

ROSE GOLD PUBLISHING, LLC

So you want to write a book...

#1 Writing Guide

Dolly Caraballo-Cortes

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Rose Gold Publishing, LLC

www.RoseGoldPublishingLLC.com

Congratulations on wanting to write a book!

Before we begin, I would like to share with you what writing did for me. I am hoping you could get an idea of what it can potentially do for you.

Once you start writing, you can choose to take a different path in your life, or you can choose to stay where you are; all I ask is that you don't underestimate your journey.

I began writing in July 2014 for the sake of venting. There was no other purpose other than to vent. I wrote for my eyes only. It was not my intention to become a published author until I got a call in December 2014.

At that time, I was asked to participate in a book with other women, 26 other women, to be exact. None of us knew what being part of that book would mean to us or how far we would take it. Now, it is an international movement.

In 2015, the book was published, but it was the journey of writing in that book that was the beginning of my life transformation. I now help others transform their lives by reducing their fears, by letting their voices be heard, by assisting them to Write to Heal.

Between 2015 and 2016, I also created empowerment workshops for women, I launched a YouTube show that reached 60 countries in less than 12 months, and I traveled nationally and internationally and became a Motivational Speaker.

In 2017, I published two more books, and in less than a year, in May 2018, I published another.

In August 2018, I launched Rose Gold Publishing, LLC with a clear mission to help others write their stories to help them heal from their past experiences, to let their voices be heard loud and clear and to allow them to transform into the powerful and beautiful beings that they are meant to be and while their transformation takes place, the readers of their stories are also being impacted. The readers of the stories now realize that they, too, can heal, that they too can take action, and they too can transform their lives for the better.

I followed my company launch by creating a Meetup group called Write to Heal. It is intentional, and its focus is simple; Write to Heal from your pain. This has been part of my journey for the last few years. What will your journey be like?

Now it's your turn. You have probably been thinking about writing a book for quite some time, or perhaps someone suggested you write one now for one of many reasons. Maybe you started but are now stuck.

You probably are wondering how to get started. After all, you have never done this before, and you have questions, and that's what brought you to this guide.

Keep in mind, writing is not always easy, but it doesn't have to be hard.

As I mentioned above, I have written four books to date, and I am currently working on my fifth one. I will continue to write for the rest of my life.

I write because, to me, it's an experience. I don't write to become a best seller. I write to express my inner thoughts, to share an idea, to add credibility as an expert in a specific field. I write to deliver a concise message that would move the reader into action; I write to heal from past experiences; I write for pure enjoyment; I write to release anger other than letting it build up inside of me; I write to express love. Regardless of why I write, once I am done, I publish my book, I make it available for all to read, to touch, to give away as a gift and I never look back.

Whatever your reason, you always have to keep it in mind as you begin writing. You may encounter moments where you want to give up, ask for help, take a break, but don't give up. During those times, think of your "why," why was this important to you in the first place?

Welcome to the journey of authorship,

Dolly Caraballo-Cortes
President/CEO of Rose Gold Publishing, LLC
www.RoseGoldPublishingLLC.com

Feel free to reach out through my website if I can further assist you.

When I meet with a client, I often find that this happens.

1. They are scared about sharing their story
2. They start crying as they share their story
3. They feel vulnerable and yet relieved about sharing their story
4. They don't feel any judgment from me
5. Based on what they share, I guide them on how to proceed. This includes identifying how to write the first chapter or their introduction. The reality is, once that's written, all else is easy!

I share this with you because you are not the only one that has felt uneasy about the process of writing your first book. You may question if it's worth it. You may wonder if people will read it; if it's good enough for people to want to buy it and even if you are worthy enough to write it! Take it from me, it is worth it! People will read it, people will buy it, and you are unquestionably worth it!

When you are afraid, I say, do it anyway!

This guide is simple to follow. I recommend you print it so you can use it as a template that will allow you to get started. It is made up of a series of questions that will assist you in determining the steps you need to take to become a published author!

However, I want you also to consider other areas before you decide to write your book. These areas are critical as they can determine the success of your writing.

1. Do you have the time to sit down and write, or should you hire a ghostwriter? What is a ghostwriter? (I will cover that at the end of this guide).
2. How comfortable are you writing?
3. How is your grammar and sentence structure?
4. Can you spell words correctly, or do you need help? Editing and proofreading are crucial and necessary for a book.

