than written work, but apparently not so for blogs. Text messaging, the internet and it's myriad social networking sites are, in large part, responsible for rapidly changing every facet of communication in the 21st century. "What are you really saying?" you ask. Alright, I'll tell you. In speech, "all right" and "alright" sound the same. But which is correct in written form? I plead the Fifth till the end of this piece. Wait, can a nonamerican do that? Irregardless, I just did, and you still have to wait for the answers.

So, should we write like we speak? Well we shouldn't, however, someone working for the Oxford English Press thought it their scholarly duty to make "twitter" a verb. That means a "tweet" would be considered a noun?? (Or is it the other way around?) For crying out loud! Now how do I keep my kids on the grammatically straight and narrow, especially since they unfriended me? Great jargon for the average teenager, I suppose, but I rue the day this technical neologism lands in the OED.

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Common Errors in English (continued)

And how is one to keep pace with words that were once hyphenated but are now considered one word? Or two words which now have a hyphen between? With regards to that, some would say, "Out with the old, in with the new!" And some Scottish scholars are up in arms over that particular debate. I wait with bated breath while the English and the Scots wage war over the issue. Meanwhile, this Irish-born girl will save her pennies in order to purchase new reference books, and try to keep up with the ever-changing English language.

The correct usage is underlined.

♦ All ready—when used as an adjective already is written as one word, rather than "all ready."

♦ Your should be written as you're (you are). But "your" is seen more and more on internet social sites.

♦ Misspelt—misspelled words will be the bane of your existence, so keep your spell check on.

♦ He refers to "editor", which is a singular noun. So yes, he or she, not "they" is used.

♦ Different than....The more common structure in the UK and North American would be to say different from. While "different than" is exclusively N. American. Some critics say both are correct, but this is how I look at it: There are no degrees of "different"—you either are different or you are not. Whichever structure you choose, the key is to be consistent and do not alternate the two.

♦ It's means it is. "The internet and its"...is possessive in this case, and does not have an apostrophe.

♦ Alright is still written as two words—"all right."

♦ Non is usually attached WITHOUT a hyphen, except with words beginning with "n" or a capital letter...non-American.

♦ Irregardless is the result of confusion between regardless and irrespective.

♦ However does not join two sentences. However, it does contrast two opposing ideas within a sentence. So, the way I wrote it is incorrect.

♦ Their refers to the "someone" in the sentence, which is singular. Therefore his/her follows, not their—I don't care if you think it is not PC, it's not GC (grammatically correct.)J Although Samuel Johnson, if alive today, might take issue with me on this eighteenth century subject-verb rule.

♦ With regards to...It should read with regard to, or as regards. Better yet would be to use the word

about, and do away with the wordiness regarding regards.

♦ Bated is correct in the sense I used it, unless you plan to bait fish while you wait for the verdict on hyphenated words.

♦ Meanwhile is also correct. It is an adverb, although it is often mixed up with the noun meantime, as in "in the meantime".

*My little list does not cover even three-quarters of common errors, and although there are many guides on the market, I cannot advise you on which to choose. I am "old school," a "stickler," slightly right in my views on grammar. However, you cannot go wrong if you invest in a few reference books—left or right. J In the meantime, good luck with your writing.

Tech Talk: Spring into Creativity

by Sandra D. Coburn

(This article first appeared in the April 2010 issue of The Scarlett Letter, newsletter of the Tampa Area Romance Authors (TARA) Kristi Lewandowski, Editor.)

April is all about the new—new growth, new birth, new ideas... creativity. Here are some low-tech and hi-tech tools and gadgets to inspire growth and creativity in your writing.

♦ **Digital Voice Recorder** – These tiny recorders are a terrific tool for brainstorming sessions with your critique partners. Set one in the middle of the table and start talking. You can easily upload sound files to your computer and share them with your partners. Carry one with you so you can work on filling plot holes while you wait in the carpool line. Note—if you use your voice recorder in your old, I mean, vintage car, and you later try to import the sound file into Dragon Dictate, you may find that your car says "num num num num num num" – at least mine does. Oh, and please, drive responsibly.

♦ **Timer** – One way to spark creativity is to give yourself permission to think. With all the demands of life, we often put time to contemplate, to observe, to think at the bottom of our agenda – if we put it in at all. For those of us whose minds, once unleashed, tend to wander far and furiously, we may find a day gone with nothing tangible accomplished and be reluctant to allow ourselves the luxury of thought. If this is you, try keeping a clock/timer by your workspace. Set aside a time for brainstorming, then relax and enjoy the freedom to think until it chimes. Parents, ask older kids to hold non-

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Tech Talk: Creativity . . . (continued)

emergency questions, squabbles, or observations until the timer beeps. They may even want one for their homework.

