



# testimonials

“I really enjoyed the idea of an “invitation” to write. It was a pleasure to be a student in your creative writing class. I only had one previous opportunity to do that since I graduated college in 1997.” - **Paul** (high school teacher)



Janna, I just finished listening to your book, “Me, My Selfie, and Eye.” I’m feeling sad now that the book has ended. You feel like a friend now, and I miss you. I understand what you mean about writing for yourself. You don’t worry about who and how others may judge you. You just put it all out there. Your honesty is gripping and heartfelt. Thank you, Janna! - **Eunie**



Janna, I would like to thank you for an exciting class on. It certainly awakened some ideas in me and gave me some direction in my writing. I love style of acceptance and encouragement to write. I look forward to the next class. - **Z.**



Janna's gentle approach made me feel my timing, my reasons, my 'what seemed to be excuses' were not judgements on my, my writing abilities, but instead just part of my story and were aloud to be as they were at that time. This patient and respectful approach to me as a human made me more inclined to try, to make habits that were right for me and ultimately to find and free my writing passion. I am editing my first complete poetry collection. I attribute my progress to her encouragement and her particular, positive, non-judgmental style. - **Shannon**



That interaction wet my appetite just enough to get me interested in learning more. The concepts shared were like broad strokes of a brush that intrigued my brain to the point of wanting more. I left that meeting with questions only she could answer. - **Victor**



"Finish Your Book in 2023" caught my attention because I've been working on a book on and off for 38 years. I signed up immediately for Janna's webinar, and am now part of her "Next Level" writing group. I will be calling Book Baby tomorrow to get my book published finally! I'm nervous that I won't know how to follow Book Baby's instructions, but I'm going to take the leap! - **E.**



The video from last Monday's session, is so rich. So much inspiration, good direction and amazing feedback - **T.**



I am so inspired to have the scaffolding and the affirmation of the Road Map. I Thank you so so much for the session yesterday.... it was a shift that aligned with my entire life. I'm all in! - **Lynne**



I could NEVER imagine being on my writing journey under anyone else's guidance! Six months ago I began. At that time I was not sure why I was wanting to write. One, essential, question had been an obstacle. Was I writing because others were encouraging me or was I writing for me? Meeting with Janna uncovered the answer. I'm writing for me and growing. I'm excited about where this process will lead me. I'm loving writing and I wonder where writing has been all my life. Janna Lopez has a gentle and encouraging approach. All the while being respectful. Janna gives accolades to her students. Those accolades are like fresh strawberries on top of a strawberry sundae. The writer feels like he/she can do it and comes away knowing, without a doubt, that they are a writer. I would not be where I am today without Janna's gentle, respectful tutelage. Jump over the fence to greener pastures. Thank you, Janna! - **Jackie**



Attending Janna Lopez' seminar on BookBaby was indeed a game changer for me. This was the catalyst I needed in order to "get out of my own way" and start building a relationship with my writing. One of the cornerstones in her teaching is "community"...as a result of her workshop, I have built connections and relationships with other writers that have evolved into lifelong friendships. These connections continue to provide ongoing inspiration and the "spark" which encourage me to keep moving forward with my project. - **Cheryl**



My experience at your Writing Workshop in early June was absolutely unforgettable and will be an experience I will remember for the rest of my life. I had the opportunity to work with you and collaborate with five other brilliant aspiring and seasoned writers over the course of three days in the comfort of your home. Your leadership and teaching style allowed me to open up and become vulnerable to writing from places that I have not written from before. You helped me overcome my fears of comparing my writing style to some fictitious standard or some nebulous audience in my own headspace. You coaxed me into understanding that writing for an "audience of one" and connecting with my "Youness" will produce authentic works of poetry, short stories, and eventually a book. Ultimately, anything I am writing and will write will be "art" that I can be proud of and will be a gift to myself each day through your transformative experience.

