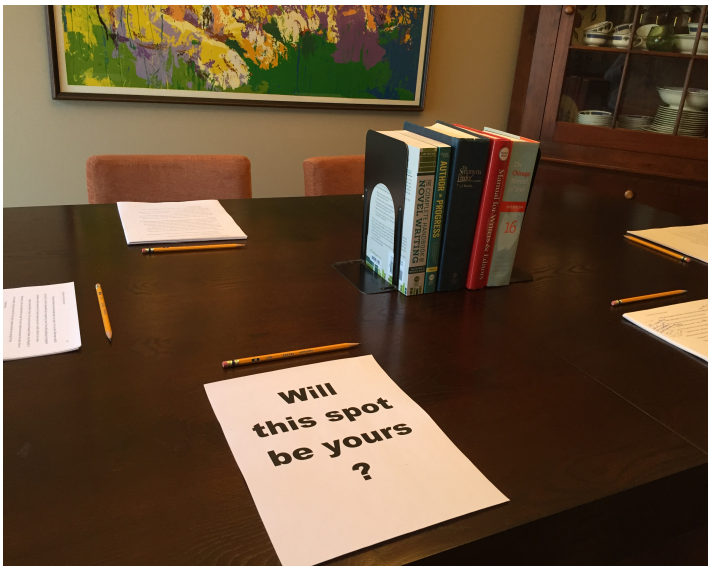
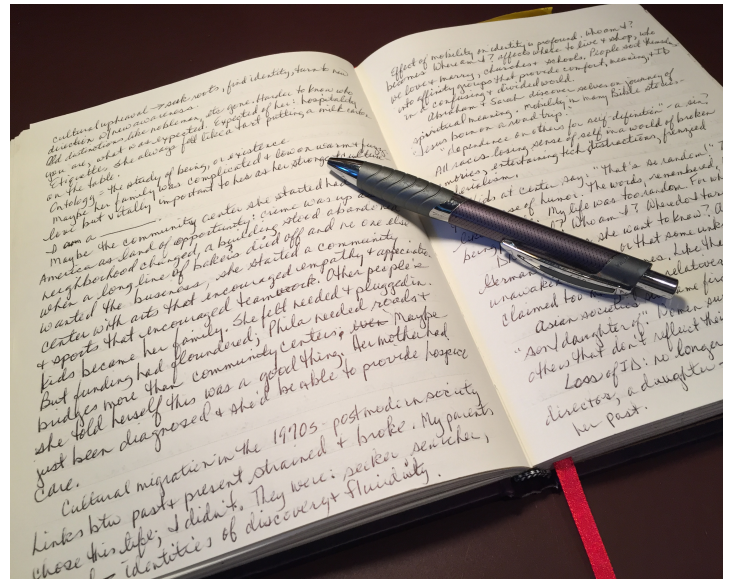


# 2026: Your Novel Year



Premise  
Inciting Incident  
Motivation  
Backstory  
Stakes  
Complications  
Dark Moment  
Climax  
Resolution



A writing mentorship program  
now in its 9<sup>th</sup> year

Shape the manuscript you started into a compelling novel!

# Who is this mentorship for?

Novel in a Year is for six lucky writers who:

- have completed at least 30 pages of a novel.
- want guidance with getting unstuck, shaping, or finishing their novel.
- hope to transform their accumulated word count into a more impactful story.
- desire the motivation of social engagement to finish their manuscripts.
- seek a deeper understanding of how to apply craft without investing \$35K+ in an MFA.
- write literary, upmarket, or commercial fiction (no erotica or category romance).

## Who is the mentor?



**Kathryn Craft** is the award-winning author of two novels, *The Art of Falling* and *The Far End of Happy*; in nonfiction, she is the author of *Crafting Story Movement: Techniques to Engage Readers and Drive Your Novel Forward* as well as chapters in *Author in Progress* and *The Complete Handbook of Novel Writing*, both from Writer's Digest Books. She contributes monthly to one of *Writer's Digest* magazine's Top 101 Websites, [Writer Unboxed](#), and was the 2020 Guiding Scribe for the Women's Fiction Writers Association. Her ability to explain concepts and empathize with the challenges of writing a novel is born of multiple arts genres, as she was a choreographer and then a dance critic for 19 years.

Since 2006, Kathryn has been a developmental editor, using her own writing education, the analytical skills she honed as a critic, and her deep reverence for the art of story to help writers pull apart and more effectively shape their manuscripts. She is a structural specialist who understands the ways stories speak to us and recognizes the many ways they can slide sideways.

