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Author Bio

TIPS & TEMPLATES

Saracen
CREATIVE



Crafting an Irresistible Author Bio

How to Position Yourself as a Must-Read Writer in 300 Words or Less

Your author bio isn't just a formality, it's a powerful part of your marketing! Whether it's printed on the back of your book, sitting on your Amazon page, or introducing you to new readers on social media, your bio is often your first impression. And, as you've probably heard, first impressions matter!

This guide was created to help you write **a magnetic, professional, and memorable author bio that:**

- Captures your voice and genre
- Connects with your ideal readers
- Builds your credibility without feeling like you're bragging
- Makes people want to read your work

Inside, you'll find a plug-and-play templates, a fully written example, and 10 best-practice tips, all designed to help you show up with clarity, confidence, and charisma.

Have fun, don't sweat it, and know that as you evolve, so will your bio!

xo Maria

Author Bio Overview

Before you get started, here's the big-picture view

Most author bios will fall under the three following lengths, and they can be written in **first person** (more friendly, casual) and **third person** (for professional use).

15–30 words Social bios, directories, email sig lines SHORT	60–90 words Amazon, Goodreads, retailer pages, speaker intros STANDARD	200–300 words Website About page, press kit, media inquiries LONG
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most used 

Be sure to include:

- ✓ Awards, publications, media appearances relevant to your genre
- ✓ Lived experience that informs your work
- ✓ One relatable personal detail (location, hobby, value)
- ✓ Credentials that build reader trust in your expertise

Best practice tips:

- ✓ Proofread carefully. Typos = credibility killer.
- ✓ Don't be overly modest and downplay your achievements.
- ✓ Match tone to genre: Funny book? Be funny in your bio.
- ✓ Professional does NOT equal boring or stiff.
- ✓ Every sentence must answer: "Does my reader care about this?"
- ✓ This isn't a resume. Cut the job history unless it's directly relevant.
- ✓ Update regularly: Add new books, awards, publications as they happen.
- ✓ Don't put time-sensitive information in bios that can't be updated

Short Author Bio

Here's an example of a ~25 word bio that can be used when space is limited and words need to be brief.

Alison Writingmaven writes fantasy that blurs myth and reality. Her debut, *Ashes of the Pyramid*, is hailed as "haunting and unforgettable." Connect at www.writingmavenwebsite.com.

60–90 Word Template

[First Name Last Name] writes [genre/specialty] that [signature style, unique themes, or notable achievement – e.g., "twists everyday moments into gripping psychological thrillers" / "blends ancient myth with modern magic"].

[His/Her/Their] [latest/debut/new] book, [Title], has been called [brief quote].
Connect at [website].

Standard Author Bio

Here's an example of a ~85 word bio, perfect for a variety of uses.

Alison Writingmaven is a fantasy fiction author known for lush, atmospheric worlds and fierce female protagonists. A former archaeologist, she brings ancient legends to life through vivid storytelling that blurs myth and reality. Her debut novel, *Ashes of the Pyramid*, was hailed as "haunting and unforgettable" by *Writer's Quarterly*. She lives with her cat and a journal full of sketches. Connect at www.writingmavenwebsite.com.

60–90 Word Template

[First Name Last Name] is a [genre/specialty] author known for [signature style, unique themes, or notable achievement – e.g., “twisting everyday moments into gripping psychological thrillers” / “blending ancient myth with modern magic”]. With a background in [relevant profession or experience – e.g., journalism, psychology, teaching, etc.], [First Name] draws on [experience, passion, or worldview] to write stories that [emotional/transformational impact – e.g., “leave readers breathless” / “explore what it means to be human” / “make you laugh, cry, and question everything”].

[First Name's] latest book, [Title,] is available now – a must-read for fans of [authors/influences or genres].

Connect with [him/her/they] at [website/social handle] or sign up for exclusive content at [newsletter link].

Long Author Bio

Here is an example of a ~200 word bio that would work well for a website or as a long-form author bio.

Alison Writingmaven is a fantasy fiction author known for crafting lush, atmospheric worlds and fierce female protagonists.

As a former archaeologist who's worked in Egypt and Greece, Alison brings ancient legends and buried truths to life through her vivid storytelling. Her books invite readers to explore the gray space between myth and reality — always with a twist they didn't see coming! Her fascination with how history shapes culture and character drives every story she tells, blending meticulous research with imaginative world-building.

Her short stories have appeared in *WowWriting* and *Fantasy Magazine*, and her debut novel, *Ashes of the Pyramid*, was hailed as "haunting and unforgettable" by *Writer's Quarterly*. The book launched a series that has captivated readers worldwide, earning devoted fans who return for each new installment.

