

Crafting Popular Fiction

Developed and Presented by
Jane K. Cleland

A three-part workshop at

THE HUDSON VALLEY WRITERS' CENTER

300 Riverside Drive, Sleepy Hollow, New York 10591

Tel: 914.332.5953

<http://www.writerscenter.org/>

SciFi, horror, fantasy, mysteries and romance...all successful genre fiction share these qualities: the plot is engaging; the characters are believable; and the narrative flows and draws readers into the story. This three-part workshop will provide an overview of the craft of writing commercially viable fiction.

Topics presented will include the following:

- About Plot: When and how to introduce the “narrative question”; how to use foreshadowing to drive the story forward; and how to avoid “saggy middles.”
- About Characterization: How to create a protagonist with enough depth to carry your story; how to integrate your characters’ back stories into the narrative seamlessly; and how to develop memorable secondary and tertiary characters.
- About Narrative: How to balance dialogue, description, and action; how to create believable worlds; and the difference between suspense and surprise, and when to use each.

This workshop, which will include several in-class writing exercises, is appropriate for writers at all levels. You’ll leave this introductory session inspired to write your own genre novel!

Three Fridays, 7 to 9 p.m.:

October 22, 29 and November 5. \$150

To register, call 914.332.5953!