

14 Principles

1. Trust . . . belief in reliability, truth, ability, or strength of someone or something.
Learn to TRUST your inner self about your ability to write despite the detractors.
2. Respect . . . admiration for abilities, qualities, achievements.
RESPECT yourself for doing the best you can. Don't be afraid to ask for help.
3. Commitment . . . the state or quality of being dedicated to a cause, activity.
Work at your craft on a regular basis; even if you just jot down notes, ideas.
4. Service / Not servitude or servant . . . helping or doing work, assistance or advice
You can give back to the writing community with good feedback and critique.
5. Influence . . . effect on character, development, behaviors, or the effect itself.

High control & little influence:
You have a great amount of control over your writing but cannot exert influence over others who may control things outside your scope (print/markets etc). Do what you can with the control.

High influence & little control:
You may have a great influence on the out of scope items but have no control to make the consumer buy and/or read. Look for ways to exert your influence. A writers' club or youth group?
6. Development . . . the process of developing or being developed.
The more you write, the better you are. Take the critiques (good or bad) and learn. Remember many "readers" are vindictive, and love to give bad review, because they can, especially if anonymously.
7. Relationships . . . two or more concepts, objects, or people are connected.
Be genuine in your relationship with your readers. Yes, even the negative ones. Might be an opportunity for you. (See Empower)

8. Listening . . . taking notice of, making an effort to hear, comply with instructions.
Reading your work. It always looks perfect. If you can, use the 'playback' function on your word processor. You might be surprised on what you hear. (See Hearing)
9. Hearing . . . the ability to perceive sounds.
What does your 'playback' or having another person narrate your words feel like. It's a struggle to balance against what you are writing, and what you mean to say. (See Listening)
10. Empower . . . authority or power, make stronger in confidence and rights.
You can empower yourself; write because you want to; write because it's your job. Remember those honest critiques. TRUST, RESPECT, SERVICE, INFLUENCE.
11. Care . . . attention, correctness, protection, or welfare, avoiding danger or risk.
Care for yourself. Rules and Norms. Relationship building. Don't beat yourself up. (See Empower). Follow your own advice!
12. Potential . . . demonstrating capacity, development, future, quality, ability.
Very few writer's existence is based on the Latin "Scribo, Ergo Sum". Recognize that as a writer, you write because you have a story to tell, not because the sky is falling. Write. Read other works and genres. EMPOWER yourself. Take critique and all feedback to evaluate your own work. Give the same in return.
13. Print and Publish . . . produce books, transfer of text, images, or designs to paper.
prepare and issue a book, journal, for public sale, distribution.
*Publish or Not to Publish, that is the question. No one can read your work if you don't get it to the public domain. Try the 'free publishing spots'.
Printing is harder to accomplish due to the cost and quality. Make the best decision on your return on investment. Are you writing, publishing, printing as a hobby, or as your job. Many new authors opt for self-publishing. A note of caution, watch the scams, do your homework.*
14. Sequels . . . work that continues the story or develops the theme of an earlier one.
Keep a character list, and timeline, handy. Many commercial word processing "assistants" offer that capability. It WILL save you time and lower your frustration level.

Funnies:

Snappy comebacks: Watch it . . . my writer voice is stronger than *Sith* (or is that Shit).

Careful, you could end up a character in my next novel

Found on a writer's business card. Word Warrior