I would like to express my gratitude for discovering the Land of Enchantment. I had an incredible amount of "first time" experiences in New Mexico, once I found the courage to make the commitment to "show up for myself" and make this happen for me. My first time in New Mexico. My first time in Santa Fe. My time staying in an Airbnb (right next door to Janna!). My first writing class! And my first uninhibited works of writing. Your BookBaby webinar back in January 2023 was so impactful and provided me the inspiration to travel from Florida to New Mexico and immerse myself into the backdrop of the fiery orange sunsets and beveled tree-lined mountains. Thank you for helping me find the "creative walking stick" for my journey as I write forward into endless possibilities! - **Best and all my love, Jim**



Hey Janna, I just wanted to reach out and let you know. I am enjoying this time of writing so much. I've pretty much completed my list and or table of contents and I'm starting to place pieces together and the way it helps me to think and process my stories, my life is just becoming a great experience - **L.**



Janna, this evening's 90-minute session flew by and added wings to my soul, my fingers, my very being. The method you use to reach others that yearn to write is fascinating! My brain, my soul gets captured each time I tune into you. You have enabled me to converse with myself and expand from that conversation. Thank you! - **J**



The writing retreat with Janna Lopez was by far my favorite experience during our family's visit to Santa Fe. We were a little nervous, but needn't have been. Janna is a profoundly kind and gifted facilitator and she was able to gently invite us to connect with ourselves, each other, and nature through writing and conversation. There were so many surprises! I cannot recommend this unique experience highly enough - we look forward to another adventure with Janna when we are next in Santa Fe. - **Colleen**



I never expected to attend a writing retreat. It was not something I was ever drawn to, for all the same reasons writers don't do things. Fear of judgment, writer's block, laziness and carefully managed ego. I have always just written, the way I do, my way, or the highway. Then Janna contacted me and invited me to consider getting out of my very solitary way of writing at home, alone. Last month, I got on a plane and traveled to Santa Fe to join 8 lovely strangers in Janna's snowy mountain-top home. There, we wrote, together and apart. We delved deeply into our words and ourselves. We pondered, cried, laughed and learned new things about ourselves and our new writing retreat friends. We worked hard together on being there for ourselves and our writing.

It was an experience that went by too quickly. Of course I wished I had done it years ago. But like all good things, there is a perfect moment for everything. Janna's Land of Enchantment Writing Retreat was exactly what I needed to exhume and exorcise the previously unknown parts of myself I didn't realize were clogging the ink in my pen.

I highly recommend Janna as a gentle guide and teacher to anyone, of any writing ability. Like a good Sherpa, she'll guide you safely to experience the best views of yourself. -

**Franchon**



Hi Janna, I just watched the class and it was awesome. I am in Phoenix now and get started on my writing. I belong to a spiritual group which is a small group we had Barbara Huson, who is super successful author in the financial field. She was the speaker last meeting and she's going to give me a 20 minute free coaching session in where to go in my business. Now I have her, I have you, my Team is starting to come together. -**Sharon**



Thank you so much. That was an incredible experience, working with you. We will definitely be in touch, and we are seriously considering the May retreat! It's hard to describe how I'm feeling right now. Certainly excited, and very empowered and optimistic. Thank you again! You are a truly wonderful person and mentor. - **Greg**



For anyone giving a rip about my journey as a tortured , frustrated artist, you might appreciate this breakthrough moment; I enjoyed myself today! I played like a kid and lost a few hours in the studio. The adult in me told me I needed to be ‘working’ on stuff. The kid told me to play. I decided to show up for my ‘younger’ (perhaps wiser) self, and listened. I found a fun way to hold the brush, push paint around and not care. I’ll say that again: I DIDN’T CARE ABOUT THE OUTCOME.

And quite honestly I kinda like where it’s going... which is a bonus. I try not to look at the places where I ‘screwed-up’ and focus on the parts that I like. Maybe there’s a lesson in there, idk. Honestly, I need to give some credit to my creativity coach, Janna Lopez, She is a writing coach, but her style and methods help me with much deeper work around listening to the part of me that has nothing to do with the brain. Thank you Janna for helping me find these parts of ‘myself’ again. - **M**



I would like to encourage everyone to take Janna up on her free 30 minute 'One on One' with her. And if that feels good... and I promise it will...book a 'Private Session' to get you back on track from where ever you are at this point in your writing dreams... so to speak!

