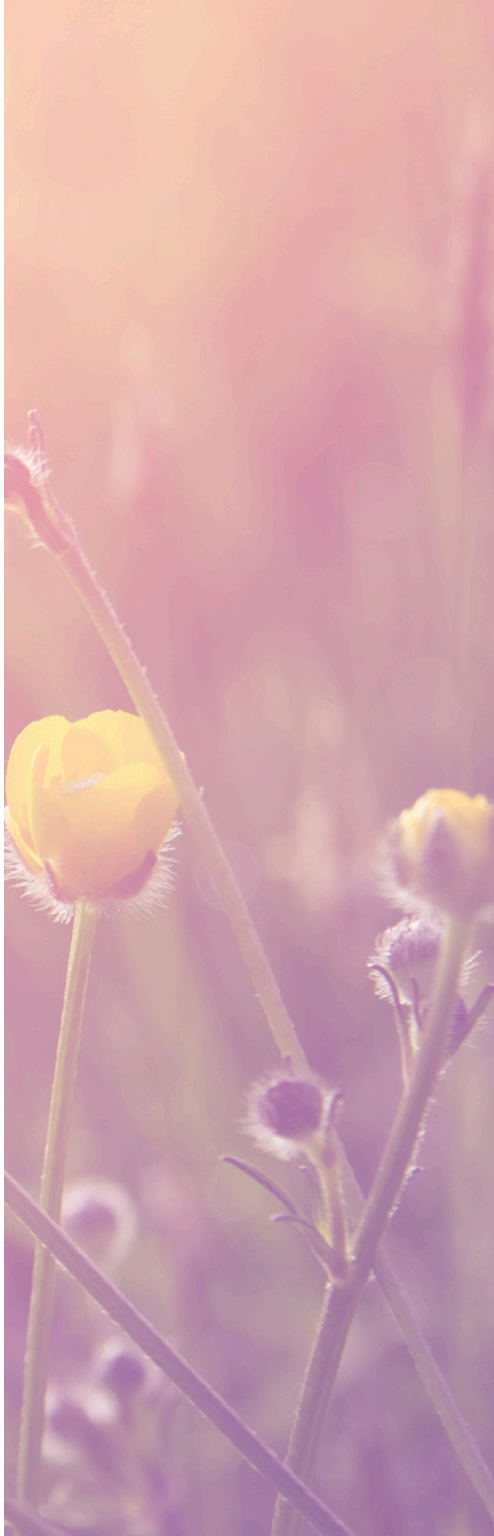
MID-YEAR WRITER'S PLANNING WORKSHOP

URBAN WRITERS' RETREAT



Jan-June review

Flick through your diary/files/notebooks and list everything you've done in your writing life so far this year. What did you enjoy or learn? What made you happy or proud? What worked for you and why? What do you want more of? Celebrate!

Is there anything you wanted to do but didn't? What was frustrating, disappointing or felt like a failure? Why? Where did you get stuck? What bad habits got in your way?

Your goals

Did you set goals for this year? What were they, and what are they for the second half of the year? How do they feel?

Are there any ideas or projects you'd love to be working on that aren't in these goals? Why do they appeal?

What improvements can you make in your life and writing routines in the next quarter? Look at what's coming up in your diary, how can you give yourself enough writing time? Think about what helps you write, what routines work for you and list what you're going to do or change.

Recommit to, update or set your goals

Pick between one and three goals, (one is fine, you don't have to pick three!). Get clear on why you want them first, what they will give you, mean to you, take you closer to. They should be things you really want, that are within your control to make happen. What will you need to do to get there? Use this format or adapt it to make sense to you:

I want (overarching goal) _____. I want to (project/next step) _____.
By the end of this year, I'm going to (reach this stage) _____. To do that I'll (first milestone/step) _____ then (next milestone/step) _____.

Example:

- I want to be a children's author and bring joy to kids. I want to write a book (for 3-5 yrs) called Hush Now, Snorosaur. **By the end of this year, I'm going to complete the book and send it out**. To do that I'll plot and write the story, then I'm going to edit it and research agents.
- I want to write more so I feel like I'm improving as a writer. I want to enter competitions to give me deadlines and use short stories to explore love and the complexity of relationships. **By the end of the year, I'm going to submit to six short story competitions**. To do that I'll make a list of competitions I want to enter, then write at least one story a month (one week to plan two to write, one to edit) and submit it.

Goal 1:

Goal 2:

Goal 3:

Break it down – quarterly goals

Goal	Q3 target (Jul-Sep)	Q4 target (Oct-Dec)
Goal 1:		
Goal 2:		
Goal 3:		

Weekly goals planner

Month:	Goal 1:	Goal 2:	Goal 3:
Week 1 Date:			
Week 2 Date:			
Week 3 Date:			
Week 4 Date:			
Week 5 Date:			

About Urban Writers' Retreat

You want to write, really you do, but sometimes life gets in the way, and you need a gentle nudge in the right direction.

I'm Charlie, writer, cheerleader, facilitator, and procrastinator extraordinaire. I'm obsessed with productivity, motivation and creativity, and my mission is to help enable and empower writers to live their dreams and have a writing life they love.

I've been giving writers distraction-free time and space dedicated just to your writing since 2008. These are residential retreats in Devon, and I also do other things aimed at helping you to sit down and write:

Online retreats are days where a small group of writers work in timed bursts to super-charge your productivity.

Writer's Diary & Planner with annual, quarterly and monthly reflection and goal-setting, plus practical tools for writers like word count trackers.

The Six Month Novel will help you to turn that idea that's been floating around in your head for years into a complete first draft

This Is Not a Course About Writing helps you deal with the internal junk that for most of us is the real problem behind not writing and find a new path of self-compassion and prioritising your creativity (returning soon).



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