♦**Digital Cameras** – Keep your phone cam, digital camera or Flip video camera handy and record those unexpected moments of inspiration – especially if you collage as a creativity tool. Does the hot dog vendor look just like your hero. . . or your villain? Snap him! Just don't put photos on your website or blog without the subject's permission. Instead, check out the next idea.

♦**Royalty-Free Stock Photo Sites** – Royalty-free stock photo sites are websites where you can download photos and use them for a variety of private and commercial purposes without paying royalties. Instead, you pay one fee upfront. Photography can be costly, but some of these sites offer free or very reasonable rates on royalty-free stock photos. Stock.Xchnng (www.sxc.hu) boasts free royalty-free photos. Fotolia (www.fotolia.com) and iStockphoto (www.istockphoto.com) are relatively inexpensive. Sign up for iStockphoto and download free sound clips, vector art, photos, and video of their choice every month. When it comes to stock photos, larger, higher quality, or more unique shots are more costly. If you just want to spark your creativity, you don't need to spend the big bucks. These sites have extensive search capabilities, so if you search for "rose keyboard," you may find a picture just like the one in the Tech Talk banner.

♦**Pandora Internet Radio** – Is it music, not pictures, that gets your synapses firing? Pandora (www.pandora.com) lets you create your own music station. Writing a historical? Create your own classical music station. Is your book set in Scotland? Seed your Pandora station with Celtic song titles or artists. Writing a contemporary set at the beach? Create a beach music station. Due to royalty issues, Pandora currently only works in the U.S.

♦**Mind Mapping** – Mind mapping is a graphical way to brainstorm. You can draw a mind map by hand on paper, a poster or a marker board using colorful markers and magazine photos, but you can also mind map on your computer. There are several free mind mapping programs out there – MindMeister www.mindmeister.com, Freemind (<http://freemind.sourceforge.net>), and XMind (www.xmind.net) to name a few. Some of these are collaborative, so several of you can brainstorm together. Maps can often be saved and exported as html. Some mind-mapping programs on the market

are designed for complex project management with extensive capabilities and a hefty price tag. The free versions are fine for a little casual brainstorming.

♦**Word processing and spreadsheet programs** – Don't forget the basics. Use a spreadsheet to keep an alphabetical list of character names, to track plot points, to track word count and writing goals. Use your word processing program to keep track of ideas, to create forms, to record research. Don't forget to insert photos and links into your research documents. I keep separate folders for writing forms, brainstorming ideas, notes, and general research, as well as a folder for each manuscript.

♦**Specialty Writing Software** – There are many of these on the market, and they can be quite pricey. I can tell you about the three I own. Dramatica Pro (www.dramatica.com) helps you plan and develop your story and characters by asking questions through its Story Guide. Dramatica Pro is very rich and complex but has a steep learning curve. Liquid Story Binder (www.blackobelisksoftware.com) is for outlining, organizing, and writing your story. It features timelines, storyboards, mind mapping, image galleries, and much more, making it a great tool for creativity. Be careful not to get lost in all the bells and whistles. Power Structure (www.write-brain.com) helps you develop your story focusing on characterization, scenes, and conflict. It is the simplest of the three programs and perhaps the most powerful, but I wish Power Structure incorporated graphics into its design for us visual people. I use all three programs from time to time, but I probably use Power Structure the most.

♦**Idea and Project Management** – Programs like Evernote (evernote.com), Microsoft Office One Note, and Curio (www.zengobi.com) help you organize notes, thoughts, ideas, photos, research, links – all the information you use. Think of them as a kind of electronic bulletin board. I use both One Note and Evernote. I like Evernote because it is cloud-based, meaning the files are kept on servers away from my computer – although I have a desktop version which I can use offline and later sync to the cloud. Evernote is free for the standard version, \$5 per month for the Pro version. One Note is a powerful program that is bundled with the Home and Student Edition of Microsoft Office. If you have it, you should try it. I have never used

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Tech Talk: Creativity . . . (continued)

Curio, but watching my writing partner use Curio makes me want to dump my PC for a Mac. She uses it for organizing her writing and her life. Curio gets high marks for visual appeal.

