

February 2016

# Suburban Scribe

## Newsletter of the Sacramento Suburban Writers Club

[sactowriters.org](http://sactowriters.org)

### Tess Perez

### Speaker at our February 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Tess Perez is currently an editor for **From Sac** literary magazine, a literary journal she started with two friends from graduate school. ([www.fromsac.com](http://www.fromsac.com)) Topics for her presentation include: “How and Where To Submit,” “Writing and Revision,” and “Cover Letters and How To Promote Your Work.”

After studying at CSU Sacramento, Tess graduated with a BA in English and Minor in Theater. She was an actor with Abandon Productions, a local theater company. She went back to school in 2009 and earned her MA in English with an emphasis in Creative Writing.

She published her first book, *Pieces*, in 2014. It is a collaborative project with several artists. The story plays around with the traditional tenets of a fairy tale and works to change them. She has been an instructor and taught Literature and Film and Composition. She tutors reading and writing.

As for her personal projects, she is currently working on several short stories and a collaborative novel with another writer.

When she is not writing, you will find her out in nature—hiking, camping, backpacking or kayaking. She finds that nature calms her soul and opens her mind to create.

Read some of her writing at [www.tess-perez.com](http://www.tess-perez.com).



**All meetings are held at the Crossroads Community Fellowship Church's meeting hall, 5501 Dewey Drive, Carmichael — just north of the Madison/Dewey intersection, 7-9 p.m. on the 2nd Monday of each month. All writers are encouraged to attend.**

*Membership is not mandatory but brings privileges. See last page.*



## Love Quotes by Famous Authors

*"If you have only one smile in you give it to the people you love."*

-Maya Angelou

*"You don't love because: you love despite, not for the virtues, but despite the faults."*

-William Faulkner

*"Love looks not with the eyes but the mind."*

-William Shakespeare

*"To love oneself is the beginning of a life long romance."*

-Oscar Wilde

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## Hello, My Name is Peddy

Brit Lord

"All right iDometer, let's see what you can do," Tracy said as she pressed the little ON button.

The little screen flashed on. It showed a brief animation of shoes running then went to a menu screen. "Hello. My name is Peddy. I think this is the first time we have met. Is this true?"

A YES and a NO button appeared on the touch screen and Tracy tapped YES.

"Is this your first time using an iDometer?"

"Why, yes, it is," Tracy responded, again tapping the YES button on the screen.

"I see. How would you like me to address you? To give the iDometer voice commands, please hold the START button. I will record and memorize your voice so only you may give my commands."

Following the instructions, Tracy held the iDometer close to her mouth. "Peddy, please call me Tracy."

"You do not need to hold the iDometer so close to your mouth. My microphone can easily hear you. I will call you Trady from now on."

"No, my name is Tracy."

"Very well, I shall call you Trady from now on."

"No, Tracy. Call me Tracy."

"Very well, I shall call you Trady from now on."

She glared at the little white pedometer. "Oh, fine, whatever. Forget my name."

"Very well, I shall forget your name."

"What? No, that's not what I meant."

"Then perhaps you should try saying what you mean. It might help you achieve those life goals once in a while."

Her mouth dropped open for a moment and then snapped shut as she grabbed the box her new iDometer came in.

"Where are the instructions for this thing?"

"Would you like to set up a profile, Trady?"

Pausing in her search, Tracy let out a sigh. "Sure. Fine, let's set up a profile."

"Very well. What is your gender?"

"Female."

"This may be personal, but please be honest. How old are you?"

"Thirty-four."

"Really? Remember, I will not be able to effectively help you if you are not honest."

She shifted all her weight to one foot. "Yes, really. I'm thirty-four, and I'm beginning to regret buying you."

"Very well. I shall list your age as thirty-four for now. How tall are you, Trady?"

"Five feet and four inches tall."

"Last question: How much do you weigh?"

"One hundred and sixty-five pounds."

"Wow, Trady. You need to lose some weight."

"Why do you think I got you?" She set the iDometer down on the table and started pulling everything out of the box.

No instructions were in sight.

"Very well, I shall call you Fatty from now on."

Tracy threw the box on the floor. "What?! No! That's not what I said!"

"Fatty, would you like to set up a workout plan so we can get you down to a healthy weight?"

"No! Peddy, stop calling me fatty!"

"There are many benefits to maintaining a healthy weight. Not only will you feel better, but you will improve your self-confidence and finally be able to meet a man."

