

## Killer Women Mentoring Scheme Submission Guidelines

We are very excited to read your work.

But we would like you to read our guidelines really carefully before submitting.

We've designed them to ensure that we can see as much of the potential in your writing and ideas as possible.

Below is some more detail about what we're looking for and some general rules and guidelines.

We are looking for crime, psychological thrillers or suspense fiction. Other genres will not be eligible for this scheme.

We want to see your best possible work. We would encourage you to get someone who regularly reads books in these genres to look at it before you send it to us and to ask them to be as objective as possible.

We expect all submissions to make us want to keep turning the pages. Whatever you have written this is the central part of it. Writing is of course key and it's vital that the writing doesn't get in the way of the reader - it's why you're often told to cut adjectives, if they aren't helping us to want to keep reading because they're providing too much extraneous detail they shouldn't be there. And whatever you're writing the journey you take us on as a reader is also vital.

Please do not just submit to us for feedback. We're sorry but we will only be entering into correspondence with the four selected mentees.

Please do not submit an application if you are agented or already taking part in another writing scheme or course.

We require uploaded documents for your submission. Please make sure they are in the following format:

- Single spaced is fine.
- Save either as a .doc, or a .docx.
- Don't share a OneDrive file, Dropbox file, a Pages file or Google Doc with us. We need the saved file.
- Your name and the title of the piece should be on the front page. Don't put it in the header or footer because e-readers sometimes do horrible things with these.

### **The Synopsis**

Please include everything that's important to the plot whilst keeping it as succinct as possible. Between 2 and 5 typed pages is about right. It has to contain spoilers, including any twists and we have to know what happens at the end. If you are struggling to keep it succinct or put it together in a way that works this could be a sign that you haven't quite got the structure of your book right and may need to look at how you can rework it so that the narrative shines through clearly. Like-wise if any of the characters seem unclear in the synopsis you might want to look at how you can clarify them.

### **Sample chapters**

These absolutely have to be from the beginning of the book. It's where readers start and it's also where they'll end if it doesn't get them engaged.