

Sydney Aaliyah*Happiness, Passion, Love & Faith***Sydney Writes***Today's Date: June 30, 2013**Word Count: 2,208**Observations:**Today's Date: June 29, 2013**Word Count: 4,080*

Observations: I wish I had a few more days to finish the story. I need about 10,000 more words for it to be complete and that would put me into July. No worries. I'm still obsessed with the story and I keep changing the ending. I actually have a good ending idea that will happen in Dallas, I think. Even one where Troy Aikman makes a cameo. But, what's pleased me most of all is the ideas running through my head about the continuation of these characters and where they can go. Ordinary people destined to do extra ordinary things and there are so many other characters from this book I want to explore, like Eldrick and Pricilla, Darcy, Troy and his family issues and of course, I can't wait to see where Miranda and Troy end up in the end. Hopefully I can get a few more words down tomorrow to end this 2013 JuNoWrimo strong.

*Today's Date: June 28, 2013**Word Count: 2,392*

Observations: Had a few short broken up sessions, but the words turned out pretty good. I added two more scene, but then deleted one scene. Word Count is still climbing and I haven't gone back to the beginning to see what scenes need to be added. I am sure there is a few. I'm going to try and finish by Sunday, but if not, then I will give myself one more week. I have to move on to writing goals for July, which includes editing and querying Ambushed. A lot of things I wrote today were making a couple scene darker and more sad. Also, change some things as I wrote. It's still not clear whether her and Troy will make it back together. It won't matter either way. Ok, that's not true, it does matter. Btw, I really think I have another whole story here. Troy has so many issues he still needs to deal with. While I don't like the same story written from a different POV trend, but the continued story from another character's POV is an idea.

*Today's Date: June 26, 2013**Word Count: 2,092*

Observations: Had a lovely writing session today. Clear, focused, no tangents, heartfelt and on target. I was so pleased. As a writer, writing is my favorite part, but these type of sessions are special. I don't know what causes them. If I did, I would replicate them over and over, but it's nice that they creep up on you when you least expect it. Makes them that much more special. I wrote the scene out of order, which I rarely do. I just felt like writing this scene and am happy I went with my feelings. It needed to be written today. It may be a challenge connected the previous scene, but I will do what I can.

Today's Date: June 25, 2013

Word Count: 2,168

Observations: I'm a little discouraged today because it looks like my story is going to be a little short in words from what I was hoping for. I wanted 70,000 words, but from where it's at right now, I only have about 8,000 words to right. So, I need to find 12,000 more words of story. Where I am going to find it. I have to take a closer look and make another plan. I did come up with a cute ending. One that parallels the beginning. I'm happy about that, but probably need to throw in a good sex scene in for good measure, as well. I don't want it to be gratuitous, but I really like writing them. I'm off to find 6 more scene without diluting the story. Wish me luck.

Today's Date: June 24, 2013

Word Count: 4,662

Observations: 50,046 words. I still have a long way to go to finish the first draft, but I won another JuNoWriMo. So, happy!



Today's Date: June 23, 2013

Word Count: 4,377

Observations: Great day of writing. I didn't do the 6:00 am again, but 7:45 to 9:00 worked out well, too. Then continued this evening with a couple hours of sprints. I wrote a pivotal scene today and it came out well. I'm a little sad and have a lump in my throat, the reaction I hope my reader have when they read it, so all's good. I also watched The Impossible, a movie about a family who survived the Tsunami. It was emotional. Good and bad, made me laugh and cry. It put me in the perfect mood to write the scene.

But, you know how the bad part, is bad, but get worst and then completely awful before it gets better. Well, I still have the last two stages to go through. I need more sad movies.

Over 45,000 words complete, but have about 25,000 words to write. I keep adding scenes, which is a good thing.

Final week of JuNoWriMo, almost at the finish line.

Today's Date: June 22, 2013

Word Count: 3,283

Observations: I am not a morning person, but I volunteered to take over sprints for another writer on a 6:00 am shift on a Saturday morning. Nightmare for some one like me, right? Not so much. I woke up on time, basically rolled over, sat up, turned on the computer, and got to writing. It was nice. My mind was clear and focused. I stuck with my average and all tired head feelings disappeared and words flowed freely for a solid three hours. I really enjoyed it. Writing always gives me energy, so I was up and ready to go for the rest of the day, excited I had gotten my words in early.

I'm not saying I will convert to a morning person from now on, but it didn't hurt and turned out to be a pretty good day. I'll schedule another early morning session soon.

Not going to talk about what I wrote about. Heavy stuff. I'll save it for later because I'm not done.

Today's Date: June 21, 2013

Word Count: 1,570

Observations: It's so much fun to be sifting through the first draft of another novel and it consume all my waking hours and some dreams, too. I've been thinking about it all the time. I run dialogue when I'm driving in my car. I talk about my characters to strangers. I hear a song and picture my MC and her love interest dancing to it. I am obsessed with my novel. :-)

I had a short session today and moved the story alone a day. Some novel days takes days to write. A rather monumental evening for my MC took three days. I heard you should make you story happened in as short of a time frame as you can. No need to write about a persons life over the span of a year, if the really good stuff only happens within a few weeks or a few months. My story is spanning over the course of one semester in college. I was able to skip over two months because MC and her love were basking in new relationships glory, so I picked up again, just before the proverbial shit hits the fan.

