

The Handy Bookmark Newsletter

We all have a book in us. Nurture it, but above all...Protect It!

That's what they say, isn't it?...That we all have a book in us. I bet at some point in your life you will say to yourself, I could write about that, and I bet I would make a good job of it!

If you do get this urge, do not panic, it's not some mid life crisis thing. In fact, it's quite normal. But one thing I must urge you to do and that is to protect your idea right from the outset.

There is a great little book that I would recommend to all aspiring authors, called; [29 Most Common Writing Mistakes and How to Avoid Them](#), and I would like to quote one of the tips from this book that I think is very pertinent:

'Don't Talk Away Your Story or Article, Before, or Instead of, Writing It - Its fun to talk about ideas, so much fun that it becomes a favourite pastime for writers when they meet. "I've got this great idea for a novel!" Author A says to Author B. "Just listen to this - it's all about this girl who wants to commit suicide and it's set in Alaska, and she's got a cousin from..." They order more coffee and before long, hours have gone by, hours when some of the story could have been written. But now it may never be written at all, because Author A has got it out of her system, and seen reaction and praise and has no real need to actually write it...Fight the urge to tell everyone your marvellous idea, at least until your first draft is on paper. Write your story - don't talk it away.'

I myself am in the process of writing a book. It's taken me five years, not solidly writing...just when I had spare time. But the very best thing I did was to keep it secret. I didn't tell anyone I was writing it, not even my wife! Very strange I hear you say, but the truth was that I didn't want any outside distraction to divert me from my task, or even to discourage me before I had completed it. Now it nearly is finished, I have now let people read it. In truth, it doesn't matter about their opinion, because I have now got it out of my system, down onto paper. But thankfully, the criticism has been good though....well, we are all human!

So, I would urge you to protect your ideas from the criticisms of other, but I would also urge you to 'protect your copyright'. This is something I have just done. Even if you have not finished your masterpiece, I urge you to take out protection with this Copyright Protection Service, to stop anyone else claiming it as their own. [Click for more details.](#)

Until next week, happy reading!

Best Wishes

Richard

PS. Remember to visit my website: www.handybookmark.com for tips and hints on investing and caring for your books.