



Query Letters That Worked!

Real queries that
landed \$2K+
writing assignments

Angela Hoy

WritersWeekly.com

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Introduction

Every day at WritersWeekly.com, we receive emails from writers requesting advice on how to write better query letters. While we're always happy to give free advice, there's a much better way to learn - by studying and emulating real, successful query letters!

In these pages, you'll find copies of real query letters that landed lucrative writing assignments for their authors worth \$2,000 or more. Above each query, you'll read about and receive advice from the authors of these queries. And, while you can't copy these query letters word-for-word (they're copyrighted) and submit them to publications, you can emulate their style and use the advice contained herein to improve your own query letters.

After the section on query letters and proposals, you'll find a section featuring real pitch letters that resulted in writing assignments worth \$2,000 or more. Rather than querying a specific article idea, each "pitch" letter was submitted by the writer in an attempt to secure future, ongoing assignments from that publication (be added to their stable of freelancers!). If you're looking for steady freelance writing work (like all of us!), don't miss the general pitch letters section!

At WritersWeekly.com, we publish more than 100 articles each year. Since 1997, I have, personally, read and evaluated all queries received by WritersWeekly.com and reviewed thousands of book proposals submitted to our publishing company, Booklocker.com. Above each query and pitch letter appearing in this book, I have added my opinion on what items in each make it a "hit."

Since editors often jump around from publication to publication, we have removed their names from the queries. And, since

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publications move as well, we have removed addresses and other contact information. If you wish to contact a publication featured in this book, please find their current contact information at their website. We have included information on how each editor was addressed in each query letter (i.e. first name only, full name, etc.).

We reformatted the queries to fit this book's page format but, other than that, they appear as they did during submission. You may even find the occasional typo or grammatical error in a query! Sometimes, query letters are so enticing that editors overlook the errors. Any errors appearing in the queries here were ignored or not noticed by the publication's editors.

As with any book that offers hints from numerous professionals, you're going to read conflicting advice. However, each method mentioned works for each writer.

I encourage you to click on each author's website, where provided, to see how they present their professional writing businesses to editors online. You'll find examples of résumés, writing samples, online clips, and more to help you create and/or improve your own website, resume, and presentation of clips. And, you are welcome to contact the writers with questions through the contact information provided on their websites. They'll be very happy to hear from you!