

Write the story that's waiting inside you

WRITER'S CORNER



BY DARIEN GEE

Quote of the Week: "No one else can create in your experience." Abraham Hicks

Prompt of the Week: One morning you wake and look

in the mirror. Your reflection begins to speak. It's you, speaking to you, and you have something important to say to you, something that you need to hear. What is it?

At a recent library event on the mainland, someone raised their hand and said, "I believe the muse gives you an idea, but if you don't act on it right away, someone else will take it."

She then went on to provide examples about how such a thing happened to her and to other unfortunate creatives who were now broke and idealess while some other lucky person had gone on to make millions with their idea

(I'm taking some liberties here, but you get the picture). She then wanted to know what I thought.

Well, if you've been keeping up with the columns, you can probably guess my take on this. I told her what I've since come to learn, which is that (1) there are really only a handful of original ideas out there (boy meets girl, prodigal son, coming of age, reinvention, what matters most, etc.) but a million and a half ways in which to share it with the world. And while, yes, someone might have the same or similar idea, only you can write it/execute it/produce it/

make it/brand it your way. And your way is not going to be the same as someone else's way. It's impossible. Even if that was your goal in life—to be like everyone else—it'll never happen.

I also said that (2) if you're meant to write or tell a specific story (fiction or nonfiction), you will. It'll happen in your time and what anybody else writes, or whether or not they have success, is really not your business. Don't concern yourself with that, and certainly don't stress out about it. I have a seemingly boundless well of ideas, some of which I've seen appear on the bookshelves

before I've had a chance to write them down on paper, and I get anxious (like our friend), but then I get over it. I hadn't felt compelled to write about the idea earlier (in fact, I hadn't written anything at all), but who's to say I couldn't write about it later, when I was ready? Nobody, that's who. Look at all the fairy tales being retold again and again (and again). The themes are the same but how the story is told is what's different.

Write what you want to write, when you want to write it, and how you want to write it. Don't worry if it's already been done or if people will like

it. Trust that what you have to say or want to write will find its place and, if publication is your goal, the people will come.

And an invitation for those of you just joining us: take the 2012 Summer Writing Challenge by writing a page a day or ten minutes a day until the end of August. For more information look at the June 7 North Hawaii News issue online.

Until next time, write well!

Darien Gee aka Mia King is a national bestselling author based in Waimea. For more information visit dariengee.com or miaking.com.

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