Ed Nelson's Newsletter

Home of the Richard Jackson Saga, Ever and Always, and the upcoming Cast in Time series.

Volume 1 Edition 4 April 7, 2023

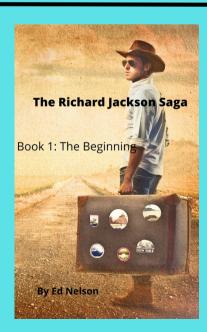


This month I will share one of the easiest parts of getting a book to market. Writing the book. It has already been decided what the series is about, the size of the book. Now all we have to worry about is the actual content.

Read More

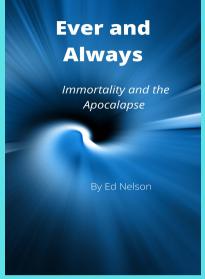
Book 1: The Beginning

Bank robbery, bull riding in the rodeo, a western movie, rustlers, among other events, occur as young Rick is on a cross-country trip, hitchhiking from a small Ohio town to California. This alternate history is of what should have been rather than what has been.



See on Amazon

Recommended Reading



Ever and Always was the first book I wrote. This was eight years ago. Many a word since then and I hope I have improved. This book has a pandemic more like the Black Death or Spanish Flu rather than Covid.

Rick King, a Viet Nam veteran is lost in the final stages of Alzheimer's in a moderate long term care home, when something strange happens. He awakens in a long-term care facility for the indigent. As Rick regains his strength and fights for his stolen life and wealth, elegant Marsha Wren in the exact same situation, joins Rick as they struggle to get their lives back, while they avoid the danger of ending up in a government laboratory.

While regaining their strength and independence they are also growing younger in health and appearance. They have no idea how young they will end up or how long they will live, are they immortal?

One thing they know is that if they live long enough the world and the United States will change. How or when they have no way of knowing, just that change will occur. They position themselves as best as they can, fighting a survivalist group, when as predicted the apocalypse occurs. They will live, but can civilization survive?

See Ever and Always on Amazon

Writing the book.

- Since we know how long the book will be, 60k words in this case and chapter length is to be two thousand words so there will be 30 chapters.
- I have determined the development of technology, see my notes on Gantt charts. So at the blank chapter heading I make a brief notation of the technology to be introduced or setbacks in development.
- Now it would be a dry and boring book if only technical issues were addressed. Some readers love this, it is called techno-porn. Most readers want some human interaction. Where you have humans you have ups and downs, fun, and tragedy. Addressing these make for a good story.
- You must remember where the story is going, I find it best to have an idea of the ending before I start. It doesn't always work out though. Those pesky characters take on a life of their own.
- The first chapter, first paragraphs have to draw the reader in. Actions are required. The heroes back story can be filled in after that as a whole or piece mealed throughout the story.

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New Series cont.

- Romance always helps a story, even if it is only an attraction between two leads that never comes to fruition. I like fruition. Always off camera, but they need a life.
- Adversity overcome is what makes the story interesting. Who wants to read a book where nothing happens. I try to follow the three act model. The hero is faced with a problem to overcome, spends most of the book overcoming it, and then has a happy ending or in this case a happy segue to the next book in the series.
- I don't like cliffhanger endings. Each novel is a stand alone with a complete ending. I hated going to the movies as a kid and see one of those fifteen minute shorts where the hero is left dangling over the pit of doom. The next weeks opening would be, 'after escaping from the pit of doom.' No explanation of how. Maybe thats why we paid twenty five cents for two full length movies, six cartoons, a short and a newreal.
- The result will be a journey mans effort. No great work of art. The reason is that my insights into human nature aren't that great, and my way with words is modest. No Mark Twain here.
- Nevertheless a book that will sell will be the result if I remain true to my work.
 -end-



My web site has been updated. It is better looking and more responsive. Coming soon will be podcast interviews of me and my books.

Check out my website

End Note:

The pirate ship was so much fun that I joined the Krewe. I'm now a pirate. The Krewe is a nonprofit charitable organization that gives scholarships. We appear in many parades during the year. The highlight is the 4th of July when there is a pirate invasion of Anna Marie Island. The battle is hard fought by all with super soaker's. No we don't wear our best garb.



