

We are pleased to receive query letters for fiction manuscripts, including those for novels, contemporary, urban, inspirational and motivational. Queries should include a cover letter, author background and publication history (if applicable), a detailed synopsis of the proposed work, and a sample chapter. Please indicate if the work is simultaneously submitted.

FLOWERS IN BLOOM PUB. is a small, independent house, we accept only a very small percentage of the works proposed to us. Since the size of our editorial staff reflects the size of the company on the whole, we ask that you be patient while we consider your work. Our aim is to respond to proposals within two months, and to requested manuscripts within one month. While we appreciate the interest of all of the dedicated writers who propose and submit their work to us, we can't always adhere to these time frames, or provide as comprehensive a response to the works as we would like.

We also have a longstanding commitment to publishing extraordinary stories.

All query letters, proposals, and manuscript submissions from writers must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope for our response and the return of submitted material. They should be addressed to:



Flowers In Bloom Publishing
2152 Ralph Avenue #421
Brooklyn, NY 11234

Please include a self-addressed, stamped business envelope for our response to your query, and a self-addressed, stamped mailer if you would like your materials to be returned. Please do not send original artwork or irreplaceable documents as we cannot assume responsibility for these.

Please follow the instructions below carefully:

- Print black on white paper (8 1/2" x 11"; loose sheets—binding preferred).
- Use Times New Roman, Courier or New Courier font. Double space and justify.
- In the upper left-hand corner of the title page, put your name, address, and phone number. A third of the way down the page center the book title; then center your name on a new line below the book title.
- Use a header on every page; include your last name, book title (shortened if necessary for the header), and page number.
- Paginate the book consecutively; do not restart pagination for each chapter or section.
- Start each paragraph with a tab or initial indent. Do not space between paragraphs.
- Put only one space between each word and one space after sentence-ending periods.

MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION

If this is your first novel, please don't contact FLOWERS IN BLOOM PUB. Publishing until your manuscript is nearly complete. The purpose of your submission is to get us sufficiently interested so that we will want to read your complete manuscript. Your submission should include:

- Cover letter
- Biographical sketch
- Story synopsis
- The first chapter, plus a title page

1. Cover Letter:

Your cover letter is your query letter to us. It should contain an exciting opening that will "grab" our attention. One page is more than enough. Your cover letter should be clear and succinct (like all readers, we are discouraged by spelling errors, punctuation mistakes, and poor grammar). Here is a format that we often use when we send a promising manuscript to a publisher:

- A single paragraph that introduces the story
- A short description of the novel—its setting, its themes, its length; whether this a stand-alone book or will be part of a series
- A brief explanation of why the story will appeal to readers
- A concluding paragraph that introduces the writer and explains his/her motivation for writing the novel

2. Story Synopsis

Prepare a three-to-five page synopsis of your story. (There are many guides available; writing an effective synopsis is one of the skills you need as a fiction writer.) The goal of your synopsis is to convince us that you have crafted a complete, compelling story, with no holes.

3. The First Chapter

If your first chapter is shorter than 10 pages, send us the first 10 pages. Remember: this is a sample to get us interested in reading the whole manuscript. Layout the pages with one inch margins top and bottom and slightly wider margins left and right. Use a standard type font (12-point Courier or Times New Roman), double spaced. Number each page consecutively. Place your name and title of the work in the top right-hand corner of each page.

4. Title Page

The title of a novel is extremely important. A good title can be the key to selling a book. However, keep in mind that we have the right to re-name the book. A generally accepted format for a title page is:

- Title placed midway down the page in CAPITAL LETTERS; drop two lines for the author's byline
- Author's name, address, phone number, e-mail address in bottom right-hand corner
- Don't use fancy type faces or typographical designs as this can often be distracting.