



Supporting writers of all ages and abilities



Peter Cowan Writers Centre Inc. proudly presents

Building Tension in Your Novel: Conflict and Theme

A three hour workshop with

Laurie Steed

Saturday 25th March 2017 1:30 pm – 4:30pm

Places in this workshop are limited, so don't miss out!

Building Tension in Your Novel: Conflict and Theme with Laurie Steed (BTLS1)

Theme: What is a theme? The difference between plot and theme. Ways to ascertain the key theme or themes of one's work during the revision process. Ways to approach more typical fictional themes to ensure optimum originality in your writing: Subversion, allegory, and metaphor.

Conflict: Find the theme, find the conflict. Waging war: internal and external conflict motivators.

Your protagonist: what do they want and what's currently in their way? Plot and conflict: building tension throughout your narrative through the use of foreshadowing, revelation and competing wants within the characters.

Great books and stories are hard to put down. They're compelling, engaging and rewarding all at once.

A great deal of that engagement comes from a melding of well-considered theme and the necessary conflict with which to engage the reader. Put simply it's about building both narrative expectation and adherence to a topic or key topics so that the reader is both intellectually engaged and emotionally invested.

The plot is not the same as the theme. Tension is not the same as conflict. And, if you come to this workshop, you'll know the difference between both and be able to apply this knowledge to your work.

Laurie Steed

Laurie Steed is an author and editor from Perth, Western Australia. His work has been broadcast on BBC Radio 4 and published in Best Australian Stories, The Age, Meanjin, Westerly, Island, Australian Book Review, The Sleepers Almanac and elsewhere. He won the Patricia Hackett Prize for Fiction in 2012 and is the recipient of fellowships from the University of Iowa, The Baltic Writing Residency, the Elizabeth Kostova Foundation, and Varuna – The Writers' House. He recently completed his PhD in Creative Writing at the University of Western Australia and he is editor-in-residence at the Peter Cowan Writers Centre.

Remember to bring your pen and some paper.

REGISTER NOW. [Click Online Entry Form and complete.](#) Please note that you can also pay online transfer.

Cost: \$38 for Members \$48 for Non-Members

Venue: ECU Joondalup Campus, Edith Cowan House,
Building 20, 270 Joondalup Drive, Joondalup WA

(**Parking:** From Lakeside Drive to Deakin Road Car Park 14 Visitors
area near Gymnasium and Child Care Centre; free at weekends)

Click [ECU Map](#)

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www.pcwc.org.au