



Bobbi Smith

FOR THE ADVANCED WRITER

Yay! You've finished writing your story — or at least you're close to being finished. Now what do you do? You join New York Times and USA Today bestselling author Bobbi Smith and her team of experts to learn how to polish up your manuscript and sell it! Join us in the Advanced Aspiring Writer track and find out all you need to know to make your dream of being a "real-life author" come true!

MONDAY, APRIL 9

2-3PM — PUBLISHING FROM A TO Z WITH BOBBI SMITH We'll go over everything you need to know about the writing business. Learn the proper formatting of a manuscript, determine manuscript length, discover invaluable rules of grammar and punctuation, find your genre, get the scoop on advances, royalties and sell-thrus, the proper way to submit and lots more!

3-4PM — MEAT ON THE BONES: If there's one thing that keeps readers turning the pages of a book, it's that they've fallen in love with the characters. Learn from the pros how to add strength and depth to your characters, so an acquiring editor will be intrigued and immediately ask to see your entire manuscript.

4-5PM — SENSUALITY The old adage "sex sells" may be true for some publishers, but too much sensuality can be a major turn-off for others. Our panel of bestselling authors will explain the various levels of intimacy that different publishers are looking for and help you craft the perfect love scenes for your story.

5-6PM — GETTING TO THE CORE OF ROMANCE It's easy to get lost in vampire hunting, special magic power or even historical details. But the core of a romance is the love story between a man and woman. Learn how to craft a story that focuses on the hero and heroine and how to show readers why they are truly destined to be together.

TUESDAY, APRIL 10

8:30-9AM — UP AND AT 'EM! Get ready for another exciting day with authors, editors and agents! Bobbi will welcome you back and review the previous day's workshops as we begin day two of our track. This is your time to ask questions specific to your book to see how we can help.

9-10AM — IS YOUR PLOT WORKING? Your plot is the power source that drives your story. If it doesn't have energy, it will run out of steam and fall flat. Learn how to keep your story moving to create a page-turner that readers will not want to put down!

10:30 AM-12PM — HOW TO AVOID REJECTION! Hear from editors in the business what you need to do and what not to do. They'll share secrets that will save you from getting automatic rejection letters and will advise you about how to submit your work in a professional manner.

You never want to give an editor a reason to reject your book, except for the fact that she doesn't like your story — and that does happen. Not every book is for every editor, so learn from professionals the secrets to submitting to the right editor in the right way.

1:30-2:30PM — PRUNE YOUR PROSE Ten (or more) tips to tighten your fiction writing. You love your story with all its wonderful descriptions and clever prose, but will your readers love it, too? Often writers are too close to their book to notice the extra scenes, words and sometimes even chapters that can disrupt the flow of the story. Learn from bestselling authors how to tighten your writing and come up with perfectly pruned prose.

2:30-3:30PM — PUBLISHING IN THE DIGITAL AGE Join digital-first industry professional Angela James, executive editor of Carina Press, for a down and dirty conversation about being an author in today's publishing world and navigating the digital waters, from comparing digital-first, traditional publishing and self-publishing to royalty rates and distribution to DRM and everything in between.

3:30-4:30PM — POLISH YOUR PROSE! Bestselling author Judi McCoy will go over the points of self-editing and answer any and all questions you may have about polishing your final product. Do you need an agent? Should you self-publish? Money: How much and for what? How much control will I have over my book once I sign the contract? All the details needed in today's many-sided publishing world.

4:45-6:30PM — GET THE SCOOP ON THE RAPIDLY CHANGING PUBLISHING INDUSTRY FROM AGENTS & EDITORS The publishing industry is changing day to day. Find out the various options you have for getting your book published in print or in e-book format. Learn how self-publishing works and if it is right for you. Learn how to seek out an e-publisher that fits your book and your vision of success. But, more importantly, hear how the publishing industry is changing and what you need to know and do if you want to get published in this competitive market. Find out how to take the necessary steps on your road to a successful career. This professional panel will cover everything from e-pub to traditional publishing to what an agent expects from an author to what editors are really looking for in submissions.

TAKE THE CREATIVE CHALLENGE: Bring your first paragraph, best hero & heroine descriptions and they will be judged by authors; winner will get her manuscript read by Kensington's Alicia Condon.