Bottom line – There are lots of tools, low-tech and high, that you can use to help spark your creativity. Some of them you may already own, others are free or nearly free. Use them! There are also some very expensive gadgets and programs available. They may be helpful, but they won't write your novel for you. Make a little time for yourself this month to think, to daydream, to brainstorm, and then to write. The best, highest tech tool for creativity is your mind. Set it free this month!

Sandra D. Coburn is a right-brained writer whose imagination tends to wander. She thinks anything that can help her harness her ideas and get them on paper is a pretty cool thing indeed. She is a tech enthusiast, not an expert, but she is happy to share her minimal knowledge when she can. If you have a question about something you read in a Tech Talk column, e-mail her at techtalk@sdwrites.com.

What to Do Before You Hire a Web Designer

by **Simone Seguin**

(This article appeared in the October 2009 issue of romANTICS, the newsletter of the Toronto Romance Writers, Susan Haire, editor.)

Whether you're embarking on your first website, or your fifth, or a redesign, the process can be daunting. Even if you've decided to hire a professional web expert instead of doing the work yourself, it's hard to know where to start.

Before you hire a designer – before you even start researching for quotes – you've got a little work to do. By putting in the time to answer a few questions for yourself, you'll make the entire project flow much easier than you'd think.

So, what should you do before you hire a web designer?

1. **Set a budget.** This means a true, real-number budget! Don't be vague. "As little as possible" is not a budget! Look realistically at your finances and what you can afford. Your website is an investment that will last you for, at the very minimum, several years. Do the math and set an upper limit of what you are prepared to spend, and keep this number in mind while you research. This will help you set realistic, achievable goals of what you can do with your site.

2. **Do some serious Web surfing.** Yes, as difficult as it is, you simply **MUST** spend several

hours surfing the internet (and you can legitimately tell your family it's research!) Keep a notebook next to you as you surf. Go to every author site you can find, and make notes of what appeals to you and what doesn't. Look at colours, graphics, and fonts – but also look at content. What are other authors putting on their websites? Conversely, what sites look unprofessional to you, take too long to load, or have other characteristics that turn you away as a viewer?

3. **Sketch out your content.** Make a simple, rough draft. I like to use pen and paper at this point, with a page for every page of my site, and the potential content listed on each. You're not designing looks here; you're just planning what will go on which web page. Will your FAQ go on your bio page, or will it have a page of its own? Will your newsletter signup link go on the front page of your site, or will it go on your extras or contest page? Once you've done this, you'll have a rough idea of how many pages your finished site will be. It can be changed, of course – but at least you have a draft.

4. **Big decision** – update or not? Most web designers give the option of doing your site updates for you, or setting the site up so you can update yourself. Knowing which you prefer before starting is helpful. If you do your own updates, it requires a little technical savvy, but it also requires a time commitment away from your writing. Having your designer do your updates for you will cost money, though most will charge reasonably if the updates aren't too big. When you start researching designers, you'll get asked this question – so think of your answer before you start.

Whew. That was a lot of work. How do you put it all together? Start with a few designers you're interested in (look at the credits for sites you like, or get recommendations from author friends) and contact them for quotes. You'll get asked approximately how many pages your site will be – and you'll have an answer. You'll get asked how you want to manage updates, and you'll have an answer. You'll likely get asked to supply the addresses of a few sites you like, so the designer can get a sense of your taste and expectations. Yep – you have a list ready.

Finally, if you've asked for quotes from a variety of designers, you'll get a wide range of prices, from the low to the unbelievably high. Most authors find this range of prices bewildering and overwhelming – but not you, because you're armed with a budget, an amount you can stick to.

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Before You Hire a Web Designer

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Choose a designer who suits your tastes, needs, and personality, and offers you the right price, and you're off to the races. Good luck!

 Simone Seguin is Web mistress and Treasurer of Toronto Romance Writers, and she is working on her latest historical manuscript. She also helps authors make websites at www.romancewriterwebsite.com.

Book Reviews

by Joan Powell

The Menopause Murders: Hostage

by Eleanor Sullo, Wings ePress Inc., February 2010

Eleanor Sullo's above average who-done-it, *The Menopause Murders: Hostage*, has enough twisting intrigue and bold suspense that you won't be able to put this book down. Her unique multi-character presentation is sometimes hard to follow when all six main characters are written in first person, however, I found this exceptionally well crafted suspense, told in an entertaining tongue-in-cheek humor, and well worth the effort. By all means treat yourself. Get this book. It will keep you laughing and rooting for this group of ladies as they brave their fears and boldly strive to protect one another against the injustices of the world.