Tracy just stared at the little pedometer, mouth open and eyes wide.

"Let's face it, you are not getting any younger, Fatty, and I'm sure your parents are wondering when they will be getting grandchildren."

"That's it, you filthy little machine!" Tracy grabbed the iDometer off the table and hurled it as hard as she could against the wall.

The iDometer bounced off the wall, then bounced on the floor a couple of times before landing screen down.

"Thanks to the marvels of modern technology, I am now shatter proof," Peddy chimed. "I will not break no matter how hard I am dropped or thrown. I am also water and fire proof. I can go with you everywhere: the gym, the pool, and if you purchase my lovely wrist band, I am even a tasteful accessory for parties."

With a loud sigh, Tracy folded her arms together. "I wonder if I can get my money back."

"There are no refunds for the iDometer, and really, why would you want to trade in such a marvelous piece of technology? I can monitor your weight, your heart rate, and even tell you how well you are sleeping, which is probably not well given that you are supposedly thirty-four."

She grabbed the iDometer off the floor, shoved it back in the box, and tossed it on her table. "Time to just make peace with my weight."

"It is attitudes like that that are the reason people call you fatty," Peddy's muffled voice responded.

Tracy scowled at the box, then stormed off. "Maybe a hammer will kill it."

## Tammy's Corner

Valentines Day is coming up, so don't forget to give something to your favorite sweetheart to remind them you care. Otherwise you could wind up in the doghouse. Haven't they made that a national holiday yet? Don't we need more days off? That would make the workweek only thirty-two hours long. Wouldn't that be great!?

Our SSWC Banquet is in May. As you all know, we had a great fundraiser last year and reached our goal of \$1000 for a student scholarship. We plan to continue that effort to help enhance our community by encouraging students to become better writers and scholars. I hope you all read the story from the student who won last year's scholarship. If not, it will be coming out in our SSWC Anthology soon.

We accomplished that goal by having a silent auction of donated items gathered from our members, and business's. **So, I would like to ask you to start checking around your house for interesting, newish and desirable items that you think someone would want to purchase.** Remember your donations are tax deductible. (You might want to donate something before April, so you can use the deduction for this year's taxes.) Just bring them in to SSWC, and I will store them until the silent auction.



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Are you writing a memoir or other work that includes photographs or documents? Need help scanning your photos? I have a Kodak upright scanner that can copy your photos or documents FAST! And no more cropping! Scans start at 39 cents each.

Contact **Bonnie Bair** at [bonniebair@yahoo.com](mailto:bonniebair@yahoo.com) or 916-256-7860 to make an appointment and start digitalizing your photos. I can also show you some additional fun ways to use your photos.



**Here are some pictures I've scanned from years past. The one on the left is from my 8<sup>th</sup> birthday party and, in the image on the right, I was probably 4 or 5 years old with my dad and siblings.**



MEMBERSHIP is paid on a yearly basis. If joining after March, dues are prorated by quarter for new members.

Individual \$40.00/year Couple \$55.00/year  
Full-Time Student \$30.00/year Platinum Senior (70+) \$30.00/year

Membership is not required for attending meetings but provides benefits such as:

- 1) publication in newsletter
- 2) participation in club author events
- 3) participation in critique groups
- 4) grants for conferences ... & more

More information is on our website: [sactowriters.org](http://sactowriters.org).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Genres: \_\_\_\_\_ Published? Y/N

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Website/other info/address (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Your name and email are needed to receive the digital newsletter.

**OFFICERS**

**Elected Officers:**

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 \$3 a month (3 month minimum) for members  
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**COPY AND DEADLINES**

Submit original written material such as poems, letters, book excerpts, articles, book reviews, humor, web sites to visit, general information, fun stuff to share — almost anything ***by the 25th of each month.*** Also, share info about other meetings, contests, books, book signings, classes, etc.

Please keep the submission relatively short. Also, please submit electronically. There is no pay but byline credit is given — and that looks good to agents and publishers. This is a benefit of being a member of SSWC. Contact Deanna at [neverblocked@gmail.com](mailto:neverblocked@gmail.com) or Bonnie at [bonniebair@yahoo.com](mailto:bonniebair@yahoo.com) with your submissions.

Share your memory of finding SSWC. Tell us what brought you here. How you found the club. What your impressions were. What made you come in the first place. What made you come back....

Send your submissions in. Help us celebrate this, our 61th year of existence.

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