**Self-Publishing Resources Handout:**

**Aggregators /Distributors** - places to sell your books**:**

* **Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing** **KDP** (eBooks & paperback): <http://kdp.amazon.com>
* **Kobo:** <https://www.kobo.com/us/en/p/writinglife>
* **Barnes & Noble:** <https://press.barnesandnoble.com/>
* **Appl:** <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT201183> e
* **Smashwords:**<http://www.smashwords.com/about/how_to_publish_on_smashwords>
  + How Smashwords distributes ebooks:<http://www.smashwords.com/distribution>
* **Draft2Digital**: [https://www.draft2digital.com/](https://www.google.com/url?q=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.draft2digital.com%2F&sa=D&sntz=1&usg=AFQjCNHXtIEIP2WQdWMJG9V3Sng8YYw-Ng)
* **Ingram:** (hardcover or paperback): <https://www.ingramcontent.com/publishers/print>

**Formatting:**

* **Smashwords** Style Guide (FREE download):<http://www.smashwords.com/books/view/52>
* **Kindle Create**  free software to format your ebook for Kindle: <https://kdp.amazon.com/en_US/help/topic/GHU4YEWXQGNLU94T>
* **Vellum –** Paid software that formats any ebook (only available for MACs): <https://vellum.pub/>
* **Book Design Templates -** <https://www.bookdesigntemplates.com>

**Beta Readers:**

Ideally, you’ll find beta readers among people you know, but if you don’t have a wide circle, you can go online. Try these forums for beta readers, if you feel comfortable with people you haven’t met. Hang out in the group and see who might be a good fit for you. Remember, reciprocity is important. Also, follow the group’s rules.

* **Goodreads Beta Reader Group,** <https://www.goodreads.com/group/show/50920-beta-reader-group>
* **Absolute Write Beta Readers**, <http://absolutewrite.com/forums/forumdisplay.php?s=0cd99b5072c45e00673dd608ae56bde1&f=30>

**Editing Sources:**

* **PeoplePerHour,** <http://www.peopleperhour.com>**.** This site is not just for editing, but on it, you can find editors willing to edit your work for discount prices. As always, caveat emptor (let the buyer beware). Check ratings, references before purchasing.
* **Fiverr,** <http://www.fiverr.com>. This site is for multiple projects that can be done for $5. However, you can’t get a book edited for $5 (nor would you want that edit). However, there are a number of decent editors who will offer to edit 500 to 1,000 words for $5. Based on how they do with that, you can seek a custom quote for the full novel.

**Cover Art:**

* **Indies Unlimited Do-It-Yourself Primers**
  + **Book Comparisons** <http://www.indiesunlimited.com/book-cover-comparison-page/>
  + **Cover Basics** [http://www.indiesunlimited.com/2014/12/23/basic-elements-of-digital-book-cover-design](http://www.indiesunlimited.com/2014/12/23/basic-elements-of-digital-book-cover-design/)
* **Purchase Covers** (sites that offer pre-mades, personal and print covers)
  + Go On Write, <http://www.goonwrite.com> (pre-mades starting at $50)
  + Rocking Bok Covers, <https://www.rockingbookcovers.com/premade-covers> (pre-mades starting at $70)
  + The Book Cover Designer, <http://thebookcoverdesigner.com/> (pre-mades starting at $15)
  + Alchemy Book Covers, <http://www.alchemybookcovers.com/> (you-pick-the-image covers start at $85)
  + Fiverr, <http://www.fiverr.com>. As I mentioned earlier, this site is for multiple things. While you can’t get a cover for $5, you can find many offering decent covers made for your book starting at $25.
  + Paper & Sage, <https://www.paperandsage.com/> (pre-mades starting at $70)
* **Licensed Cover Art**
  + Wiki Commons, <http://commons.wikimedia.org/> (free)
  + Pixabay, <http://www.pixabay.com> (free)
  + Period Images, <http://www.periodimages.com> ($7.95 or $11.95 per image)
  + Shutterstock, <http://www.shutterstock.com> (Prices vary)
  + Deposit Photos, <http://www.depositphotos.com> (Prices vary)
  + 123 RF, <https://www.123rf.com> (Prices vary)
* **Cover Design Software**
  + Gimp (free), <http://www.gimp.com>
  + Paint ( generally free on Windows machines), <http://windows.microsoft.com/en-us/windows7/products/features/paint>
  + Adobe PhotoShop (only available as a subscription, starting at $20.99 per month)
  + Paint.NET - Free, <http://www.getpaint.net/>

