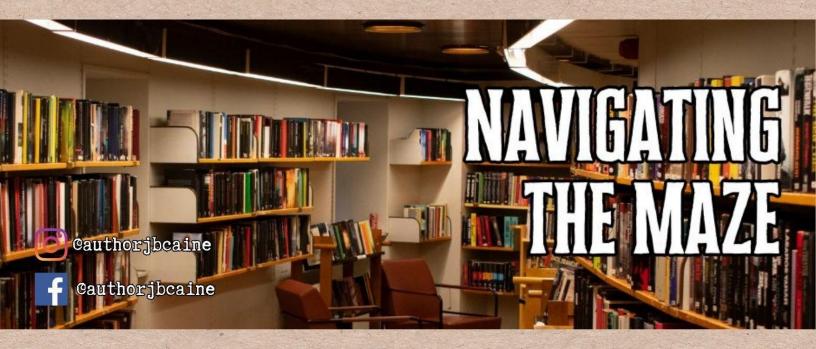
Edition #18 November, 2024

A NEWSLETTER FROM AUTHOR JB CAINE

# THE BUSY QUILL

www.jbcaine.com



### THE LABYRINTH OF PUBLISHING

Okay, so you've slain the dragon...you've written a novel and you've spent hours editing. You've even had your sister read it and gotten her feedback because you trust her to give you genuine feedback.

#### Now what?

Now you have to figure out how to get it out into the world, and hopefully even make a little money. And speaking for myself, that was a lot more intimidating than crafting a story. I feel confident about my creativity (usually), but my business sense? Not so much.

The first decision you have to make as an author is deciding HOW to publish, and there are three main routes:

 Independent (Self) Publishing: You are the captain of your ship. You control everything, but you also have to DO everything. You use a platform like Kindle Direct Publishing to upload your manuscript and cover design. You have to do all your own marketing and you generally get to keep about 30-50% of your book sale price.

- Hybrid Publishing: This means a smaller publishing house, and they provide you with some support like editing or cover design. They generally don't provide a lot of marketing support. You get 20-25%.
- Traditional Publishing: You query agents (usually) and they represent you to larger publishers. You get support in almost all areas, but you relinquish the reins. The timeline may be one of many months, but you'll probably sell more books. You get around 12%.

BEWARE OF ANY PUBLISHER WHO ASKS YOU FOR MONEY UP FRONT. THESE ARE CALLED VANITY PRESSESS.
YOU'LL SPEND HUNDREDS. MAYBE THOUSANDS. AND YOU'RE UNLIKELY TO MAKE THAT MONEY BACK.

#### THE BIG FIVE

#### THIS MONTH: THE "BIG 5" OF PUBLISHING

- I. HACHETTE BOOK GROUP
- 2. HARPERCOLLINS PUBLISHERS
- 3. MACMILLAN PUBLISHERS
- 4. PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE
- 5. SIMON & SCHUSTER

# WHAT'S NEW THIS MONTH:

STRENGTH OF WILL TAKES THE GOLD!



COME SEE ME IN TEMPLE TERRACE!



I'll be here Nov. 9-10!

## FEATURED AUTHOR: SHAWN AMICK



JBC: GIVE US A SUMMARY OF FOR "THE CRUELTY OF MAGIC!" SA: THE CRUELTY OF MAGIC is a gripping and intriguing epic fantasy that will captivate readers who crave complex moral landscapes, intricate world-building, and morally ambiguous characters, making it a perfect fit for fans of deep,

philosophical storytellingand nuanced explorations of power, faith, and the human condition. JBC: HOW DID YOU DECIDE WHAT TO ENHANCE WHEN YOU MADE THE SHIFT FROM INDIE TO

TRADITIONAL PUBLISHING?

SA: I just knew I didn't tell the best version of that story (4 years old at that time). I wasn't diverse enough, nor did I have the skills to wield the style I wanted to champion. In short, I knew where I needed to grow.

JBC: WHAT SHOULD WRITERS TAKE INTO ACCOUNT WHEN DECIDING WHAT PUBLISHING STRUCTURE IS RIGHT FOR THEM?

SA: Do you want control, or do you want a team? That's the crux of the dilemma.

Shawn is widely known for his online presence. Check out his Tiktok @shawnamickauthor

