

4th Annual Medical Fiction Writing For Physicians

September 12, 13, & 14, 2003

Friday, September 12, 2003

7:00 - 8:30p.m. Reception

Personal Success Stories: Michael Palmer and Tess Gerritsen
Discussion with Authors/Seminar Leaders

Saturday, September 13, 2003

7:30 - 8:00 **Continental Breakfast**

8:00 - 10:00 **Mechanics of Writing: In Depth**
Premises vs. Plot, Ideas and Where You Get Theme, Setting and Atmosphere, Showing vs. Telling, Points of View
[Writing Exercise](#)
[Group Discussion](#)

10:00 - 10:15 **Break and Networking Opportunity**

10:15 - 12:15 **Character in Depth:**
Naming and Describing Your Characters, Back Story, History of Characters, Motivation, Relationships, Conflict, Dialogue, Minor Characters, Evolution of Characters Throughout the Book

12:15 - 1:30 **Lunch (Provided) with Faculty**

1:30 - 2:30 **Character in Depth:** (Continued)
[Writing Exercise](#)
[Group Discussion](#)

2:30 - 2:45 **Break and Networking Opportunity**

2:45 - 5:15 **Plot in Depth:**
Building Scenes, Developing Suspense, Pacing, Crisis and Resolution, Opening Hooks
[Writing Exercise](#)
[Group Discussion](#)

5:15 - 6:15 **Book Signing:**
Michael Palmer and Tess Gerritsen

Sunday, September 14, 2003

7:30 - 8:00 **Continental Breakfast**

8:00 - 10:00 **Plot in Depth:**
Subplots, Handling Transitions, Starting and Ending Chapters, Suspense and Surprise, Themes, Flashbacks
[Writing Exercise](#)
[Group Discussion](#)

10:00 - 10:15 **Break and Networking Opportunity**

10:15 - 12:15 **Getting Published:**
Agents and Editors, How to Write a Synopsis and Query Letter, Publication Process, Manuscript Appearances and Mechanics, Ancillary Markets, Book Tours
[Group Discussion](#)

12:15 - 1:30 **Lunch (Provided) with Faculty**

1:30 - 3:00 **Research, Editing, and Revising: In Depth**
How to Research Cost Effectively, Editing Process, When is Enough Revising Enough

3:00 - 5:00 **Writer's Problems and How to Overcome Them: In Depth**
Writer's Block, Distractions, Fears, Leaving the Nest (Spouses invited)

5:00 **Concluding Remarks**

Here is what past participants had to say about the program...

- ◆ Enjoyed entire program. Critical + feature = the phenomenal faculty.
- ◆ I love Tess' presentation, style, and enthusiasm! She and Michael are a great team!
- ◆ Excellent group discussions.
- ◆ I was most impressed by the two famous authors giving so much of their time to present the material and interact with us. That makes the difference between this program being "helpful" and "indispensable". It was an experience to remember.
- ◆ Michael and Tess were great and a big help! Hell, I even bought their books!
- ◆ Informative, inspirational, and enjoyable.
- ◆ Best writing seminar I've been to.
- ◆ I didn't realize Tess and Michael would be running it! That was a great surprise! I thought they were going to be guest speakers only!
- ◆ Excellent to hear successful authors give all of their own concentrated experiences - was unprecedented.
- ◆ Loved it! The best I've ever attended!

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Registration Form

4th Annual Medical Fiction Writing For Physicians
September 12, 13, and 14, 2003
Sea Crest Oceanfront Resort

Mail to: SEAK, Inc. **Fax to:** (508) 540-8304 **Call:** (508) 457-1111 **Priority Code:** Net

P.O. Box 729

Falmouth, MA 02541

Tuition is \$995. Enclosed please find payment of _____

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Please print or type all information to assure accuracy. All confirmations will be sent to the individual indicated.

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SEAK
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Proudly Presents:

4th Annual MEDICAL FICTION WRITING FOR PHYSICIANS

Featuring **Michael Palmer, MD**, author of *Critical Judgement*, *Silent Treatment*, *Natural Causes*, *Extreme Measures*, *Flashback*, *Side Effects*, *The Sisterhood*, *Miracle Cure*, *The Patient*, and *Fatal*

and

Tess Gerritsen, MD, author of *Harvest*, *Life Support*, *Bloodstream*, *Gravity*, and *The Surgeon*



New! New! New!
Featuring **TEN** New York agents and editors
looking for new physician-authors

September 12, 13 & 14, 2003
Sea Crest Oceanfront Resort
Falmouth, Cape Cod, Massachusetts

*Make Your
Writing Dream
A Reality*

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SEAK, Inc.