When she's not writing, Alison can be found sketching flowers in her journal or arguing with her cat about bedtime. She's passionate about connecting with readers and loves sharing behind-the-scenes glimpses into her creative process.

Ashes of the Pyramid is available now, a must-read for fans of N.K. Penn and Madeline Paper.

Connect with Alison at www.writingmavenwebsite.com or [@writingmavenhandle](https://www.instagram.com/writingmavenhandle).

Long Author Bio (first person)

Same author bio, but first person, for a more casual, friendly connection (e.g. a website 'about' page)

Hi! I'm Alison, a fantasy fiction author who's completely obsessed with building lush, atmospheric worlds and writing fierce female protagonists who don't take anyone's nonsense.

I spent years as an archaeologist digging around Egypt and Greece, and my heart never really left. Those ancient legends, buried secrets, and forgotten gods are woven into everything I write. My books live in that delicious gray space between myth and reality—and yes, there's always a twist you won't see coming.

My short stories have popped up in *WowWriting* and *Fantasy Magazine*, and my debut novel, *Ashes of the Pyramid*, was called "haunting and unforgettable" by *Writer's Quarterly* (which still makes me grin like an idiot). It kicked off a series that readers keep coming back for, and I'm so grateful.

When I'm not writing, you'll find me sketching flowers in my journal or losing arguments with my cat about bedtime. Spoiler: he always wins.

I genuinely love connecting with readers and sharing the messy, magical behind-the-scenes of my creative process.

Ashes of the Pyramid is out now—perfect if you love N.K. Penn or Madeline Paper.

Let's be friends! Find me at www.writingmavenwebsite.com or [@writingmavenhandle](https://www.instagram.com/writingmavenhandle). I'd love to hear from you.

Plug-And-Play Template

Now it's your turn to fill in the blanks!

[First Name Last Name] is a [genre/specialty] author known for [signature style, unique themes, or notable achievement – e.g., “twisting everyday moments into gripping psychological thrillers” / “blending ancient myth with modern magic”]. With a background in [relevant profession or experience – e.g., journalism, psychology, teaching, etc.], [First Name] draws on [experience, passion, or worldview] to write stories that [emotional/transformational impact – e.g., “leave readers breathless” / “explore what it means to be human” / “make you laugh, cry, and question everything”].

Their work has been featured in [publications/media if applicable] and praised as [quote/review snippet or reader reaction if available]. When not writing, [First Name] can be found [quirky personal detail – e.g., “rewatching 90s sci-fi” / “wandering antique bookstores” / “getting overly competitive at board games”]. [First Name’s latest book, Title, is available now – a must-read for fans of [authors/influences or genres]].

Connect with [him/her/they] at [website/social handle] or sign up for exclusive content at [newsletter link].

Customizable Fields

Here's what you'll want to plug in:

- [First Name Last Name] – You (real name or pen name)
- [genre/specialty] – e.g., “contemporary romance,” “historical fantasy,” “nonfiction that changes lives”
- [signature style or themes] – What makes your writing unique
- [relevant background] – Past careers or passions that shape your perspective
- [emotional/transformational impact] – Why readers love your work
- [media or review quotes] – Optional, but powerful
- [quirky personal detail] – One authentic, relatable touch
- [book title and fan base] – Your latest or most popular work
- [contact or website] – Make it easy to connect

11 Best Practices

1) Lead with your genre or niche.

Don't make readers guess what you write — state it clearly upfront.

2) Make sure your bio resonates with your intended audience.

Publishers are different to website visitors, for instance.

3) Tie your background to your writing.

Whether you were a nurse, an engineer, or a world traveler — if your experience informs your storytelling or perspective, tell us!

4) Mention your most relevant achievements while staying approachable.

Awards, bestselling titles, media features? Include them!

5) Highlight what makes your voice unique.

Readers want a reason to choose you. Mention your signature style, themes, or the emotional journey your work provides.

6) Include at least one engaging and relatable personal detail.

A quirky hobby, odd obsession, or surprising fact. It humanizes you and makes you memorable.

7) Tailor the length to the platform.

On social media you might need only 1–2 punchy lines vs. a few paragraphs.

8) Use 3rd person for professionalism.

Unless it's something like your personal website or newsletter intro, stick to 3rd person (e.g., "Alex writes..." instead of "I write...").

9) Add a soft call to action.

Invite readers to connect with you — "Follow her at..." / "Sign up for exclusive stories at..." / "Get reader exclusive updates by visiting..."

10) Avoid a laundry list of facts.

Focus on story, not just credentials. Your bio should read like a miniature narrative, not a résumé.

11) Update it regularly.

As your writing and author career evolve so should your bio. Revisit it every 6–12 months or when you release new work.