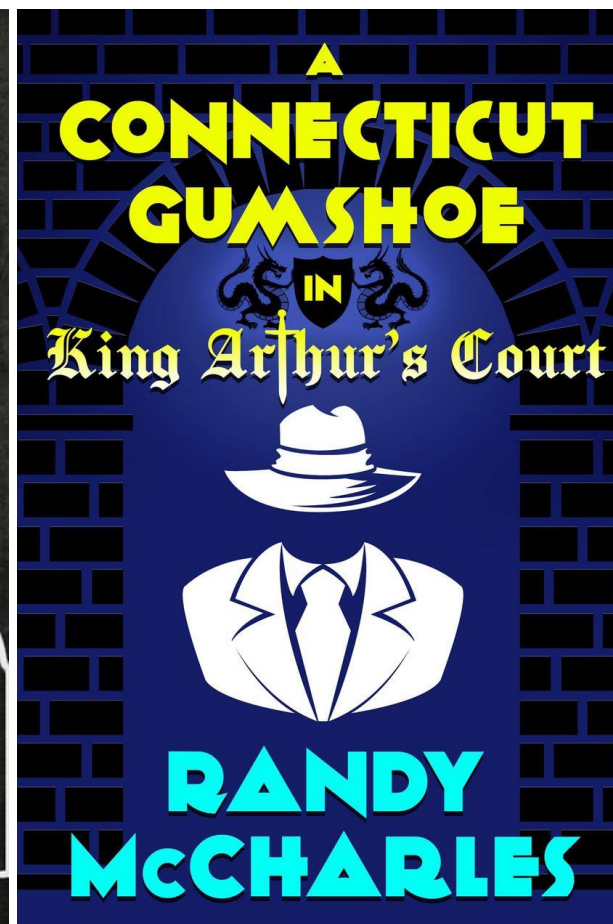
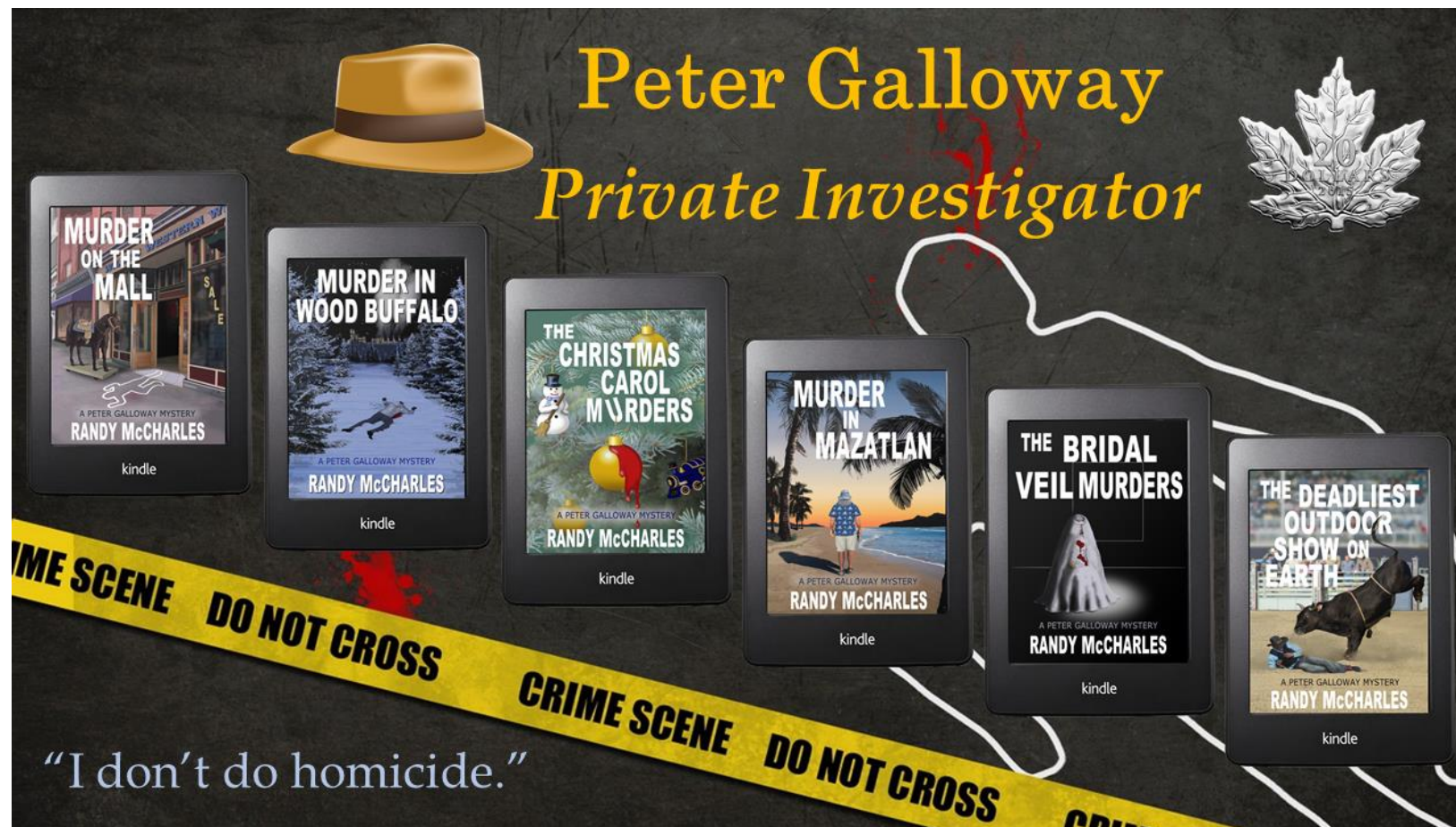


