

Writers in Stuttgart – Monthly Meeting of Saturday June 8, 2024

Attendees: (DAZ) Katherine, Andrea, Jadi; (Zoom) Jim, Katharine

Chair: Katherine

Minutes: Jadi

Time: 10:00 am – 12:10 pm

Prompt from Katherine: Writers' Digest Wednesday prompt.

Write a poem or story about a vehicle. This can be about a car, a bus, a space shuttle, a go-cart, and don't forget that a vehicle can be a container of something. Get on your skateboard and write about a vehicle!

Jadi: Sex education in cars

Jim: My keyboard is my vehicle, do I write about my Hare Krishna dream?

Katharine: My first bike, a Schwinn

Katherine: What to do when you can't drive anymore. What you might imagine!

Critiques:

#1 Jadi: Brainstorming session for how to present genealogical material. A novel, or nonfiction? Write from the perspective of the four grandparents? Andrea comments that we're so connected now that we're isolated. We need to reconnect. What is intrinsically human? Where are we going? Where did we come from? Both are so important for humanity. Go into the future, but also back into the past. She thinks Jadi should thread in her reactions and research, be the central character. Katharine asks, How do we prevail and overcome our tragedies? How did these stories get all the way to Jadi as the writer? She could be the time traveler genealogist, sucked in through the portal, the rabbit hole. Literature mentioned: *The Time Traveler's Wife*; *The Midnight Library*; *Kindred*.

#2 Katherine: A poem, perhaps for the October reading titled 'Solidarity'. She submitted to a magazine for the theme *Chrysalis*. Group discussed how she can best present this piece to a live audience. A: Do an intro before reading it. B. Katharine says give an audience time to absorb, the pacing is like dialog. It's a partnership.

Katherine works with a professional writer every 2 weeks to hone her poems. She met her at The Reader in Berlin. She asks, where to meet up with poets in the Stuttgart region. Suggestions included: Literatur Haus; DAZ; Schubert Literatur Haus; Internationales Literaturfestival Heidelberg. Heidelberg is presenting UNESCO World Heritage events all year.

Katherine discussed the sites she uses for submissions: Chill Subs, a site that charges for access to all the services. They do Substack lists.

1%er journals are the high-end ones it's almost impossible to get accepted by.

Business: We need to schedule practices before October 18th's show *Ferocious Flights and Gentle Landings*. Jim has corrected the typos on the website.

Katherine is interested in an accountability group. She gave information on 'Mapping your Path' with Ann Ditmyer. The cost is 475€ for 3 months.

Writers' Corner: Dark Monday July 1, 20:00 at Merlin: *The Heart of a Song* by Jadi Campbell, featuring Derrick Jenkins and the Stuttgarter Harmonizers

The Meeting adjourned 12:10.