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# The Window

Official eNewsletter of Panhandle Professional Writers  
d/b/a Texas High Plains Writers



## HIGH PLAINS WRITERS

May 2019

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter

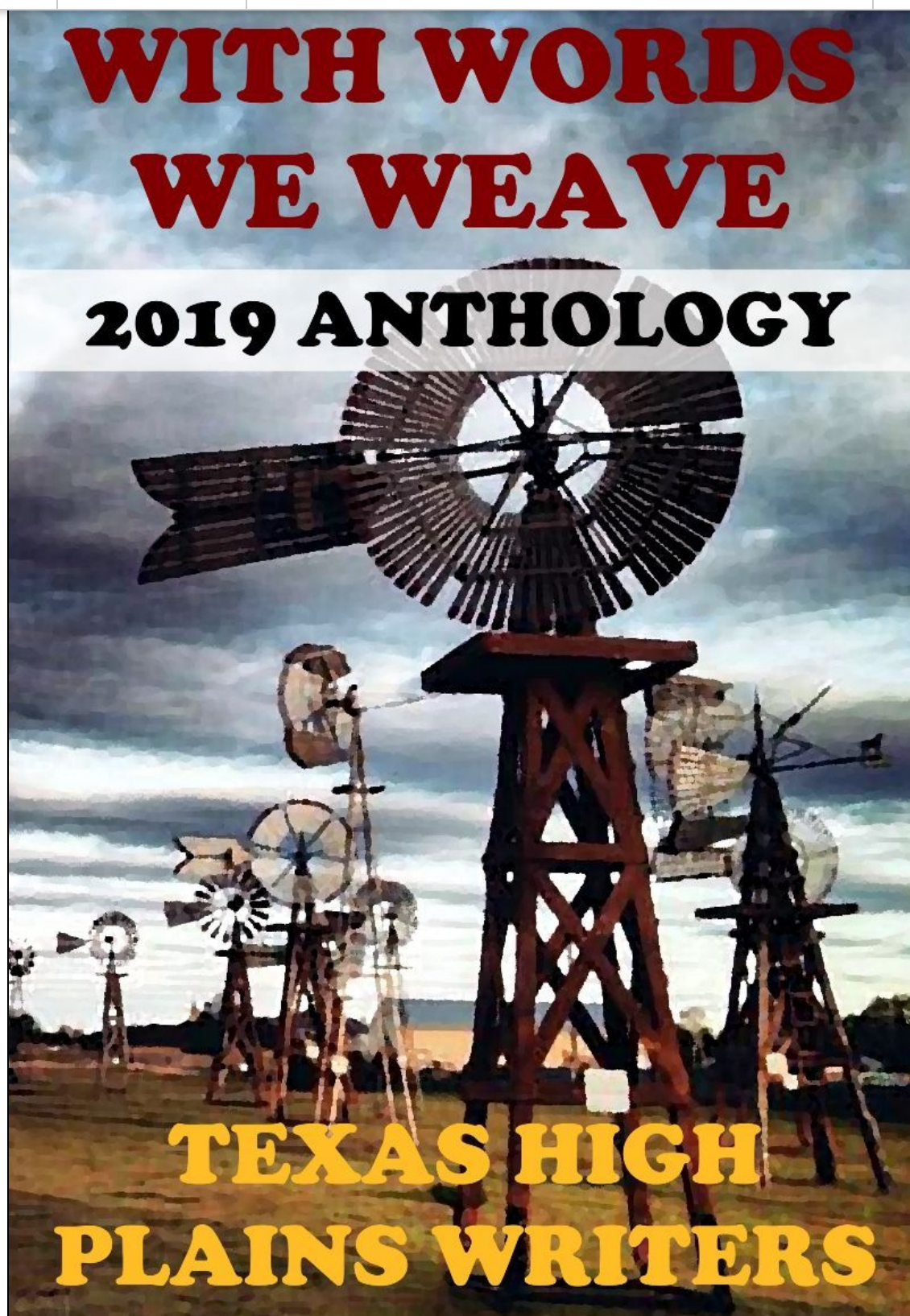
# It's Alive!

Available on Amazon, at the ArtsFest and at our May meeting.

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**Call for Submissions!**

We are accepting submissions for the 2020

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Deadlines have a way of sneaking up on us, don't let this opportunity pass by.

It's not too late to find that perfect gift for Mother's Day!  
Come support wonderful artists and stop by the  
Texas High Plains Writers room and see many of our author  
members!