Productivity



Get Excited about Writing

Why listen to me?



Who would like to be more productive?



Where are you at now?

Getting nothing done?

Stuck?

Can't finish the 1st draft because I keep revising?

Slower than I'd like?

Where would you like to be?

I'd just like to start

Get past my writer's block

If I could just finish that 1st draft

Finish/publish more projects

**There is 1 and only 1 solution to
more productive writing**



The Solution



Get Excited

What to do after a long day's work?



***If your writing doesn't excite you,
NETFLIX wins***

Why are you not excited about writing?

Lost interest in my current project?

Writers Block?

Guilt over not doing other things?

I'd rather play my guitar?

???

How do I get excited?

Change projects

Research my current project to renew interest

Research a different project that might interest me more

Imagine a different, more interesting (to me) main character

???

I'm ready to jump (back) in.

Now what?



Productivity Metrics?

Word Counts?

Submission Frequency?

Publication Frequency?

Milestones?

Use metrics that provide positive feedback

Time. Time. Time. Time.

How much time spent writing?

A fixed schedule?

Life Balance?

Are my priorities good?

I don't need to find time to write if I've already scheduled it

Man Cave / She Shed

An environment conducive to writing

No distractions

Writing tools

???

13 Steps Writing Project



Step 1: The Idea

Think about your next project for as long as it takes.

Make notes.

Do basic research to formulate a story arc.

**Don't start writing until you're so excited,
you just can't wait.**

Step 2: The Outline

Using your notes, write a rough outline, basically a story arc and maybe a character arc for your main character.

Also write a back-cover teaser description.

Use/modify both as you go to keep your project on track.

Step 3: 1st Draft

Write stream of consciousness.

Vomit your ideas onto the page.

Don't overthink.

**Don't worry about format (chapters, scenes, etc.),
typos, grammar, word choice, or word counts.**

**Write non-stop to reach "The End" as quickly as
possible.**

Step 4: 2nd Draft

Flesh out the story.

From writing the 1st draft you now have a better understanding of the story and characters.

Focus on the story arc—beginning, middle, end.

You may decide to start the story in a different place.

Your main character may have evolved.

You may have come up with a theme.

Step 5: 3rd Draft

Now is the time to worry about format, chapters/scenes, and word counts.

Ensure every scene contributes and has sufficient context.

Cut material that is repetitive, a distraction, or otherwise not working to move the story.

Step 6: 4th Draft

This time address grammar, typos, and word choice.

Take the manuscript to the point where beta readers can “live the story” without being pulled out by easily corrected issues.

Read aloud or use a text to speech tool to hear your prose.

Step 7: Beta Readers

Find several readers who can provide “reader experience” feedback.

At this stage you are not looking for copy editors.

**You may need to include subject matter experts.
i.e. if your story is space military, readers who
have served in the military will be very helpful.**

Step 8: Project “B”

While your manuscript is with beta readers, work on a different project you are excited about. Don't stop writing.



PROJECT B

DISCLAIMER: UNOFFICIAL NAME

Step 9: 5th Draft

Go through your beta reader feedback and mark up your manuscript with anything you feel applicable.

Once done, run through the manuscript making whatever changes are needed.

Step 10: 6th Draft

This is your spit and polish draft.

**Again, read aloud or use a text to speech tool to
hear your prose.**

**Make this manuscript as clean and perfect as
you can.**

Step 11: Submit

**Sure you could still make some improvements,
but...**

This manuscript is done!

