

• [Debra Mullins](#) says:
[September 28, 2009 at 7:37 am](#)

Without a doubt the most unique and useful workshop I have ever taken as a writer. I have confidence that the revelations about myself that I learned there will help me get my career to where I want it to be. Especially the part about how to implement change. When I walked into the classroom, I was in an emotional tangle over a revision letter that had just arrived the day before. However, after taking the class I was able to set aside all the fears and panic that were trying to take over and look at the letter in an objective manner. This morning I blogged about Warrior-Writer on my chapter blog at <http://occsliceoforange.blogspot.com>.

Thanks, Bob, for teaching me to look within for the answers!

• [Bob](#) says:
[September 28, 2009 at 9:18 am](#)

Thank you for blogging about it. I'm using the feedback to revise and make it better and also for my article for RWR that I have to finish this week.

• [Christine Ashworth](#) says:
[September 28, 2009 at 12:22 pm](#)

Because of the industry information given, the goal setting and the exercises as well as the military "blood lessons" that help make his point, this is the most kick-ass writer's workshop I've ever taken.

Warrior Writer is an intensive "look within" that helps you to align your goals, find and understand your strengths and weaknesses, and give you steps for change.

I knew something in my writing needed to change. I didn't realize that something was me. Bob provided the tools to work toward a better me...and that alone is a priceless gift.

And because you wanted feedback – Bob, I would almost prefer a narrower focus on the Circle of Success. Take the time to have us go through each step thoroughly, and include those blood lessons. That was the part I wanted my son to see – now I'll have to push him to work through the book, lol.

While you did take us through the circle, there seemed to be lots of diversions and side trips (which were highly informative!) and it felt like we skipped through some steps, or at least didn't spend as much time on some of them.

To me, that fire hydrant can be narrowed some still. =)

Thanks, Bob, for a workshop I'll never forget, and new friends I'll treasure forever.

• [Christine Ashworth](#) says:
[September 28, 2009 at 10:09 pm](#)

By the way, I've blogged about this at <http://www.journalscape.com/christinecunningham>

Thanks again, Bob!

- [Kaige](#) says:
[September 29, 2009 at 11:08 am](#)

The whole workshop was an amazing experience. I had a hard time thinking about what I'd change about it if I could go back to 9am Sunday. As a newer writer, a lot of the publishing specific stuff was extremely long-goal oriented for me, but it was interesting and enlightening to see multi-published (even best-selling) authors have some of the same fears and problems. I think the realities of the business need to be conveyed so you can plan to minimize them or at least not be surprised by them, so I thank you for doing that and in a way that wasn't terrorizing.

Unlike Christine, I'd prefer to not see the same Blood Lessons taken directly from the book and dropped into the workshop, but perhaps more organized personal ones that deal directly with writing. The stories told were great, informative and entertaining, but maybe point out some of them AS Blood Lessons, like issues with early agents and which forces helped solve or lack of led to them, would reinforce yet not duplicate.

I liked having the handout of the slides, but found myself scrambling a couple times for a chart or a quote that weren't on there when slides were skipped. I know, I could have asked to slow down or go back, but I knew one was elsewhere and the quote wasn't that important.

This is not a complaint: the breaking points were well done. I was exhausted by the time I got home: it was a lot to take in and think about, not counting the emotional drain of digging deep and putting stuff out there. I did feel we were rushing a bit toward the end, but the COMMAND and COMPLETE sections are some of the more important ones and may need a bit more time. Especially COMMAND, with the ideas of taking personal responsibility for what we're doing and checking to make sure our team is working for us.

Also AREA STUDIES and AFTER ACTION REVIEWS are something I think people get pretty intuitively for what they are and why they're necessary, but perhaps an example of HOW to do them might be helpful. I know they're different for each goal, but going through a quick process might help. Doesn't have to be precise, but general would help. (If I missed this in the book, I apologize. Hopefully, I'll catch it the next time around.)

Sorry, I didn't mean to run so long, but you asked for feedback. 😊 I blogged about the experience of the workshop itself over at: <http://impulsivehearts.wordpress.com/2009/09/29/warrior-writer-recap/> as well. Thank you so much for doing this and reaching a helping hand out to your fellow authors like this, Bob!

- [Kim Moore](#) says:
[September 29, 2009 at 6:21 pm](#)

Section 3 Dares seemed to be rushed through, but considering the context of a single day workshop, I'm not sure (at least for me) having more time to spend on it would have made any difference. I found Section 1 Wins to be very thought provoking, good tools to help me focus on my wants. Section 2 Who instead centered on my gut and heart instead of my mind, and required more of myself to answer my own questions. If the only thing I took away from the day was the work on Force Five Change, I'd have thought myself well rewarded. It is going to take me a lot more time before I can get to a place to address Forces Seven through Nine in Dares.

Some cuts will need to be made: there is just so much material to put into a single day. The quotations maybe aren't necessary, but I found they made good breaks between sections of material.

Yeah, it might have been a firehose delivery of information, but I've got no complaints about the quality of the drink!

