

**Tools for Writers**  
from Carol Topp, CPA  
Author of *Business Tips and Taxes for Writers*  
[TaxesForWriters.com](http://TaxesForWriters.com)

Dear fellow writer,  
I've assembled this list of podcasts, blogs, etc that I use to learn about writing, publishing and marketing. The world of publishing is changing rapidly so podcasts and blogs seem to be the best way to stay current. Hope you find something helpful on this list!



Carol Topp

### **Podcasts**

*I subscribe to each of these podcasts through the iTunes store. Once a week I plug in my iPod and it automatically downloads the latest podcasts. I listen while walking, driving or doing the dishes.*

[Your Guide to Book Publishing](#)/Author U with Judith Briles

[All Things Digital Media](#) Wise Bear Books with Quinn Barrett

[Solo Smarts](#) podcast with Kelly McCausey

(new for me) [The Creative Pen](#) podcast with Joanna Pen

(new for me) [The Business of Writing Today](#) podcast with Peggy DeKay

(archived, no longer active)[The Writing Show](#) with Paula B

[Maranatha Christian Writers Conference](#) 2011 podcasts

### **Blogs/websites**

*I use Google Reader to organize and scan my blogs. I follow about 20 blogs on writing and 20 more on taxes and entrepreneurship. I don't read every post, but only those whose title grabs my attention.*

[Jane Freidman](#) Being Human at Electric Speed from the former publisher of Writers Digest

[Men With Pens](#)

[The Creative Penn](#)

[Unruly Guides](#) DIY digital formatting

[Wise Bear Books](#) focus on digital media

[The Steve Laube Agency](#) Literary agent

[Michael Hyatt](#) Chairman of Thomas Nelson

[Nina Amir](#) Blog to Book author

[Writers Digest](#) Editor's blogs

(new to me) [The Urban Muse](#) focus on freelance writing

(new to me) [Goins, Writer](#)

### **Good Discussion Forums**

*The strength of LinkedIn is really in the groups. I belong to about 15 LI groups, but only really find 5 very helpful. I avoid the ones that are full of self-promotion.*

[Yahoo Self Publishing group](#) 3300 members. Sponsored by SPAN. Very active discussion. I get an daily email with the updates. There are usually 10-20 new posts every day.

Linked In Group: [Authors, Writers, Publishers, Editors, & Writing Professionals](#) 17,000 members. Great moderator that manages promotion

Linked In Group: [Book Writing, Self Publishing, and Marketing for Business People](#) 4,700 members. Excellent discussions.

Linked In Group: [Authors & Publishers Association](#) 4,000 members. Good Q&A

Facebook Groups: haven't found one that is not full of self promotion, so I'm open to suggestions!

### **Webinars:**

[Writers Digest Tutorials](#), especially "How to Be A Ferocious Self Editor" by Jerry B Jenkins, "Perfect Pitch" with Chuck Sambuchino, and everything by Brian Jud. I paid for a 6 month subscription. Worth every penny!

### **Newsletters**

[Brian Jud Book Marketing Newsletter](#) This is one of the few newsletters that I read in it's entirety! Clips from some of the best in today's publishing world and I am honored that Brian includes a tax tip for writers from me in every issue.

### **Magazines**

The Writer

Writers Digest

Christian Communicator and Advanced Christian Writer (delivered as pdf) from [American Christian Writers](#)

### **Books**

*The Self Publishing Manual* Dan Poyner

*Guerrilla Marketing* Jay Conrath Levinson

*Well Fed Self Publisher* by Peter Bowerman

*Entrepreneur to Infopreneuer* by Stephanie Chandler

*Get Slightly Famous* by Steven Van Yoder

(self promo!) [Business Tips and Taxes for Writers](#) by Carol Topp, CPA

### **Productivity and Other Tools**

[ToDoist](#) Task list and reminder app. Really liking it!

[TimeTrade](#) online appointment scheduling. I love this tool for scheduling phone consultations with writers and tax clients.

[Evernote](#) better than the old fashioned URL bookmarks

[CreateSpace.com](#) Amazon's Print on Demand (POD) service. I've used them for 5 books. No complaints from me.

[Clickbank.com](#) service to sell digital products (pdfs)

[MomWebs.com](#) my web hosting service

[Wordpress.org](#) best blog platform. So flexible.

[Quickbooks](#) accounting software. Can't live without it (I'm a CPA)!

### **Have anything to add?**

Send me, Carol Topp, a note/tweet/message/comment at

<http://TaxesForWriters.com>

Twitter @CarolTopp

Facebook Page: [Business Tips And Taxes For Writers](#)

[LinkedIn Profile](#)