

Revolutionary Writing Week #4

Healing After Horror

The Five Fold Path

- 1) Love yourself.
- 2) Connect to at least one other person
- 3) Understand human history and psychology without guilt, blame, or shame.
- 4) Find and build your tribe. Protect them. If you act politically, do it with integrity.
- 5) SUCCEED

The power of Journaling

- Social media is not journaling
- Social media often uses a “mask”
- Journaling is about revealing truth
- Journaling can be a crucial tool in hard times.

Developing a theory of humanity

- Understanding yourself is the first step
- You are more likely to be right if you assume others are like you, then move away from that position if necessary, than if you start with the assumption that people are different, and then make a few rare exceptions there.
- Watch my lecture on “Sociology and World Building” to get my view on these things.

What is your story about?

- Distinguish between the REASON you're writing your story/script and what HAPPENS in your story.

How Theme can elevate storytelling

- Octavia Butler's classic PARABLE OF THE SOWER
- The art of writing “around” theme rather than stating it directly
- The role of symbolism
- Theme as a diagnostic tool

This week's guest:

- Producer EFFIE BROWN
- Project Greenlight
- “Dear White People”

Effie Brown



Uplifting Art

- On the heels of election night, “The Arrival” is right on time.
- It is next week’s homework: get out and see it!

Film Analysis: Children of Men

- Can you identify the steps of the Hero's Journey:
- Challenge
- Refusal
- Acceptance
- Road of Trials
- Allies and Powers

Children of Men

- Confront Evil—defeat
- Dark Night of the Soul
- Leap of Faith
- Confront Evil—succeed
- Student becomes the teacher

Children of Men-Characterization

- How many of the basic seven can you identify?
- Survival
- Sex
- Power
- Emotion
- Communication
- Intellect
- Spirit

Next Week's Guest:

- SCIENCE FICTION MASTER DAVID GERROLD
- “The Trouble With Tribbles” (one of the 100 most famous television episodes)
- Hugo and Nebula winner
- GOH 2015 Worldcon
- LGBT activist