I mention the above areas because no one wants to purchase a book that they cannot understand. Each question is designed to help you reflect and must be answered with integrity. You owe it to yourself and to your readers - be honest about your abilities. It is your reputation that you are putting on the line and I am sure you want to do this right.

Once you answer those questions, it will help you determine how to get the help you need to make your dream of authorship a reality. Let's get started.

Step One:

Do you know what type of book you want to write? For example, is it a business book, a children's book, a cook book, is it your personal story or is it fiction?

Once you determine the type of book you want to write, please write down why it is important for you to write it and why now?

Step Two:

People often believe that they need to have the answer to every question before they take on a project. Here you don't. However, in order for you to get started, you have to be clear about two things and that is your message and your audience.

What is the message you want to convey to your readers?

Do you know who your audience is going to be? Who are you writing this book for?

These questions are critical and are as important as your “why”. Be clear, because if you are not, it will come across in your work.

Step Three:

What is your ultimate goal with becoming a published author?

What about the timeline? Do you know when you want to have this book in your hand? When do you want it listed on Amazon so you can share it with the world?

Do you have a title for the book in mind? If so, what is it?

What is your budget?

Those questions are designed to set the ground work for your masterpiece!

Now, how do you get started with the actual writing part?

It’s simple!

Step Four:

I like to ask the authors that I work with to write an introduction that won’t allow me to put their books down.

I want to read why it is essential for you to write this book, but most importantly, I want to know how your book is going to help me, the reader, or is it just designed for entertainment? It is important, I hear your voice in your writing.

How do you feel? Please read what you wrote and answer truthfully, do you like it? Does your introduction deliver the message you want to convey? Does it help me, the reader, in any way? If not, do it again. If you like it, then let's move on!

Step Five:

Chapter One

Once you write the first chapter, everything else should fall into place.

No pressure, but this chapter will determine the flow of your work, and it should be compelling. Just like your intro, it has to capture the reader's attention, and it has to be a page-turner!

For example, if your story is about losing your spouse to cancer, you may want to start with something like this:

Cancer took him from me, and it changed my life forever...

Or

When the doctor told me his diagnosis, I collapsed from the fear...

Or

My mother died when I was six, and that was hard, but losing my love for the same illness devastated me...

If your story is about abuse, you may want to start with something like this:

I never thought that being slapped by the one I loved would be my story...

Or

I lay on the ground, and as he kicked me, I could no longer scream...

Or

I always thought I was strong; I never expected this...

Share your message so you can capture the reader, but never embellish from the truth. This is your story, and only you can share the story as it happened in your life.

Always be truthful of your feelings and keep in mind your message, your audience, and of course your “why.”

Step Six:

Chapter Two & Beyond

Each chapter you write should be the next big thing that you want to share. It doesn't have to be complicated, and it doesn't have to be long. It just needs to be genuine.

It could be an idea, an event, or a lesson. Always remember your message, your audience, and your “why.”

In conclusion:

I hope this guide has gotten your juices flowing and ready to get you started in becoming a published author.

There is still much more to learn about writing and how to get published, but I believe this is a good start. I hope you agree.

This guide is not about some of the technical questions I receive in publishing your book. This is not about how to create a book cover? How to format the pages? What about the Table of Contents? How do I get my book on Amazon? How do I market my book? That's where your publisher comes in and should be able to help you. Your job as the author is to write your story. It is not to format your book or any of the above.

Something to also keep in mind when you are ready to publish is if you want your book printed in black and white or if you want color pages.

If you are writing a children's book or a cookbook, for example, color is essential! Color is not always needed for other genres. Please know that color books are more expensive to print, so you have to consider that as well. The higher the printing cost, the higher the retail price that you would have to charge. You also have to consider hardcover versus paperback. Each element of creating your vision has to be carefully considered.

I invite you to visit my website: www.rosegoldpublishingllc.com for more information on the packages we offer, including hiring a ghostwriter, which is a person appointed to write your book based on your content. Still, you get full credit for writing it.

I encourage you to pursue your dream of authorship, and please know that Rose Gold Publishing, LLC is here to help make that dream come true.

If you have any questions, you can also reach me directly at dolly@rosegoldpublishingllc.com.