Only 12,276 more words needed to win 2013 JuNoWriMo. I'm going to try and knock that out this weekend. OMG, only 10 days left. Where did the time go?

Today's Date: June 19, 2013

Word Count: 2,895

Observations: What a nice day of writing. I am not sure if other people go through this when writing, but it has taken me over 30,000 words to finally understand my MC's voice. It's so important especially when you writing in first person POV. Kind of sucks for the first 30,000 words, which will need a lot of revisions, but a

relief because the story is finally flowing better. When your MC has issues and sees every situation that happens to her in relation to her issues, she can't suddenly see things a different way and then go back to her old ways. She had to progress from one situation to the next. At the beginning her reactions are extreme, but then she grows and her issue don't quite effect her the same way they did before. It has to happen gradual. It's fun to learn this about my MC as I'm going along.

Wrote more sex today. That's always a fun time. A little embarrassing because during word sprints on twitter I called for each person to submit their last sentence written in that session. Mine were to explicit for twitter publication. There not NC -17, but I needed to get them down to a PG rating. Getting close to 40,000 words and I still haven't got to the really hard stuff, but it is coming soon.

Today's Date: June 18, 2013

Word Count: 917

Observations: Small word count today. I kind of scrapped a whole scene and re-wrote it. I know this is frowned upon in WriMo's but I got a great idea and wanted to rework the scene. I think it came out well.

I wrote a sex scene, but did it in a bit of a reflective way for my MC. She compared this time with others which helped me kill two birds with one stone as the saying goes. I get to work in specifics of her back story and still remain connected to the present story. Plus, the contrast is so huge it shows the journey in what the MC was used to versus what her new guys has to offer her, namely intimacy. It's a beautiful thing.

Today's Date: June 16, 2013

Word Count: 5,478

Observations: I managed to write for a few hours this morning before the father's day festivities began. I was able to work the scene through my head before I started writing, but had the hardest time writing today. It really bothered me, but I got the words in. I was writing the sex scene and I was really looking forward to writing it, but it didn't flow like I wanted. I will probably scratch it and write it over again. Now is the dilemma. Did my working it out in my head ruin the ability to write it correctly or is this just a fluke day. I didn't write in the best environment today, not like yesterday in the library and I let in some distractions. I don't know. Maybe I need to lock myself in a stimulant free room and add items one by one to see what I can and can't write with. I've been at this for a year, I should have figured out my ideal writing environment by now. I really want an office. Probably the only place I haven't written in and I really think it would help. Maybe time to breakdown and get a proper desk and chair and only write in that spot. More questions then answers as always. Using a movie day to inspire the next day of writing. We will see.

Today's Date: June 15, 2013

Word Count: 4,850

Observations: Had no clue I haven't written a word since June 11th. I looked back and told to myself, that can't be right, but it is. I am still on track, but I can't take 3 days off. Not acceptable during JuNoWriMo. I spent a day in the library and wrote over 4,800 words. It was a good day of writing. Two scenes that turned about pretty good. Moving the story along. Funny, but I feel like my MC aren't sexy enough. In my

head they are, but it's not coming across on the page. The moments they spend together aren't reading sexy and the sexual tension is weak. Need to work on it.

I saw a tweet today from a writer who said they were procrastinating to avoid ripping their MC's heart out. I think I do that, too. I needed Miranda to tell Troy about her past and I got through it, but I felt so bad because if he didn't forgive her or if he freaked out, she would have been devastated. Looks like they are ok for now, but it's still right there under the surface ready to come out and ruin everything.

I'm trying to get in another four hours tomorrow, but I have father's day duties. Setting the alarm and going to get it done early. Over 26,000 for the month so far. Yea me!

Today's Date: June 11, 2013

Word Count: 1,861

Observations: I think I wrote over 1800 words of dialogue, today. It is my default writing comfort zone. I love writing dialogue. I am addicted to quotes, so it stands to reason that I love dialogue, but dialogue does not a novel make. I probably have a WriMo daily update from each book I've written with this same issue. I fall back into it every time. The dialogue is probably pretty good, but with out setting and description, it might as well be a screen play and screen plays don't get on the best seller list.

I am due for a writing marathon kind of day. I am on track to finish ahead of schedule with 50,000, but I really want to get this first draft written. I still haven't gotten to the hard part and some good parts are coming up in the next few days, but I will need that writing marathon to get the hard scene out of me. Is this really what writer's do? Lot of work, but it's fun, too.

