

# KWI: KANSAS WRITER'S INK

Newsletter Vol. 17 No. 8

August 23rd, 2016

## August Program: All about the Poetry

By: Billie-Renee Knight

Dennis Etzel, Jr. will present the August program focusing on poetry, local publishing opportunities and local hangouts for writers. Dennis shared the following biography with us.

Dennis Etzel Jr. lives with Carrie and the boys in Topeka, Kansas where he teaches English at Washburn University. He has an MFA from The University of Kansas, and an MA and Graduate Certificate in Women and Gender Studies from Kansas State University. He has two chapbooks, *The Sum of Two Mothers* (ELJ Publications 2013) and *My Graphic Novel* (Kattywompus Press 2015), a poetic memoir *My Secret Wars* of 1984 (BlazeVOX 2015), and *Fast-Food Sonnets* (Coal City Review Press 2016). His work has appeared in *Denver Quarterly*, *Indiana Review*, *BlazeVOX*, *Fact-Simile*, *1913: a journal of poetic forms*, *3:AM*, *Tarpaulin Sky*, *DIAGRAM*, and others. He is a TALK Scholar for the Kansas Humanities Council and leads poetry workshops in various Kansas spaces. Please feel free to connect with him at [dennisetzeljr.com](http://dennisetzeljr.com).

Be sure to check out the program this Saturday!

## 2016-2017 KWI Board Members

**President:** Billie-Renee Knight

**Vice-President:** Morgan Chilson

**Secretary:** Leslie Galbraith

**Treasurer:** Shayne Sawyer

**Membership:** Bobbie Johnston

**Newsletter:** Romie Chavez

**Advisor to the President:** Tish Glasson

## Upcoming Writing Events at the Library

Community Novel Project Book Launch - Sunday, September 25, 2016 - 2 p.m.- 4 p.m.

Great Writers, Right Here Author Fair – Saturday, December 10, 2016 – 1 p.m.- 4 p.m.



## In This Issue

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## *Short Story*

### *Submitted by Eleanor Liu*

Joy could scarcely believe her eyes when she walked into the Women's Department of the Montgomery Fair.

There at the counter was a girl wearing the dress stolen from her car two weeks ago. There was no doubt that it was

her dress, made for her by her dressmaker. She got out her phone and took a picture while seeming to make a call.

She moved discretely around looking at various items and managed to get a front view without obviously taking

pictures. She kept the girl in view and followed as she left the store.

Dexter Avenue is very wide and cars are parked at an angle so it was easy for her to snap a picture of the car and license plate as the girl unlocked a nearby car. Joy thought of going to Neil's office but instead went directly to the Police Station. She was glad to see Lt. Joe Burns who had taken their report of the theft two weeks before.

"Hello, Ms. Clemons, do you have further information for me?"

"Yes, I do and I also want to know if you have made any progress. I just saw a girl wearing my dress. She was in the Montgomery Fair and I took pictures of her and of her car with the license number."

"Did you speak to her?"

"No, I thought about it but decided not to raise her suspicion. I took the pictures in a way that was not obvious."

"That was smart of you not to speak to her and with the pictures we can prove the dress is the same since you gave us pictures of you in the dress. We can find the car owner now, I just hope the car was not stolen too."

"We have not made much headway, but we have reported the stolen items to Pawn Shops, Used items stores and even Thrift Shops. So far none of them have reported receiving anything."

"Thank you very much and please let us know when you make any progress."

"Will do, and thank you for coming by."

"Goodbye."

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**KS Writers, Inc****Regular Meeting****July 23 @ 12:30**

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by the president

Members present: Anne Barringer, Carolyn Cabrera, Lily Fouts, Leslie Galbraith, Billie-Renee Knight, Janet Stotts,

The June minutes were approved with the following correction: Anne Barringer was present at the June meeting. Her name was inadvertently left off the list of attendees.

Financial report – Tish Glasson presented the financial report for Treasurer Shayne Sawyer

**Unfinished business**

Author Reading event – will be rescheduled in September or October to allow all interested members to be present. There are significant conflicts with the August date.

Open Mic Speakeasy Poetry – First Wednesday at Bunker Coffee Company on Kansas Ave – August 3 is next gathering

Reminders for newsletter, blog, & website information

New Officers take office next month and will meet at 10 a.m. for their first Board meeting. The critique session will follow at 10:30. The group will adjourn for lunch at 11:45 and reconvene at 12:30 for the business meeting.