4th Annual MEDICAL FICTION WRITING FOR PHYSICIANS

Executive Summary

Like all SEAK training, *Medical Fiction Writing For Physicians* will be hands-on, lively, and interactive. Attendees will have the opportunity to get all their questions answered. There will be numerous writing exercises and attendees will have an opportunity to get their writing reviewed and evaluated. *Medical Fiction Writing For Physicians* has been designed to give aspiring physician-authors what they have never had before: hands-on and practical training on how to write medical fiction and get published.

To deliver this training, SEAK has put together a world-class faculty. *New York Times* best-selling physician-authors, Michael Palmer, MD and Tess Gerritsen, MD, will be teaching the course. The faculty also features ten New York literary agents and editors looking for new physician-authors. Space is limited for this special seminar. It is sure to sell out for the fourth straight year. Early registration is highly recommended.

Topics Covered

- Personal Success Stories: Michael Palmer and Tess Gerritsen
- Mechanics of Writing In Depth: Premises vs. Plot, Ideas, Settings and Atmosphere, Showing vs. Telling, Points of View
- Character in Depth: Naming and Describing, Back Story, History, Motivation, Relationships, Conflict, Dialogue, Minor Characters and Evolution of Characters
- Plot in Depth: Building Scenes, Pacing, Developing, Suspense, Crisis and Resolution, Opening Hooks
- Getting Published: Agents and Editors, Writing a Synopsis and Query Letter, Acquisition and Publication Process, Manuscript Appearance, Ancillary Markets, and Book Tours
- Writing Exercises and Group Discussion

Frequently Asked Questions

- Q. Do I have to have a manuscript to attend or benefit from this course?
A. No – All you need is a desire or interest in writing.
- Q. If I have never written fiction before, is this course for me?
A. Yes – This course will help both the new and experienced writer.
- Q. Will this course help me get started?
A. Attendance is the first step to getting started. Don't put it off.
- Q. Will this course be work or fun?
A. It will be lively, interactive, and fascinating. You will "work" as much as you want to.
- Q. Will I get a chance to meet and talk to Michael Palmer and Tess Gerritsen?
A. Yes – They will both be at the course for three days and available to talk with you.

Seminar Benefits

- Network with faculty, colleagues and New York agents and editors looking for new physician-authors
- Learn from your peers who have made the transition from practicing physicians to international best-selling authors
- Gain practical writing experience
- Have your writing reviewed and critiqued by a faculty member
- Soup to nuts fiction writing: from naming characters to getting an agent and getting published
- Gorgeous location
- Breakfast and lunch with Michael and Tess each day
- Network with faculty and colleagues
- This is the only course of its kind in the United States

Faculty

◆ Tess Gerritsen, MD

Tess Gerritsen, MD is the *New York Times* best selling author of five medical thrillers: *HARVEST* (1996), *LIFE SUPPORT* (1997), *BLOODSTREAM* (1998), *GRAVITY* (1999), and *THE SURGEON* (2001). She received her BA from Stanford University and her MD from the University of California, San Francisco. She practiced as an internist for five years before leaving medicine to raise her children and concentrate on her new career as a novelist. Among her other writing credits are nine romantic thriller novels, as well as the screenplay for the 1993 CBS movie of the week, "Adrift," starring Kate Jackson. The feature film rights for *GRAVITY* have been sold to New Line Cinema.

◆ Michael Palmer, MD

Michael Palmer, MD, is the *New York Times* best-selling author of *CRITICAL JUDGMENT*, *SILENT TREATMENT*, *NATURAL CAUSES*, *EXTREME MEASURES*, *FLASHBACK*, *SIDE EFFECTS*, *THE SISTERHOOD*, *MIRACLE CURE*, *THE PATIENT*, and *FATAL*. *EXTREME MEASURES* was made into a 1996 film by Castleock Pictures starring Hugh Grant and Gene Hackman. His books have been translated into thirty languages. He trained in internal medicine at Boston City and Massachusetts General Hospitals, spent twenty years as a full-time practitioner of internal medicine, and is now an Associate Director of the Massachusetts Medical Society's Physician Health Program.

