

Dallas Mystery Writers

Zoom Synopsis Critique Session Guidelines

Purpose: The purpose of the critique is for you to receive **constructive** input from published writers. A synopsis is the first thing an agent or editor will ask for and their reading time is valuable, so you must be brief. A well-written synopsis is the best marketing tool you'll ever have. And it's a good skill to teach you to write as clearly and succinctly as possible.

How do I participate?

1. **Review guidelines and notes from a Synopsis Workshop** (see attachment) before registering. Send your **Name** and **Email** address to sandysteenwrites@gmail.com. A "join Zoom link" will be emailed to you the day before the meeting.
2. Readers must register by **April 30, 2021**. Requirements are **3 pages, max, double-spaced**. Those who "listen only" are welcome to attend.
3. Readers, please state genre of your story (mystery, sci-fi, romance, etc.) and intended audience at the start of your read.
4. Readers **must not respond to critiques** unless a panelist asks you a specific question. Even if you don't agree, please graciously accept the input and use it to improve your skills. Comments may be left in the "Chat" section of the screen.
5. Dallas Mystery Writers members are given priority to read. Non-members who register will read afterward.
6. Any level and style of writing is allowed except erotic, graphic sex or graphic violence. Sorry, no poetry.

To get a Zoom link for the Dallas Mystery Writers meeting on May 1, 2021, send an email to james@gaskin.com to be added to the Dallas Mystery Writers mailing list for notifications with the Zoom link.