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Unlike many journals, *Talking Writing* is an independent nonprofit that doesn't rely on university funding to cover overhead. Subscriptions are free. TW got its start with the help of several major donors, and individual donations keep it publishing.

TW's main program is *Talking Writing* magazine, which serves as the educational and community-building base for its nonprofit mission:

- **Digital Standards**—TW is a strong advocate for ethical digital publishing standards. *Talking Writing* is a professionally edited magazine at a time when such oversight has weakened or no longer exists at many other digital journals and news sites.
- **Literary Community**—TW connects English-speaking writers and readers from around the world, encouraging the kind of civilized debate that's sorely lacking in digital media.
- **Diversity**—*Talking Writing* is a safe space for writers interested in social justice issues. Female journalists, writers of color, and LGBT authors are routinely harassed online. TW's advocacy serves a real need.
- **Mentorship**—*Talking Writing* offers editorial internships to a new generation of publishing professionals, especially to those from nontraditional backgrounds.
- **First-Person Journalism**—TW is a hub for first-person journalism: personal storytelling that engages with the larger world of facts and ideas.



[3]

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All contributions to TW are deeply appreciated.

Some critics have said I'm a natural writer. Well, that's like being a natural open-heart surgeon.

—Maya Angelou, from a 2002 interview

The unread story is not a story; it is little black marks on wood pulp. The reader, reading it, makes it live: a live thing, a story.

—Ursula K. Le Guin, *Dancing at the Edge of the World*

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