I have met with Janna a couple of times in the last month and experienced a profound inspirational and incredibly helpful and valuable time spent with an amazing intune and intuitive coach. She asked me to tell her the names of all the animals I wanted to write about! I said: " All one hundred of them?" "Yes"! Without blinking an eye Janna started writing down their names and showed me the 'long' list afterward :))) Now that's a true COLLABORATOR :))) LOVE, LOVE, LOVE - **Susie**



Thank you for your response. The way you care for our group is like a chicken with huge wings spread over her chicks. You are a love magnet pulling in writers to grow into authors. It's God's plan and your purpose. - **maryanne**



I’ve watched Janna build a creative community, nurturing poets and writers of all kinds. For me, Janna has been an inspiring, prolific poet whose work is approachable and aims at self discovery, reminding me to get back to it. - **Marcus**



Hi Janna, I got this essay published in Exponent II, a feminist Mormon magazine. I am so freaking proud of it I cannot even see straight. If you have time to read it, it is attached. I am working on a new goal for myself. I am allowing myself not to be perfect in it but it is working for me, 4-5 days in...Write an hour a day. I am at a place of peace with my writing that it is not burdening me unnecessarily and it helps me get some actual stuff moving. Thanks for changing my life, one word at a time. - **Love, S.**



Janna has opened me up to myself, in such a short period of time, not only through her poetry but also through her teaching; her example. She has shown me how to re-connect to parts of myself that I thought no longer existed. She exemplifies how memory is a doorway through which gifts to ourselves can travel. The first time I heard her poetry; she was reading it out-loud. It brought tears to my eyes and I felt a kinship with her through a memory she shared about participating in Ecstatic Dance. Somehow, I felt so heard in my own discomfort and judgement... and wanted to heal what ails me, through writing. Thank you, Janna for showing me a doorway through which I can travel. xoxo - **Emily**



Whether you are a seasoned writer with years of experience, or someone who is just beginning to explore writing, I highly recommend this retreat. Janna creates an atmosphere of safety and support. I could not help but notice her gift for encouraging us by noticing each of our individual strengths, while simultaneously inviting each of us out of our comfort zones to expand our concept of what it means to write. Santa Fe felt like a magical place to find inspiration. Escaping the Oregon rain for some reflection, creative exploration, clarity and motivation for writing my book, was exactly what I needed. - **Jen**



“I cannot emphasize enough what a magical experience this was. I’ve dabbled in writing since I can remember and have always felt so confused and unsure. Other workshops or writing groups I’ve been involved in just didn’t quite get to the source of the issue. In mere moments working with Janna, I felt a freedom I have never felt before. I feel endless possibilities unfold before, behind, and all around me. If you have any inkling that working with Janna might be for you. Take the leap. You’ll land in a space vast and nurturing and home. P.S. I’m registering for her retreat in March as soon as I’m finished writing this review. Working with her is beyond worth every penny.” - **Anne**



## Testimonial by Anatosha, A budding Creative Writer

I was drawn to Janna Lopez after reading about her online, through BookBaby. In particular, her unconventional approach to writing and what I view as a writing style infused and informed by the spiritual aspect of being human. Janna's approach resonated with my own sense of being and led me to attend the most recent three-day creative writing retreat that she hosted in Santa Fe, from November 5-7.

I found the retreat to be instantaneously transformational, captivating, and yet liberating. Transformational in that Janna's "prompt" approach propels you not only to think fast on your feet, but also to think outside your box. Captivating as we listened to each others' responses to the prompts. And liberating because there was no right or wrong way of answering the prompt. To me, this approach ushers in a new way of thinking, dispelled any fears I may have held and liberated me to think, feel, write, and connect to the "Word" in an authentic manner, no matter the subject.