Six menopausal ladies, long time friends, wearing gaudy accessories, set out to create a club called "The Women On Fire." Before they can even get their new organization off the ground someone has the audacity to kill the gardener ... and slap this group of older ladies around ... very ungentlemanly. But who knew enough about Ada's wealth to try to frighten her into handing over all her money? And why? Yet things get even stranger than just a bumbling robber when these girls start unearthing all the clues to who is really behind this nefarious plot. These six long-time friends are a force to be reckoned with when it comes to dealing with the men in their lives.

I truly enjoyed this highly suspenseful plot. It will keep you guessing all the way to the very last page.

Eternity's Scottish Hero

by Jayme Evans, Wings ePress Inc., 4/2010

What I truly enjoyed about this vampire story is the sense of family devotion, love, and loyalty. It is

outstanding the way Jayme Evans blends and weaves together two different timelines bringing this shapeshifter story out of medieval Scotland into contemporary America. It is the remarkable tale of two devoted brothers, vampires, meeting and falling in love with two present-day sisters, and their misadventures in adjusting to just what it takes to follow their hearts. I classify this book a 5+.

Lowland Scottish warrior, Gordon Wallace, undergoes transformation in 1302, when a vampire takes Gordon as her entrance servant. After a time Gorgon tricks her to gain his freedom, but is never accepted back by his previously loving wife and daughters. His only true friend is his brother, Friar Rory Wallace, whose life he must save one fateful day by transforming him into a vampire.

Brenna Freeman and her sister Rachel Lions are living together at a zoo in Kentucky, where Gordon watches Brenna working at her chores with the animals...and loses his heart to her. Brenna, he discovers, is being stalked by an evil vampire and he must use all his special skills and powers to protect her. He introduces his brother, to help add security for the two sisters who live in a secluded cabin on the zoo property.

There is lots of excitement as the two brothers attempt to protect the sisters from Ivar Raynor, the wicked vampire and shapeshifter, bent on kidnapping Brenna to turn her into his love slave. The surprise ending will have you fearfully glancing over your shoulder as you feverishly turn the pages, not daring to skip ahead for fear of missing something. Get this one. It's definitely a keeper.

1) Brogan the Boy, 2) Brogan the Arab, 3) Brogan the Man

by Kev Richardson, Wings ePress Inc., 5-2010

Brogan...the boy was born from a loveless relationship of the man who sired him. He was looked after by whomever his father found to care for him, as though he were an unwanted pup. If it hadn't been for Da'oud, the old Arab, he might never have lived to become a man.

Some people are born with a higher sense of self-survival than others, and Brogan learned through his hard knocks just how to meet adventure head on. This is a very sensitive look of an unwanted boy's growing up and surviving in Australia to become 'Brogan the Man'.

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Book Reviews

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Brogan: The Boy, The Arab, The Man

Brogan learned to ride a pony at an early age in order to keep up with his sheep drover father. It never occurred to him to wonder why he had no loving family like other boys. The man he followed had never bothered to give him a name...he simply answered to 'Boy'. Yet, the old Arab camel driver, Da'oud, kept an eye out for the lad. But it wasn't until his father hadn't returned from the war that he discovered he and the old Arab were related by birth--the old man was his grandfather. As such, Da'oud took over his life's training, naming him Amr. He soon learned to accept the name and wear a turban, like his grandfather, against the infestation of flies and blowing sand.

While Da'oud was off running his camel caravan, ranchers Jim and Lill Witherspoon kept watch over him along with their other orphaned boys. However, it was his relationship with the Arab camel boys that created his worst nightmare...Clam and Bert, sons of Wilf Harris, hated the Arabs.

When Amr Brogan first put his hands on a flying machine, he knew who he wanted to be when he became a man. He vowed nothing, and no one would ever stand in the way of his dream. He would do whatever it took to fly a plane. This is the beginning of the Brogan series, and how he became the adventurous man in all the exciting books that follow. This book is definitely a keeper.

Kev Richardson, Australia's multi-published historical author, adds this previously released account of Brogan's beginnings by another publisher, to the other Brogan stories already released by Wings ePress Inc. – Brogan Abroad, Brogan's Bella, and Brogan's Bust. This latest release by Wings ePress Inc. covers the loveless beginnings in Australia of the adventurous man known only as Brogan.