Today's Date: June 9, 2013

Word Count: 2,978

Observations: I don't know why, but I love writing with a Nascar race in the back ground. Even without the sound on, I can still hear the engines roaring. And, when I'm writing a particular saucy scene, I guess it's the slick lines and the revving engines put me in the mood. The fact that Dale, Jr. is the sexiest thing alive has a little to do with it, as well. Ok, back to the writing. I added another scenes, which is really good at this time because I need more words in order to cut it down later into a good story. Well, MC and her guy are together now. She didn't let her insecurities keep them apart. Yea, MC and I spent some pages basking in the first kiss after glow and sharing the good news with her new roommate. Kind of cool characterization shift when my MC sits down to hear about her roommates sucky night out on a date and MC hugs her roommate, roommate says, Wait a minute. What happened? You don't hug people. MC says, we hug all the time. Roommate says, no, I hug you all the time, but you never hug me and you rarely hug me back. MC says, Geez its no big deal, I though you looked like you needed a hug. Roommate says, that exactly why I hug you.

Ok, a few scenes coming up with new love bliss. I know, it can get cheesy, but necessary to distinguish from when the bomb drops.

Today's Date: June 8, 2013

Word Count: 2,191

Observations: After a long day running around town and pontificating with my cousin, I thought I would be

to mentally tired to write, but I wasn't. I did a two hour session and added a couple of scenes tonight to clean up some holes in the story. Very productive writing session. I am getting an average of 2,000 words per scene and I feel like each scene could be so much more with description and more emotion both good and bad from the MC. It will be another lesson in edits and rewrite on this one. I am actually looking forward to it. Not sure why, it could be the wine talking. Tomorrow, I hope to get into the 'time to make a decision' scene. Should be a good one. Hope to have a first kiss and more before the days out. My characters are so lucky.

Today's Date: June 7, 2013

Word Count: 2,002

Observations: After a very busy and stressful day, I was happy to be able to just sit down and write 2000 words. Went on a bit of a tangent today, again not sure how much I will ultimately keep, but it I delved into the actual messed up events Miranda went through in high school. It's important and well written if I do say so myself, but it's the definition of info dump. I did show why she runs to her piano when she's freaked out. Hint of things to come in the future (next chapter). Maybe she will have someone else to run to. Maybe the piano won't do it for her any more. Maybe she'll find something else to play with. Cousins in town this weekend. I may not get to much writing in, but loving where it's all going.

Today's Date: June 6, 2013

Word Count: 4,506

Observations: Lovely evening of word sprints with my #JuNoWriMo tweeps. I ran two hours and then stuck around to write for 2.5 more hours. I seem to be still averaging 1,000 words per hour. That's good. I finally got to the good part in the novel, again, happened three scenes in, so might be throwing out the first two chapters, but they do a great job of setting the scene. Miranda and Troy get to meet and it's so cool how without meaning to, I made their meeting seem like it was a bad thing until the last possible moment. Funny how the extremes of emotions can really go either way. Euphoria vs. anguish. Two sides of the same coin, right. I just love writing about a new relationship.

Today's Date: June 4, 2013

Word Count: 818

Observations: I finished another scene and the story is moving along. Of course, I haven't gotten to the hard stuff, yet. Also, I had another thought that I am not starting the story at the right spot. There may be too much build up, but I also like the way the backstory is woven in. The whole thing is about how a moment in her past effects her, now. You kind of have to explain the past a bit more in those type of situations, I think. I hope I'm doing this right. First draft, Syd. First draft. It's not supposed to be perfect, yet.

Today's Date: June 3, 2013

Word Count: 1,900

Observations: Today I had the perfectly perfect little 2 hour writing session. I got off work at 5:00 and went into the conference room, put my head phones on and wrote sprints of 20 mins., 30 mins., and 25 mins. I left

at 7:00 pm and singing all the way home. It was perfect and the words flowed and I knocked out 1,900 words. Touched on one of the b plots dealing with Aunt Alaina's issues, she projects them onto Miranda and freaks her out even more, but all is not lost, Miranda finally got her hand on a piano, all is right with the world for now anyway.

Hope to have a repeat performance tomorrow.

Today's Date: June 2, 2013

Word Count: 2,921

Observations: Second day so much better. I headed to the library for some piece and quite and wrote almost 3,000 words. I think I found a good writing spot, unfortunately, it closed on me at 5:00 pm. Annoying. Where is the late night library or at least the open til 10:00 pm library. Spent sometime telling more secrets about Miranda, about her past. I also gave some examples of her interaction with men now that she is this new person. It is so much fun creating a character and I have to remind myself that people, all people are complex, so all these twists and turns and ties I am giving her are all to make her more realistic and relatable. I was going to write more, but really need to get some sleep tonight.

Today's Date: June 1, 2013

Word Count: 2,837

Observations: First day of JuNoWriMo and I have to admit, I am so out of novel writing practice. The whole 'put the words on the page and don't edit' is going to be my constant mantra. It's not so easy. I haven't written consistently since November. Funny how the only thing that prepares you for writing is actual writing. Finished the first scene and set the scene pretty well. You get that Miranda has issues with her childhood, issues with the quick move and issues with her mother. All these are going to be solved in 70,000 words. We will have to see. Good first day. Only 29 more days to go.

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