Janna's capacity and ability to listen with an intention to acknowledge and "salute" everyone's individuality and sense of their whole being within the group was remarkable. Her spirit radiated energy that everyone's story matters and everyone's story is important. This approach put everyone in the group at ease and helped allow the individual talent to flow freely. The synergy and camaraderie that emerged from the retreat was incredible... a community for sisterhood and friendship was created. By the third day, the pace and quality of my writing skill "upon prompt" was impressive and provided me with not only a strong sense of accomplishment but also self-belief that I can write and that I can write well and without fear.

Janna is, among others, a teacher, a writer, a coach, a mentor, and an inspiration to some of us who are timid and living in fear of being judged. The retreat has shifted my writing trajectory from fear of writing to celebrating, through writing stories, fiction or nonfiction, and putting on paper ideas about cooking, eating and culture. There are numerous lessons that I draw from the writing retreat with Janna. One of the most important ones is not to doubt myself, my thoughts or ideas that flow within me. Instead, embrace them, nurture them, acknowledge them. And as I write, I should write with my whole- being, write with all the five senses without judgement, be in the present moment while connected to my spiritual self. In summary, Janna challenged me to awaken to my uniqueness, encouraged me to show up, to self-trust, recognize and own my talent. **- Anna M.**



I attended the Land of Enchantment Writing retreat in August with an idea for a book, an outline for chapter names, a couple of chapters fully written, and even an idea for an ending. I left with all of that blown out of the water and for the best reasons. I went into the retreat thinking I'd work on my sentence structure, get some feedback from a seasoned and excellent writer (Janna) and meet some new people in a beautiful setting. Most of that happened, and then so much more. I can't possibly describe the experience because it was almost spiritual for me. I found myself crying while watching a sunset after a writing prompt on the first evening, which caught me completely off guard. After so many years of writing professionally and losing my creative way, looking back on that moment now I see it was my old self opening up a creative box I had shut tight and locked away. Janna found a key I had thrown away long ago with a simple task to watch a sunset and write about it. A flood of memories came rushing in, remembering how I used to sit in my room for hours writing as a child, and I found my love for writing again. I found my flow with my words, my soul felt lighter, and everything became clear. I know I wasn't alone in this feeling because when I looked around, everyone had tears on their cheeks. And I knew it was going to be a special weekend. (Spoiler alert: It was.) - **Maggie Palmer, Principal/Owner MKP Creative, Inc.**



Janna's retreat is truly in the Land of Enchantment, from beautiful Santa Fe to a transformative experience. With Janna's unique and refreshing teaching style, she invites us to cultivate a deeper connection to our words which has long lasting effects on our writing, no matter genre or style. Her deep commitment and caring for her students and their growth shines through all that she does. I am immensely grateful for attending one of her retreats and look forward to exploring new ways to connect to my writing. Invest in yourself, you won't regret it. - **Angela**



With uncertainty in my ability to write a book, let alone even believe in my writing skills, I braved through with determination to attend Janna's writing retreat. Janna's teaching style helped me dive into my soul and put words to paper that I never thought possible. If you are at all uncertain, brave through and attend one of her retreats. You will love the experience and won't regret attending. - **V.**





"I could not recommend Janna's weekend writing retreat enough to anyone ready to dive deep and connect to themselves, to other writers, and to their creativity. She carefully curates each group and the bonding among participants inspires breakthroughs, significant up-leveling, and shatters limitations. Janna's tenacious dedication to serving each participant is infectious and made me feel so seen, cared for, and supported. The book I'd planned to work on when going into the weekend transformed dramatically into something else entirely- something more freeing, exciting, and motivating. I left with more confidence and far less fear and anxiety. If you're considering signing up for one- Take the leap- you won't regret it!" - **Anne W.**



I arrived at The Land of Enchantment writing retreat with no expectations—ready to give myself to possibilities. I left exhausted, grateful, and inspired. Janna's work with me and, maybe more importantly, watching and engaging with her work with the other writers present, was a gift I will lean on and build on and ... who knows? It sparked creativity and renewed my belief in myself and my process. Something tells me it won't be the last time I find myself in Santa Fe for another writing booster. - **Andre**