
From: Harris, Allan (USA Bank)
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 1:08 PM
To: Jason Gray
Subject: The Novel

Holy cr#p! I think we did it! Five years of writing, rewriting, butting heads, the sabbaticals, the self-publishing debacle, the other stuff our therapist has asked us to stop talking about...it's over. Your last edit was spot on. I think we have ourselves a fabulous, finished novel.

From: Jason Gray
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 1:09 PM
To: Allan Harris (USA Bank)
Re: The Novel

H#ly shit!

From: Harris, Allan (USA Bank)
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 1:15 PM
To: Jason Gray
Re: The Novel

I don't know how that got through the firewall—remember, you're supposed to substitute a symbol for a letter in the *swear* word. But whatever, I can't believe we did it. Now the hard work begins: finding a publisher. Maybe we should find an agent first? (Ha ha, of course we need to, it's the only way to get a big-time publisher, and ensure the process is twice as painful and half as profitable [ha ha, sarcastic joke within a wry aside, like the funny e-mail version of *Inception* {you're never sure what level of humor you've descended to}, without the pleasure of a Mr. Leo DiCaprio star turn], unless of course you count writing with a partner [ha ha!].)

Sorry, just so giddy to have our book finally done! Congratulations, man.

From: Jason Gray
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 1:19 PM
To: Allan Harris (USA Bank)
Re: The *publisht* novel

Feel the same way, my frend. Sent it to a shitl#ad of agents (and publishers). Let the bidding war begin.

From: Harris, Allan (USA Bank)
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 1:24 PM
To: Jason Gray
Re: The *un*-published novel

You got my heart racing there (not in a good way). I know you're joking about submitting our novel to agents and editors (because where would you even get their e-mail addresses, right? You're not exactly

tech savvy, bless your soul). But, reassure me. And no more phonics-spelling, we agreed. I'll draft a query letter for you to review. We'll want to catch their eye with our unique style, but of course it's crucial we follow the rules and provide the key info. Tag line, story trajectory, hook, our bio, word count, etc. All in three-quarters of a page, an accomplishment in itself—good thing we're writers, or we'd never get published! (with quips like that, I feel like we're industry insiders already, ha ha ha)

(Reassure me, okay?)

From: Jason Gray
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 1:29 PM
To: Allan Harris (USA Bank)
FW: The Crime of the Sentry

The cat's in the bag. A hole bag of cats, clawing to get at us, to publish us. Which one will we let out? Mom says "the tale-less one", because she duzznt no those are called Manks. I love those, must run in our blud. You can giv them whatever tale you want and their happy, no complaning.

From: Jason Gray
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 1:12 PM
To: B__@harpercollins.com; F__@randomhouse.com; J__@penthouse.com;
R__@finelitprint.com; S____Jobs@Apple.com; P__@henryholt.com; T__@basicbooks.com;
L__@harveyklinger.com; S__Walton@Walmart.com; A__@creativeartists.com;
D__@mcmillan.com; K__@penguin.com; D__@donaldmaass.com; C__@simonandschu...[more]
Cc: mommeedeerest@gmail.com; bigjimbogray@yahoo.com
Subject: The Crime of the Sentry

Hear ye, hear ye, it will be the crime of the sentry if you refuse to publish our book. Like asking for something kriminal to happen to you. Let us no how many koppeez of the manuscript you want. (Remember printer ink is expensiv. If it's too many, we'll haf to send you the vurzhun we self-published two yeers ago that was way too long and has a different title. Don't worry, those we have lots of.)

Grate reviews have pored in: "I liked it, better than the self-published vurzhun."—Mom

We have a naybor and one of my unkuls reading it too, weel let you know what thay say.

First come first serve. Don't be stoopid—this book is going to blow people's minds. Starting with yors.

Yor eturnully faithful servants,

Jasun and Allun

p.s. – Don't let anyone yank yor chane, books are dying. Ours might be yor last good won.

From: Harris, Allan (USA Bank)
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 1:38 PM
To: Jason Gray
Re: The Crime of the Sentry

Oh no. I just called you, in case you didn't recognize my work number. We need to talk. Recall that message!! I don't have time to go into all the reasons why that was a bad idea. I have to go into a meeting.... I think you hit every publisher and agent in America...where did you get all those addresses??

I told you that "Books on Foniks" creative writing course was stupid!! Turn your auto-correct back on!

My cube neighbor just told me to stop typing so loudly. I'm just so upset. I'll be calm when we talk, I promise. Recall that message.

You phoneticized our names...?!

Don't send anymore e-mails, okay? I'm not mad. You know I love your creativity. Just turn on your spell-check, and don't send any e-mails, and I'll call you right after my meeting. We'll tell them you had a virus. (Syphilis. Ha ha, see, I'm getting over it already.)

Okay, talk soon. Get it recalled, okay?

From: Jason Gray
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 1:52 PM
To: Allan Harris (USA Bank)
FW: The Crime of the ~~Sentry~~ Century

So excited about our book. Responses allready flooding in. Heers too.

From: B___@harpercollins.com
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 1:51 PM
To: Jason Gray
Re: The Crime of the ~~Sentry~~ Century

Jasun and Allun: So glad to hear one of your mothers is semi-positive about your book. Finally an honest mother!

Got a great kick out of your e-mail. The darkly threatening aspect was maybe a little inappropriate, but these days whatever it takes to get noticed, right?

Seriously, please don't e-mail again. We're really quite overwhelmed with legitimate queries. But thanks for the chuckle.

Your humble (but completely uninterested) servant,

B___

P.S. ... I took the liberty of correcting your synonym error in the Subject line. Thought for a moment that was the book title (which might make for an interesting story!).