**New business**

By-laws amendment regarding programs committee as published in newsletter – The membership present voted unanimously to approve the updated description for the programs committee. Secretary Leslie Galbraith will make the changes and publish an updated version of the

Group writing project – Anne, Shayne, Jason, Tish met and hammered out a basic premise and characters. Once we are ready to get started, one of the committee members will write up the premise and we will publish it in the newsletter. A committee member will write the initial chapter and volunteers will be selected randomly to continue the writing process.

October meeting – It has been suggested that in place of our October meeting we go as a group to Kansas City to the MARA meeting where they will be hosting a Harlequin editor. We have been invited to make pitches following those slots filled by MARA members. Several members are interested in attending.

Kudos – No kudos were presented this month.

Door Prize – Lily Fouts

The meeting was adjourned at 12:52

## *Chapter 2*

### *By Eleanor Liu*

Two weeks earlier, Neil and Joy were preparing to drive to Charleston, S. C. to attend his brother's wedding. Neil was to be best man and had decided to rent the Tux when they got to Charleston several days ahead of the wedding. Joy had selected material and her dressmaker had made her a lovely dress. She would be helping at the Reception but would not be in the Ceremony.

"Neil, do you think it is a good idea to pack the car tonight?" Joy asked.

"Yes, because we want to get an early start in the morning."

"I am concerned though since we don't have a garage and the car will be on the street."

"Yes, but this is a quiet neighborhood and I think it will be okay."

So they put their suitcases, presents for the couple and the clothing bag with her dress in the car, locked it and went to bed.

The next morning when they went out with their small cases of personal items, they discovered the awful truth. A back window was broken and everything they had packed was gone.

Joy was thankful she had kept her jewelry with her cosmetic case. At least she still had it to wear at the wedding.

"I am sorry I didn't listen to you last night, honey but I really thought it would be okay. Now we will first go by the Police station and make a report. We have 368 miles to drive today, and I hope we can make it before too late."

They went by the Police station and gave the report with a list of the missing items. They took pictures of the car and dusted for fingerprints. Since they found none the thief or thieves must have worn gloves. They also gave the Lt. Burns two pictures of Joy in her dress.

### **Membership Renewal Time**

It's that time of year again for all KWI Members to renew their membership. Please see the attached form with the newsletter this month. Instructions are as follows: please fill out the short form and send payment to the Treasurer, Shayne Sawyer. It's that simple! Shayne's address will be listed at the bottom of the form. Thank you for another great year and we hope you will continue to be apart of our special group. We appreciate all members and the uniqueness they bring to KWI.

## KUDOS

None Submitted.

### *Further Reading*

#### **17 Literary Agents Seeking Young Adult Science Fiction and Fantasy NOW**

<http://www.writersdigest.com/editor-blogs/guide-to-literary-agents/17-literary-agents-seeking-ya-science-fiction-fantasy-now>

#### **The Lure of Domestic Noir**

<http://www.writersdigest.com/editor-blogs/guide-to-literary-agents/the-lure-of-domestic-noir>

#### **3 Questions to Ask When Revising**

<http://www.writersdigest.com/editor-blogs/guide-to-literary-agents/3-questions-to-ask-when-revising>

#### **The 5 C's of Writing a Great Thriller Novel**

<http://www.writersdigest.com/online-editor/the-5-cs-of-writing-a-great-thriller-novel>

#### **How to Write From the Opposite Gender's Point Of View**

<http://www.writersdigest.com/online-editor/how-to-write-from-the-opposite-genders-point-of-view>

#### **4 Ways to Create Believable Urban Fantasy**

<http://www.writersdigest.com/online-editor/6-ways-to-create-believable-urban-fantasy>

## KWI Blog

Are you interested in writing a blog for KWI? Contact Tish 'Bear' Glasson by e-mail: [bearwmnkwi@gmail.com](mailto:bearwmnkwi@gmail.com).

### KWI Meetings

When: August 27th, 2016

Where: Topeka Shawnee County Public Library

Room: Anton (Upper Level)

Program: Dennis Etzel Jr. on Poetry & Publishing

### Next Meeting

When: September 24th, 2016

Where: Topeka Shawnee County Public Library

Room: Anton (Upper Level)

Program: TBA

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All meetings begin as follows:

Time: 9:00am -2:00pm

Writing/Critique 9:00am-10:00am/  
11:00am-12:00pm

Board meeting: 10:00am -10:30am

Member Meeting: 12:30pm -1:00pm

Program Topic: 1:00pm -2:00pm

## Financials

### June

Beginning Balance	\$3,215.17
Income	0.00
Expenses	\$ 79.24
Ending Balance	\$3,135.93

### July

Beginning Balance	\$3,135.93
Income	0.00
Expenses	\$ 50.00
Ending Balance	\$3,085.93

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