

Q. Jordan, can you tell us a little bit about yourself?

A. I'm pretty much a private person which is almost a contradiction, considering my chosen profession. Still, I like to keep a partition between personal and professional.

Q, Are there any personal experiences or events that influenced your desire to be a writer?

A. Reading. From comic books to history books, I just had a passion for reading. At one point I studied the dictionary and thesaurus, which would seem odd to most people but that's how deep my desire to master wordcraft went. I think for me it wasn't one event that made me want to become a published author but several. If you can imagine a stories better than you've ever read then consider becoming a writer.

Q. Can you tell us about your writing process?

A. I have a cache of story ideas and I choose one based on a few factors. One factor would be current demand but overall, my goal is to write the best story possible. To accomplish this, I do some general research and study market saturation because I strive for originality but I don't want to be an island unto myself.

Q. Are there any particular themes or messages you wanted to convey through your books? If so, what are they?

A. Just as beauty is in the eyes of the beholder themes and messages are in the minds of the reader. I try to allow my characters to create their own messaging regardless to what my opinion might be. Freedom of thought precludes freedom of speech and I have no desire to impose a single value system on my characters.

Q. What do you enjoy most about being an author, and what advice would you give to aspiring writers?

A. Writing is like planting, nurturing and harvesting your own garden, and it's so much sweeter when others enjoy the fruits of your labor. For aspiring authors I'd say, be self-motivated because you're going to be spending a lot of time alone. Also, perfection isn't a destination, it's a journey so make improving your skills an essential part of life. Most importantly, everyone can be a critic but only a handful of them actually know what it takes to achieve greatness.

Q. How do you handle writer's block or periods of low motivation? Do you have any strategies to keep yourself motivated?

A. You have to keep the mind youthfully active. If that means playing video games or watching animation, then do it. Be an adult but don't forget to look at things through the lens of a child every now and then. I believe that the imagination begins to shrink when you become overwhelmed with adult things. Overall though, I'd say that writers block doesn't mean the writing has to stop. Just write something, a journal perhaps.

Q. Are there any authors or books that have had a significant influence on your writing style or storytelling?

A. The style Toni Morrison and Pat Conroy used to tell stories is vibrant with an artistic flow. These two create exceptional prose using the most versatile and dynamic language known to man. I love this style, however, the expectations of pacing for today's readers requires compromise.

Q. In today's rapidly changing literary landscape, what are your thoughts on the future of writing and publishing?

A. Memories live in the past but people cannot, therefore, I'm excited by the AI Renaissance. For a long time, the publishing industry has been dominated by a select few. AI provides writers creative freedom along with the ability to publish like a professional.

Q. Who are your favorite authors?

A. Sir Conan Author Doyle, Toni Morrison, Charles Dickens, Stephen King, to name a few.

Q. When you develop characters do you already know who they are before you begin writing or do you let them develop as you go?

A. The main characters are always developed during the outline process. Your story hinges on these people so it goes without saying that these characters should be well thought out. Other characters can evolve as your main characters evolve but the goal should always make their story relatable.

Q. How do you find time to write?

A. The real question is not how do you find the time but how do you make the time. If you don't have the discipline to create structure writing will be an almost impossible task. My advice would be, remain perpetually curious, skillfully observant and keep up with current events. Then, pour all that research into your writing.