Kathryn has gathered creatives around her everywhere she's gone, serving on boards and teaching for writers' groups and conferences, founding reading groups, and hosting dozens of writing retreats and Craftwriting sessions. Writers are her people, and clear communication is her jam.

# Your Novel Year by the numbers

6 writers make a 1-year commitment

30 pages of a manuscript you've already started can become a full novel by end of program

19 online, two-hour craft workshops

5 key scenes + 1 hook will receive in-depth group focus

300 of your pages will be reviewed by me (you do not need to read/critique each other's pages)

Up to 2 hours of one-on-one phone consultation with Kathryn

20% discount on a developmental edit, good for up to one year after completion of program

6 bonuses: handouts, project-specific exercises, process/writing life/publishing discussions, informal support, additional resources, and long-lasting partnerships

## How do I apply?

**To apply:** Email me ten manuscript pages with a cover letter telling me how much of the novel is written, where you are in your writing journey, and why you think this mentorship is right for you. Applications are considered on a first-come, first-served basis until the class fills. Mail to: [authorkathryncraft@gmail.com](mailto:authorkathryncraft@gmail.com).

**To commit:** To achieve the maximum benefit for you and your fellow writers, this program will require your commitment. Chosen applicants will be notified when the class fills. You will sign a letter of intent to attend workshops and stick with the turn-in schedule for the year.

**On-line 2025 workshops:** 3–5 pm ET on Jan 16, 17, 18; Feb 13, 14, 15; Mar 13, 14, 15; May 8, 9; Jun 5, 6; Aug 7, 8; Oct 2, 3; Nov. 13, 14.

**To pay:** The cost of the program is \$2,900. If accepted, \$900 is due immediately; a variety of payment plans are available. Billing through PayPal for ease of credit card use.

# In the words of Your Novel Year writers...

"Kathryn keeps the energy humming, encourages without coddling, and really knows her stuff. She's always well-prepared, yet eager to seize the 'teachable moments' that are often where the best learning occurs. An outstanding experience!"

—Barbara Probst, whose 2018 Your Novel Year project, *Queen of the Owls*, was published in 2020

"I was doggy paddling in the shallow end of the literary world until I took this course. Kathryn's insights, advice, and feedback don't skim the surface. She goes DEEP! She is a gifted instructor who will have writers of all levels effortlessly swimming along with powerful strokes of creativity and technique. Dive in, writers!"

—Kim K., historical fiction

"Kathryn can break down complex aspects of story structure into digestible, teachable bites. Her critiques are dead-on insightful, but served with humor and honesty about her own writing challenges."

—Teri G., historical fiction

"YOUR NOVEL YEAR made the difference between me writing a story and being a writer. Kathryn's personable style and deep knowledge of writing craft kept me engaged and interested and inspired."

—Wendy R., historical fiction

"Kathryn has an uncanny knack of finding the things every writer needs to improve upon while praising your strengths and always championing your efforts. The community forged with the other YNY participants was a welcome relief from the necessarily solitary task of writing."

—Riina C., young adult speculative fiction

"Kathryn can conjure illustrative examples like nobody's business. I wanted to try writing a novel (how hard could it be—ha!) and Kathryn has given me the tools to make a decent go of it."

—Diane M., women's fiction

"I liken Kathryn to the rubber bumpers on a carnival bumper car ride—always there to keep you in bounds and get you back into the fray with a gentle but firm push."

—Barbara C., horror

"Kathryn's YOUR NOVEL YEAR is a fabulous experience—so great, I signed up twice! The class offers the craft, inspiration, and accountability I needed to complete one novel and revise another. It was definitely worth the investment!"

—Cheryl R., mystery/thriller

**Lecturer: Women's Fiction Writers Association (keynote) • Pennwriters Conference (keynote) • Black Diamond Writers Conference (keynote) • Philadelphia Writers' Conference • Writer Unboxed UnConference • Bucks County Book Festival • Easton Book Festival • Drexel University • The Write Stuff Conference • Greater Lehigh Valley Writers Group • Brandywine Valley Writers • Main Line Writers • Valley Forge Romance Writers • Bucks County Romance Writers • South Jersey Writers • Long Beach Island Writers • Just Write Conference • ASJA • Lewes Writers Conference • Wilmington Writers • Chicago Writers Conference • Good Day PA (ABC) • WDIY (NPR) as well as bookstores, libraries, community groups, rehab centers, and book clubs in PA, DE, MD, NJ, NY, MA, OH**