◆ Agents and Editors

New York literary agents and editors who work in commercial fiction and are looking for new physician-authors will be present. This year we have more than doubled the number of our agents and editors.

Marcia Amsterdam is an agent at Marcia Amsterdam Agency. She is interested in medical and legal thrillers.

Michael Bourret is an agent at Jayne Dystel Literary Management and is interested in literary and commercial fiction.

Nina Collins is an agent at Collins McCormack Literary Agency and is interested in literary and commercial fiction.

Elaïne English is an agent at Graybill & English, LLC, in Washington, DC. She is an attorney who expanded her legal practice to include agenting of commercial fiction.

Sara Ann Freed joined Mysterious Press in 1985 and is now its Editor-In-Chief. When Mysterious Press was acquired by Warner Books, she also became a Senior Editor of Warner.

Ellen C. Geiger is a senior agent with Curtis Brown Ltd., where she represents Wes Craven, Sujata Massey, Donna Anders, as well as many other writers of both fiction and nonfiction.

Allison McCabe is a senior editor at Berkley Books, a division of Penguin Putnam. She acquires both fiction and nonfiction.

Susan Ann Protter is a New York agent who is interested in suspense fiction including thrillers.

Meg Ruley joined the Jane Rotrosen Agency in 1981 and is best known for representing authors of commercial fiction and nonfiction.

Page Wheeler is an agent with Creative Media Agency, Inc. She is most interested in commercial fiction thrillers and mysteries.

◆ Steven Babitsky, Esquire

Steven Babitsky, Esq. was a personal injury attorney for twenty years. He is the co-author of many works in the medical-legal arena. He is the co-author of ten books.

◆ Beth Wechsler, MSW

Beth Wechsler, MSW brings a combination of writing and group facilitation skills to the workshop. Nationally known for her books about high-risk youth, her stories have been published in *Yankee*, *eBay Magazine*, *The Boston Globe*, *Consumer Reports* and regularly in Cape Cod newspapers.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Recommendations

We recommend that each physician wishing to attend:

1. Completes brief writing assignments before coming to the course.
2. Reads the seminar textbook prior to attending. This book will be sent to you at no additional cost when you register.

The writing exercises and the book will be mailed to you as soon as you register.

Registration is on a first come basis. Conference enrollment and hotel sleeping rooms are limited. We recommend that you do not delay.

Hotel Rates/Reservations

SEAK, Inc. has reserved a limited number of rooms at special rates (\$125.00) at the hotel. Reservations are made by attendees directly with the site hotel by calling 1-800-225-3110 and asking for the SEAK Inc. Medical Fiction group rate.

Sea Crest Oceanfront Resort

The Sea Crest Oceanfront Resort and Conference Center is located on Falmouth's Old Silver Beach, one of Cape Cod's most beautiful stretches of beach. Falmouth features quaint rose-clad cottages of an earlier day, a beautiful harbor, direct ferry service to Martha's Vineyard (five miles away), several public golf courses, the world-famous Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and many fine dining establishments. The Sea Crest features many amenities to occupy leisure time. These include:

- 684 feet of private, white, sand beach
- Poolside recreational area with shuffleboard, basketball, badminton, volleyball, putting green
- Outdoor tennis courts, pool, deck, and cabana bar for lounging or cocktails
- Heated indoor pool, jacuzzi, atrium for sun and relaxation
- Two-level fitness center, saunas, steamroom
- Bicycle and watercraft rentals
- Shuttle van service to three 18-hole golf courses, nearby sightseeing attractions, and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
- Video arcade; seasonal children's day camp

Air Travel

Falmouth, Massachusetts is located on historic and beautiful Cape Cod. Falmouth is served by Logan International Airport in Boston and T. F. Green Airport in Warwick, Rhode Island. Car rental or service is available from both locations.

Questions and Answers

Questions are encouraged. There will be ample time set aside for questions and answers.

Submissions

A faculty member will read and review a representative sample of your work AND additional charge if you register before August 15, 2003. Upon registration, we will send you instructions on how to submit an outline-summary and up to three chapters of your work.

Tuition/Meals/Discounts

The tuition of \$995.00 includes the Friday night reception with Michael and Tess, continental breakfast and lunch on Saturday and Sunday, all sessions, seminar textbook and, if you register prior to August 15, 2003, a reading and review of your submissions. There is a 20% discount for two or more physicians registering together prior to June 15, 2003.

Cancellations

All cancellations received in writing prior to September 1, 2003 will receive a full refund.