Hard Core

HORROR

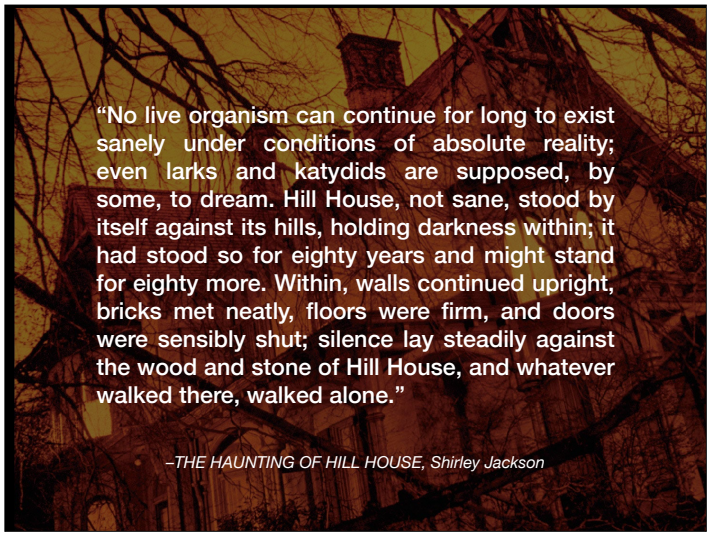
Writing

with

Johnny Worthen

www.johnnyworthen.com

WEEK THREE – A LINGERING DARKNESS



Critique & Workshop

KNOWING?

- Horror breaks the rules
- Writers make promises they "must" keep
  - But sometimes* in horror it's alright to leave the mystery unsolved and unexplained
    - Concentrate on the changes to the characters then.

EXERCISE

- **BLIND INTERNAL HORROR**
  - **Describe a scene where a character is *in complete darkness* as a they're stalked or possesed**
    - No visual details
    - Summon other senses
    - Play in the imagination
    - Horror of being inhabited

EXERCISE

- **PAIN**
  - **Write a short scene about pain (one you haven't considered before)**
    - **physical**
    - **emotional**
    - **mental**
    - **spiritual**
  - Use all your powers and skill to make the reader feel what you felt and more

EXERCISE

- **THE MONSTER POV**
  - **Write a scene from the "monster's" viewpoint**
    - **Scene and/or Sequel.**
      - Show motivation, feelings
      - Get into the mind
      - Make it uncomfortable to read
      - Consider a non-human mind

THERAPY

- When you can see the monster, it becomes manageable.
- Writing your monsters
- Understanding, revenge, justice, HEALING
- *We might not think we're writing horror, but when honesty seeking, it's often there*

EXERCISE

- **EXORCISE YOUR DEMONS**
  - **Personal Experience**
    - **Describe a dream or an actual event you experienced where you were frightened.**
      - Exaggerate to raise the stakes
      - Use all your powers and skill to make the reader feel what you felt and more
      - Use this as a basis for a longer story
      - Get ahold of the fear and conquer it

HOMEWORK

- Fill out review/evaluation of the class. Appeal to emotion and the deepest parts of our psyche.
- Write more, and then more again.
  - Repeat…

Johnny's Upcoming Classes

- Spring 2027
  - Creative Writing 1
    6 Tuesdays — 2/23-3/30
  - Zen and the Path of the Writer
    3 Saturdays – 2/20-3/6
  - Creative Writing 2
    6 Tuesdays — 3/16-4/20
  - Literary Querying
    3 Saturdays — 3/20-4/3

THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

Check Links on Johnny's Events page:
http://johnnyworthen.com/Events.html

"The League"

Lots of chapters

Infinite Monkeys is mine

Critiques & Community

Publishing opportunities

Contests and awards

Conferences

Quills Conference

LEAGUE of UTAH WRITERS 1935

Leagueofutahwriters.org

INFINITE MONKEYS
https://luwgenremonkeys.wordpress.com

THE QUILLS CONFERENCE

https://www.leagueofutahwriters.com/quills-conference

On my events page

INFINITE MONKEYS

https://luwgenremonkeys.wordpress.com

https://www.facebook.com/groups/LUWInfiniteMonkeys

Next Meeting
November 12th

Standing Monkey Meetings

My writing group is called **The Infinite Monkeys** and they're a great bunch of typewriter smashing Hamlet aspiring authors who don't take themselves too seriously. A rare thing these days, I'd say. It is a chapter of the League of Utah Writers, a venerable organizaiton I used to lead.

Our stated meetings:

We meet in person, thanks to the kind support of the Cultural Arts Society of West Jordan. We meet in a cool little cubby of a space here:

7879 South 1530 West #600
West Jordan, Utah 84088

Meetings generally open at 6:30 pm for some chat time, with things kicking off at 7:00 pm and ending at 9:00 pm.

Second Thursday of the month: General business

We'll have a class for the first hour and then critique groups for the last half. Bring 5 copies of 5 pages and get some feedback.

Fourth Thursday of the month: Write In

This is an informal gathering where we get togther and hopefully write something. It's often full of chatting groups. some critiquing, and general networking. Good times.

Our meetings are all open to the public and all are welcome. Come out and meet the gang! Chances are, though no guarantee, I'll be there distrupting what everyone else is trying to do.

Johnny

Follow me at:
http://johnnyworthen.com
(http://johnnyworthen.com/Events.html)

THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH




THINGS BEQUEATHED
JOHNNY WORTHEN
THINGS REVEALED
DAMON BOOK 2
JOHNNY WORTHEN
AWARD WINNING!


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JOHNNY WORTHEN
THE UNSEEN BOOK 2
CELESTE
JOHNNY WORTHEN
THE UNSEEN BOOK 3
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