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## How to Become a Successful Writer

Whenever I write a short story or say a “novel”, I get a feeling inside of me. I feel like the whole world is around me, and I am telling a story to them except it is much more than just telling a story. Writing a story can be very challenging at times, but that is why I keep trying. Ever since I was a little girl I have loved to write everything from cards to stories. I guess writing runs in the family because, both my great aunt are writers, several cousins are authors and my dad has been published in a couple of magazines.

I interviewed my great aunt Nancie Charmicheal (an author) about writing:

My first question to ask her was, "What are any of your concerns when you are writing a book?"

She answered back, “When I first start writing a book my biggest concern is that I say what the book should say, and not get off the track. It's very important to first think clearly through what the book is about; who am I writing it to; and why. It's also easy to take "bunny trails," and say things that don't belong in the book.”

My second question to ask her was, "Was your journey to being a writer hard or easy? Why?"

She replied back, “I wouldn't say becoming a writer is hard, because if that's

what you really want to do, you love it! But you do have to be persistent, and keep at it. The hardest thing is getting rejected. But if you stick with it; learn to edit out unnecessary words and take criticism well, you can become a good writer.”

My third question to ask her was, "Do you consider yourself a successful writer?"

She answered, "I still feel I have a lot to learn! I am working on another book right now, but I keep revising it and changing it, because I realize it needs work."

My fourth question to ask her was, "What is your favorite book, and why?"

She replied, "I have so many favorite books! I love your great Aunt Jayne's book, "The Place of Belonging." I loved "How Green Was My Valley" when I was about your age. I just read Sue Monk Kidd's "Invention of Wings," which is based on real characters and it is wonderful."

My last question to ask her was, "Who is your favorite author?"

She answered back, "Frederick Buechner is probably my favorite inspirational writer."

A step to becoming a successful writer is to find a subject that you like than start writing about it. More steps to becoming a successful writer are: knowing your subject well, use good grammar, be specific, and creative. Writing can be hard if you have writers block, but if you keep trying, you can do it! Writing is very fun so I think everyone who likes to write should try it. The number one step to writing a story is to love what you are writing about.