

A Widow's Might Writing Guidelines

A Widow's Might is well written.

Our brains often feel like they are no longer functioning when we are under extreme stress. We - not so affectionately - refer to this as "widow's brain". Keeping in mind our audience may be struggling with this affliction, we need to provide well written devotionals so they will be able to absorb the information. Here are some tips that we find helpful:

1. Think about the reader..

We have widows from all different stages of life, in all different circumstances. Our goal is to connect with all of our readers. Far too often, our widows are experiencing feelings of being excluded from their relationships, so we want to make sure they feel included at AWM. For example, if you are writing about helping young children through grieving include a point to remind older widows that they may have an opportunity to minister to widows with young children in the future. Invite everyone into the conversation.

2. Organize your thoughts.

We need to keep it simple - a single message with a few sub-points. We want the readers to walk away with 1 key thing to think about and apply to their lives.

3. Keep your sentences and paragraphs short and simple.

You should keep sentences short for the same reason you keep paragraphs short: they're easier to read and understand. Each sentence should have one simple thought. More than that creates complexity and invites confusion.

4. Write to your friend.

Use a conversational style. We are in the business of building relationships and being "real" with one another.

5. Be clear.

Read what you have written several times. Walk away from it and come back. The rule of thumb is if you have to reread a sentence it needs to be rewritten.

Now that you have insight into how we frame our writing, here are the final details for submission.

A Widow's Might Submission Guidelines:

Word Limit – 600 words or less

Devotional titles should be five words or less

Devotions should start with a Bible verse that is the foundational learning point for the message. Cite the translation in parentheses after the verse reference. Romans 12:1 (ESV)

Use short sentences and paragraphs to clearly convey your message.

End articles with a short prayer either from you or for the reader to pray.

Include a headshot and short bio (under 100 words) to be included at the bottom of your devotional.