From: J___@penthouse.com
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 1:50 PM
To: Jason Gray
Re: The Crime of the Sentry

I'm interested. Send me the pics and any accompanying short videos, and we'll be in touch.

From: Harris, Allan (USA Bank)
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 1:59 PM
To: Jason Gray
Re: The Crime of the ~~Sentry~~ Century

They're already responding?? Not good, not good...sit tight, be out of this meeting soon. (I ever tell you how my boss can talk? Lots of good ideas, but wow...system overload!)

Sent from my BlackBerry

From: Jason Gray
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 2:12 PM
To: Allan Harris (USA Bank)
FW: The Crime of the ~~Sentry Century~~ Sentry

Oh geez, she shouldn't have pissed off Mom!

From: mommeedeerest@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 2:10 PM
To: B___@harpercollins.com
Cc: Jason Gray
Re: The Crime of the ~~Sentry Century~~ Sentry

I'm shur you ar considered vary brite or at least funny where you cum from. But unless I'm misreeding yor emale, yor stoopid. This book is awsum. Print it or else.

Sinseerly,

MoJ (muther of Jasun) Gray

From: Harris, Allan (USA Bank)
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 2:15 PM
To: Jason Gray
Re: The Crime of the ~~Sentry Century~~ Sentry

No no no! Tell your mom to stop it! Need an apology pronto—but not from your mom (did she take that Books on Foniks course too?!?). This meeting is stuck in a repeating time-loop, I think we just started at the beginning again. Going to fake an aneurysm soon (ha!). Send that apology, pronto.

Sent from my BlackBerry

From: Jason Gray
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 2:23 PM
To: Allan Harris (USA Bank)
FW: The Crime of the ~~Sentry Century~~ Sentry

Kat fight!

From: B___@harpercollins.com
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 2:12 PM
To: mommeedeerest@gmail.com; Jason Gray
Cc: security@harpercollins.com
FW: The Crime of the ~~Sentry Century~~ Sentry

To the Gray family, and Allun: I'm no longer interested in corresponding. Please stop.

From: mommeedeerest@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 2:14 PM
To: B___@harpercollins.com
Cc: Jason Gray
Re: The Crime of the ~~Sentry Century~~ Sentry

Where is yor offis? I may just haf to take a trip out there and "take you to lunch".

P.S.: Jasun is a better ritter than Harper (whoever the hell that is) *and* Joan Collins (who should have stuck to *Dynasty!*).

From: security@harpercollins.com
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 2:19 PM
To: mommeedeerest@gmail.com; Jason Gray
FW: The Crime of the ~~Sentry Century~~ Sentry

Ms. Gray, let this serve as notice that your e-mails have been forwarded to the authorities. In the future we will block all e-mails from you and your son, and his co-writer, with continued monitoring by the authorities for any actual or potential legal violations.

From: mommeedeerest@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 2:21 PM
To: security@harpercollins.com; B___@harpercollins.com
Cc: Jason Gray
Re: The Crime of the ~~Sentry Century~~ Sentry

I'll have you no I will never by another book from yor store agin! From now on all my hardcover business goes to Amazon (dot com)!

From: Harris, Allan (USA Bank)
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 2:29 PM
To: Jason Gray
Re: The Crime of the ~~Sentry Century~~ Sentry

So angry right now. Only partially from this f*ing never-ending meeting (praying for fire or bomb threat). We are screwed, never getting published by HarperCollins or anyone B___ knows (which is everyone). Great day, turned to sh#. (To top it off, looks like you wasted your money with Books on Foniks, your mom mis-misspelled "writer" – "ritter", should only have one 't'. Demand a refund!)

Disconnect your Internet service, okay? And your mom's.

Sent from my BlackBerry

From: Jason Gray
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 2:33 PM
To: Allan Harris (USA Bank)
FW: The Crime of the Sentry

We're published!

From: J___@penthouse.com
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 2:32 PM
To: Jason Gray
Re: The Crime of the Sentry

Jasun and Allun, got your video. Pilgrims and Indians (dot, not feather), hot-hot-hot! Posting it to our site now. One question: which one of you is the sentry?

P.S. For our British site, any way you can reshoot with a (French) poodle instead of a Yorkie?

From: Harris, Allan (USA Bank)
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 2:35 PM
To: Jason Gray
Re: The Crime of the Sentry

Video!? Not the Thanksgiving turkey fights after-party? You swore there were no cameras....

Feeling sick to my stomach. Just lost it and screamed at my boss. "You want productivity enhancements, how about this one: Shut your trap and let us get back to work!" While it did end the meeting (to a couple discreet cheers), I think I may be fired. Probably overreacting, but that's what my boss said...

From: Jason Gray
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 2:38 PM
To: Allan Harris (USA Bank)
Re: The Crime of the Sentry

You don't come off real flattering in the video, but there's plenty of time to edit it (let's dub in Leo D's face, that would be a riot).

P.S. Don't say anything to Mom. I promised her no more drunk videotaping. (And she loves Leo!)

P.S. You get canned the day we get published – I refuse to believe it's a coincidence. Clearly, all the stars are aligned for us.

P.S. Really upset about wasting money on the phonics thing. Now I'm considering a refund on their "Get Creative, Cajun Style" writing course. Talk me out of it, quick.

From: Jason Gray
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 5:40 PM
To: allan.harris@yahoo.com
FW: The Crime of the Sentry

Got de b'low message, so ah'm forwarding dis to your personal e-mail address... You coming round for a beer after work? Boorah, boudreaux!

From: autoreply@usabank.com
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 2:39 PM
To: Jason Gray
Re: The Crime of the Sentry

E-mail account for intended recipient does not exist, no further automated attempts to deliver your message will be made.