Dolly Caraballo-Cortes

President & CEO

Testimonials

I've spent decades searching for the right person and company to help hold my heart in representation, authenticity, and expertise in having my voice heard. Met many "experts" who claimed they had it all and fell flat within a couple of weeks. Working with Dolly and Rose Gold Publishing took my jaded, practically lifeless focus from my desire to share my words that tell stories I believe millions will want to hear and brought it back to life.

The difference? Her investment into me. Her compassion for the journey I took, and the expertise it takes to get the memories from my heart to paper, and ultimately into the hands (and hearts) of readers. For the first time, I can finally breathe a full, content breath that I've found the best person and company who represents who I am in the best light."

To date, I don't recall ever meeting a woman quite like Dolly Cortes. She is the kind of woman who will "make it happen" and will lose sleep in her quest to make sure your heart is handled with respect and grace through the process.

She may be a publisher, but she comes equipped with the crucial tools necessary to bring out the author within the person. Her instructions aren't aggressive, they are assertive. Her consulting isn't what you want to hear, it's what you **need** to hear. And no matter the type of book you'd like to write, she will help you craft it out, taking care of your integrity through the process. And when all is completed, the reward for an accomplishment is met with the kind of celebration that has you feeling like you are the star of the night, because according to her, you are.

A woman who has a heart as beautiful as a rose and as solid of character as gold, I wouldn't give Rose Gold Publishing 5 stars. She gets the galaxy, in my rating. A class act woman and business, and should be your next publisher to help you let your voice be heard as you share your story. ❤️

Anita Myers, CPC, CRCS

This experience is life-changing for me. I hadn't realized I'd taken a nightmarish experience and put it in a box thinking I'm done with it! I was actually avoiding the full-fledged pain and anger within me that seems like a cancerous vapor circulating thru my soul. She helped me realize I had to look the nightmare fully in the face and by doing that diminish bit by bit the rage I felt as I poured out my story on paper. It's still difficult to finish, but I will. I still cry, but not all the time. And when I'm done, I know I could dust the deed from my heart and continue to grow, to trust and to know abuse didn't shape my life, I'm shaping it. That is freedom. That is what Dolly and Rose Gold Publishing are doing for me. To say Thank you and I'm grateful is the biggest understatement. The bonus she gave me? Fabulous, supportive Sister Authors rooting for me. Priceless.

Deborah Jimenez

I never thought I had much to say. That “my story”, whatever that was, wasn't important enough to write down let alone get published. It took some time, some serious support & encouragement & the trust of Rose Gold publishing to help me see a purpose, visualize and then to write from the heart. The love outweighs the pain and I am both grateful & stronger for it.

I had EXCELLENT coaching and mentoring and advising to bring my dream to fruition. My heart, my words, my way. The Excellence in service NEVER faltered no matter how many times I contacted my publisher.

Michelle D. Griggs, MS, MS

An amazing company that strives to make your story great! Extremely resourceful & I highly recommend seeking them for your writing!

Bianca Sawyer

Your great willingness to help everyone, who wishes to be heard, with packages, very comfortable and that in no way, minimizes the quality of the product, and well the excellent treatment they receive from the most excellent professional and wonderful friend Dolly Cortés.

Remedios Tello

Dolly Cortes will do anything in her power to make sure you get your point across in your book. She will help you during times you think you can't do it. I am forever grateful for Dolly!!! If you are looking to write your own book...call on Dolly Cortes.

Rita Owen

Excellence in service to put your story out! Quality and the desire to serve is the main purpose of this company.

Zoraya Martinez

Dolly's passion, dedication, commitment, sincerity, and friendship have shined through in the very short time we have worked together. I am truly blessed she was introduced to me; and, am honored to have her as my publisher! We have connected on many levels, and I only pray our friendship continues to blossom (I'm confident it will!). Dolly you're a "Rose-Gold" diamond in the rough!!!

Kristy Grabowski

When someone holds space for you and acts as your believing eyes, you can do things you never thought you were capable of. That is what Dolly has done for me, and I am so grateful to be connected with her. Working with Dolly gave me the support system I needed to complete my first book and complete it

beautifully, my way. To have a community of like-minded authors around me is an added bonus.

Vanessa Calimag Lin

Dolly is a SUPER WOMAN! She was absolutely amazing to work with and was able to provide us with great structure, guidance and her attention to detail is INSANE! She has become family, and I am so happy we chose to publish our book with her.

Mercedes Cardella, M. Ed