- [Sue Phillips](#) says:

[September 29, 2009 at 10:41 pm](#)

Coming to this workshop, I already knew that I needed to change if I was going to get back into the game. But I was scared to delve into those questions — afraid I wouldn't be able to come up with any answers. Afraid the answers might prove that I just don't have what it takes to make it in this business. Instead, I realized that facing my fears and making these changes were more about my life, not just my publishing career.

I love how this workshop is not the typical “just do it” motivational pep-talk. I love that the motivation is there in Bob's own words that he's been through this, just like us.

This takes work on a personal level that some writers might not feel they need, or are too uncomfortable with exploring their own psyche. For this reason, the workshop might be a little more difficult to sell to writers who don't realize the importance of it. But I know of so many writers who have successful writing careers, and yet still harbor fears that make them anxious and miserable. I'm willing to bet they would be better writers AND better business persons if they dared to take this workshop.

Writing is a vehicle of change in a writer's life. Publishing is the goal. But it is what we learn along the way that matters. Facing our fears. Finding the courage to change. That's what is offered here. The steps are spelled out. Is it any easier? Hell, no. But it's worth it.

The suggestions of other class members were very good. Yes, there is a lot of material to digest in one day. But I would like to see this workshop build interest in a one- or two-day format, then take it to a four-day or week-long Intensive like Maas did with *The Breakout Novel*. When people got a taste of his workshop, they were willing to commit the time to a deeper experience.

WRITER WARRIOR should aim for this, too. There's so much more that can be done in a 4-5 day time span, perhaps a retreat setting. Time to go off for a set period to answer the list of questions after the presentation of that part of the program, then come back together to discuss the answers.

I actually liked the military references as opposed to changing them to fit writing. Maybe a mixture would be fine. But, for me, the Blood Lessons in a writing world might not fit my circumstances and I might subconsciously dismiss the lesson. I don't know if that makes any sense, but there it is. 😊

Thanks again, Bob. This workshop is absolutely incredible.

• *Jade says:*

[September 30, 2009 at 2:38 pm](#)

Not a participant. But all this sounds really great. What about offering a workshop, at a kind of Level II, to work on more, go deeper, follow up?

• *Pam S. says:*

[October 2, 2009 at 8:02 am](#)

The structure of the Warrior-Writer Workshop is sound, in my opinion. What we each come away with is different, depending on who we are, what our expectations were, what we actually need and how willing we are to be open to change.

In Warrior-Writer, what resonated for me was the idea of completing the circle of nine tools and starting another circle, at a different level, like an endless spiral. I've always believed life lessons have a way of

coming back and testing you, to see if you've actually learned whatever it was you set yourself up to learn. No matter where you are along the self-actualized path of inner knowledge. But then, I am an INFP, and the process is the thing—the quest, the journey.

Many of the tools talked about during the Warrior-Writer weekend involved what amounted to common sense, integrity and being honest with ourselves. But, unfortunately, ourselves wind up being who we enable the most, the person we lie to the most. So, for me, Warrior Writer was more about looking at the internal, central core of what makes me tick, and what ticks me off. And I believe that's a question we all need to ask: What and why are we projecting those issues onto others? What are we afraid to look at? And why?

Last January I took the Self-Defeating Behavior online workshop from Margie Lawson, and because of that class I already had most of my five year goals in place and have been working towards them, along with refining them in the process. With my current manuscript I have a first draft finished and have already started working on the edits, the layering. I know what my target publisher (category) is and I have a back up plan if that one doesn't work. In addition, I already have my three book goal, and another three after those. And so on.

I believe Warrior Writer is a step onto that next level, because it is so damn easy to let myself get side-tracked. That sustained action. I'm not like Bob or Margaret, where once that decision's been made it's locomotion—full head of steam with nothing stopping them from their single-minded forward motion. I do — emphasis on me here — let other things, other people's priorities get in my way. And Warrior Writer reminds me — pushes the point home — that in order to get where I want to be, I need to remember the WHO in Who Dares Wins.

Jade's idea of a level II class is intriguing, a joining of the Warrior-Writer veterans to share our own war stories. As Christine pointed out, there's a strong feeling of friendship from this San Diego group, a comradery and realness that I expect will continue. Based on this last weekend, the participation and comments that were made, a next level class could result in an even more open dialogue between the participants, with the tough questions we avoid being posed, keeping it real and providing each other with support and sounding boards for the next level of that endless upward spiral.

Of course we'd either have to go to Bob for this, (anyone up for the Pacific Northwest?) or maybe he'd let us "franchise" the process...as veterans of his 5% group.

- *Bob* says:

[October 2, 2009 at 8:14 am](#)

The idea of a follow on course is good. I'll be working on that this fall. A couple of ways: I don't think a course where everyone comes together will work— too expensive and people are spread out all over the country. On-line might be the best way to do it, although I am not fond of on-line because of the lack of personal interaction. My goal was always to end up franchising this in some manner. In Dallas, Kristen started up a Warrior Writer bootcamp. We will be putting together a workbook for Warrior Writer bootcamp by the end of the year and I think that will help greatly. Maybe we can run that in place— ie those of you in San Diego who are interested, and also perhaps do it on-line for those who can't make it to a group.