Send it out.

Step 12: Project “B” Revisited

While you wait for agent or publisher feedback, work on a different project you are excited about. Again, don’t take a vacation from writing.

The text "PROJECT B" is rendered in a bold, sans-serif font with a 3D effect. The word "PROJECT" is in light blue with a red outline, and the letter "B" is in solid red. The letters have a slight shadow, giving them a three-dimensional appearance as if they are floating or attached to a surface.

PROJECT B

DISCLAIMER: UNOFFICIAL NAME

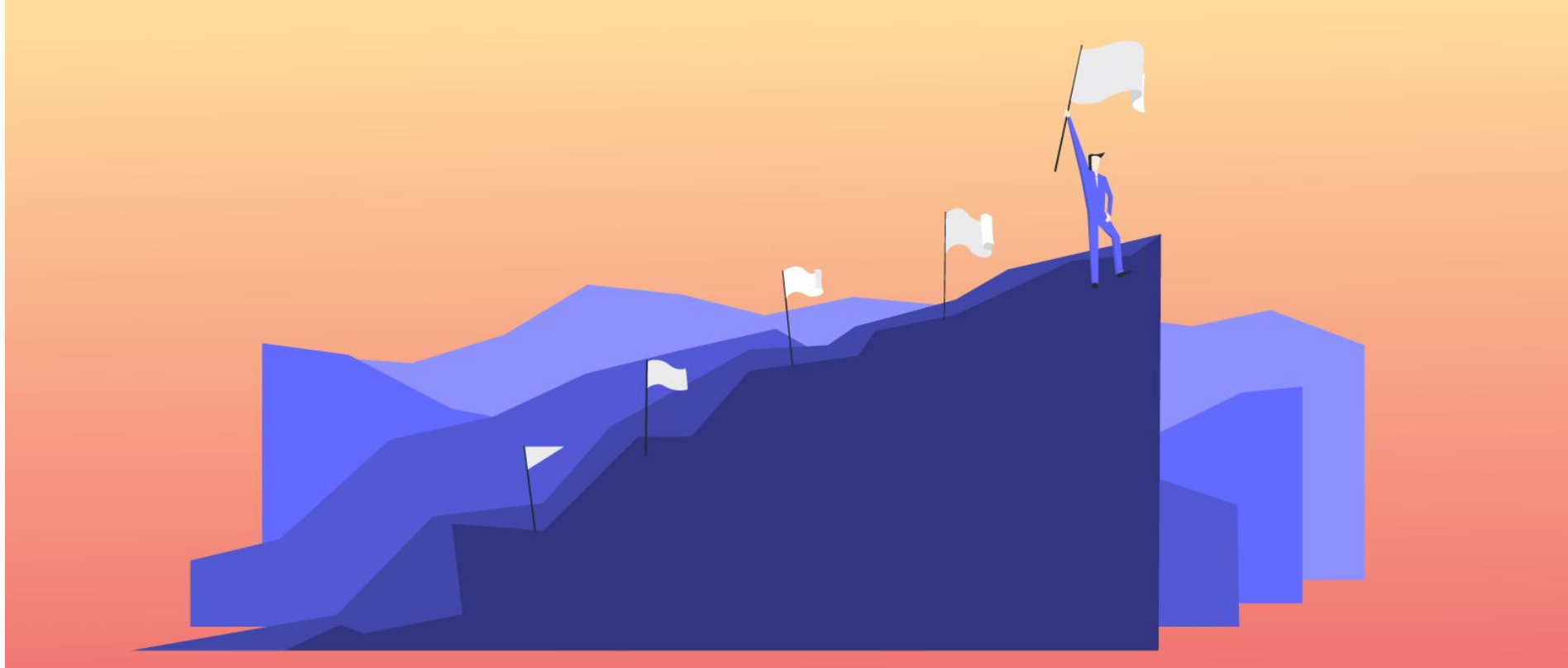
Step 13: Publisher Edits

Once your manuscript sells, your publisher will ask for changes.

Before it goes to print, you may receive a proof copy to review and sign off on.

Project done!

Achieving Milestones Builds Excitement



Celebrate your achievements!

Productivity Tips

Write Lots. The more you write, the easier it comes.

Read Lots. The more you read, the more you will learn what you wish to emulate or avoid.

Keep an idea file so you don't forget ideas you'd like to incorporate in current or future projects.

If needed, be accountable to someone (i.e. other writers).

Celebrate each milestone, be it one of the 13 steps, a completed scene or chapter, or even solving a plot issue that was bothering you.

The One and Only Secret to Writing Productively



Stay Excited about Writing