



## Long-distance Writing Partners

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Co-authors of  
*Snowflake Secrets* (2008)  
*Seasons of Love* (2009)  
*Directions of Love* (2010?)  
*Christmas in Aspen Grove* (2010?)

## Why Write With a Partner?

- Share ideas
- Inspire each other
- Bring separate viewpoints
- Bring different voices
- Bring new characters
- Create anthologies together
  - Shorter works
  - Interesting stories

## Where Do You Find Partners?

- Conferences/Conventions
- Writing Groups/Writing Classes
- Through Friends

## Where Do You Start?

- Agree on a project
- Divide responsibility
- Designate a coordinator
  - Collects the pieces
  - Assembles them
  - Checks continuity (if required)
  - Acts as spokesperson
  - Coordinates the group

## How Do You Communicate?

- Email
  - Create a group list
  - Create a separate email address for the group
- Phone
- Write completely separately
- Share chapters as they are written
- Delegate assignments and combine when completed

## How Do You All Meet Deadlines?



- Stay in contact!
- Copy all the others
- Knowing how far along each is helps encourage everyone
- Remind each other as time gets closer
- Leave time for continuity checks and coordination

## Practical Matters



- What works well for the group?
- What has been challenging?
- Why do we keep doing it?

## How Do You Create Related Stories?



- Create a fictitious location
  - Keep it consistent
  - Mention previously-used characters
  - Write in different time periods
- Create related characters
  - Reuse them in subsequent books
  - Interweave them with new characters
  - Keep them consistent

## Still interested?



- Why we recommend it
  - You're not writing in a vacuum
  - You each get input/encouragement from the others
  - You stay on task
  - You get better with practice
  - It's fun!