**Author Web Presence:**

* Create Your Own Website (the three sites below will host your content free, and you can pay a nominal annual fee [$12] for your own domain name, such as www.myname.com)
  + Wordpress, <http://www.wordpress.com>
  + Google Sites, <https://sites.google.com/>
  + Blogger, <https://www.blogger.com>
* Goodreads Author Page, <https://www.goodreads.com/author/program>
* Author Central Author Page, <https://authorcentral.amazon.com/>

**Review Sites**

(These sites are all *review* aggregators; they list more than 20 individual book review blogs)

* IndieView, <http://www.theindieview.com/indie-reviewers/>
* Indie Book Reviewer, <https://indiebookreviewer.wordpress.com/>
* Midwest Book Review List, <http://www.midwestbookreview.com/links/othr_rev.htm>

**Advertising Sites**

* Bookbub, [https://www.bookbub.com/home](https://www.bookbub.com/home/)
* eReaders News Today, <http://ereadernewstoday.com>
* Kindle Books and Tips, <http://fkbt.com/>
* 100 Free books, <https://ohfb.com/>
* Robin Reads, <https://robinreads.com/>
* Book Doggy, <https://bookdoggy.com/>
* Freebooksy & BarainBooksy, <https://www.freebooksy-feature-pricing>, <https://www.bargainbooksy.com/sell-more-books/>

**Blogs & Forums:**

* **The** **Passive Voice,**<http://www.thepassivevoice.com>
* **The Kindle Boards Writer’s Café,**<http://www.kboards.com/index.php?board=60.0> (Good information on this site, but be wary of posting. New changes to the user policy have led to [concerns](https://www.indiesunlimited.com/2018/09/25/is-this-the-end-of-kboards-writers-cafe/).)
* **David Gaughran blog,** <http://davidgaughran.wordpress.com/>
* **Indies Unlimited blog,** <http://www.indiesunlimited.com>
* **Kristen Lamb Blog,** <http://warriorwriters.wordpress.com>
* **Joe Konrath**:<http://jakonrath.blogspot.com/>
* **Kristine Kathryn Rusch**, [http://kriswrites.com/business-rusch-publishing-articles/](http://kriswrites.com/business-rusch-publishing-articles/#sthash.N0nhqQHP.t21yODDq.dpbs)
* **Writer Beware Blog** (warnings about scam publishers), <http://accrispin.blogspot.com/>
* **Preditors and Editors,** <http://www.pred-ed.com> (Temporarily closed for re-design)
* **Dear Rich** (intellectual property law), <http://dearrichblog.blogspot.com/>

**Books**

* **Take Off Your Pants: Outline Your Books for Faster, Better Writing** by Libbie Hawker, <http://libbiehawker.com/take-off-your-pants>.
* **Mastering Amazon Ads: An Author's Guide** by Brian Meeks, <https://www.thecreativepenn.com/2017/09/04/mastering-amazon-ads-brian-meeks/>
* **The Write Faster, Smarter book series** by Chris Fox. This series (at present) has seven books, including *Write to Market*, *Launch to Market*, *Six-Figure Author*, and *Plot Gardening*. <http://www.chrisfoxwrites.com/fiction>.
* **Save the Cat: The Last Book on Screenwriting You’ll Ever Need** by Blake Snyder, <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B00340ESIS>.
* **Hooked: Write Fiction That Grabs Readers at Page One & Never Lets Them Go** by Les Edgerton, <https://www.amazon.com/Hooked-Write-Fiction-Grabs-Readers/dp/1582974578/>

**Courtesy of:**

RJ Crayton, [www.rjcrayton.com](http://www.rjcrayton.com)

Pamela Hart Vines, [www.pamelahartvines.com](http://www.pamelahartvines.com)

Valerie Mikles, [www.valeriejmikels.com](http://www.valeriejmikels.com)

Jim Brown (deceased)