1st Annual  
**AMARILLO**

**ARTS**

**FEST**

MAY  
10-12  
2019

FILM LITERARY VISUAL PERFORMING MUSICAL

*There's more happening here than you know!*

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**Saturday, May 18, 2019**

The Edward Davis Room

9th Floor

First Bank Southwest Tower (formerly Chase Tower)

600 S Tyler St., Amarillo, TX 79101

**9:30 Registration 10:00 Meeting**

**Board member meeting to follow**

**Guest Speaker - Jennifer Archer**  
**SUBTEXT: The Often-Missing**  
**Ingredient That Can Make**  
**Your Fiction Richer**

While carefully cooking up an intriguing plotline, true-to-life characters, and conflicts with obstacles at every turn, authors often don't think about one very delicious storytelling ingredient that can take their writing to a higher, more complex (in a good way!) level. That ingredient is subtext, and it has the capability of drawing readers more deeply into the text, to a place at which they become involved with the writer in creating the story's meaning.

In this program, Amarillo writer and editor Jennifer Archer will discuss:

- The two different types of subtext.
- The purpose(s) of subtext for plot, and the purpose(s) of subtext for characterization.
- How to create subtext in your stories.
- How subtext makes readers co-creators
- Why readers love subtext (even if they don't know it).



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Jennifer was a finalist twice for Romance Writers of America's *Golden Heart Award* and was a finalist for that same organization's *Rita Award*. She is the author of eleven novels, three novellas, several non-fiction works, and has edited and helped to develop numerous written projects for other writers. Her debut novel for teens, *Through Her Eyes*, was selected by the Texas Library Association for their TAYSHA reading list and for the *Spirit of Texas Reading Program - Middle Grade*. She is co-owner of Archer Editing & Writing Services, where she writes and edits stories for clients. A native Texan, she received a business management degree from West Texas A&M University.



## From the President

What a great time to be in THPW! The 2019 anthology is done and live on Amazon. Yay! And the first-ever Artsfest will start this weekend. Bands, singer-songwriters, poets, authors, dancers, filmmakers, thespians, painters, potters, and more will be on-site at this FREE, three-day arts festival that celebrates local music, visual arts, film, literature, and the performing arts. Arts in the Sunset is located at 3701 Plains Blvd., Amarillo. Many of our members will be featured with presentations and fun discussions, including tables for our members to advertise and sell their books.

The little mouse that roared, as Mike Akins dubbed our group, was the instigator of Artsfest. This weekend will attest to how fast and tall a tree can grow, born from a tiny seed and nursed along with aggressive gardening from

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for the 2020 Anthology. If you missed last year, don't miss this year. See your work in print alongside some of the best writers in Texas. All it takes is emailing your story to [info@texashighplainswriters.com](mailto:info@texashighplainswriters.com) by July 31st. Our illustrative volunteers will take it from there.

Speaking of volunteers, we have so many people to thank for the current progress of THPW. As always, Janet Taylor is a rock. Besides keeping our finances straight as treasurer, she is one of the people most responsible for making Artsfest a reality. By her side is Mike Akins, another backbone of our group, and Ryan McSwain, without whom the anthology would not be live at this time. There are many others, too many others to list. All of our volunteers deserve our sincere thank you.

What's next you say? Why, thanks for asking. We have a great line up of speakers for the rest of the year, thanks to Mistie Walser, program director. So plan to attend each meeting ready to learn and network. Plus we need help with next year's anthology. Volunteer. Yes, you. We need people to read and edit the submissions, help with laying out the book, and assist with publishing. You don't know how to do that, you say. Well, jump in and learn. Make your life more fun and rewarding--participate.

See you at Artsfest.

## From the Editor's Desk:

This week we celebrated Nurse's Day on May 5, Teacher Appreciation Week and on Sunday we, as a nation, honor our Mothers. Perhaps this is a coincidence new to me, or perhaps a happy accident. Many of us have been blessed to find all of these in one person or better yet have the opportunity to BE nurse, teacher, mother.

*"Our mothers are our first teachers, and we teach others the same lessons we learn from them. As a child, when your mother believes in you, you believe in yourself, and when that happens, there is nothing you can't do. As a mother, that is the greatest gift we can give to a child." ~ Caroline Kennedy, She Walks in Beauty: A Woman's Journey Through Poems*

I hope you have a wonderful weekend and take time to remember and honor those women and men, who touched your life.

Keep sending in your announcements for BUZZ Notes and content for The Window eNewsletter. Never hesitate to shoot me an email or reach out on social media.

Write fearlessly,  
KRB



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## Critique Session Guidelines

To participate in the critique session, you do not need to have a piece to be critiqued. The sessions begin at 1 p.m. and, depending on the number of those who have a story or a poem needing to be critiqued, can last up to a couple of hours. We suggest that your material not exceed approximately 750 to 1,000 words. Please bring at about five copies of your story or poem. If possible, it is helpful if you bring a short synopsis of your story so those critiquing have some background. We ask that you format your manuscript as follows:

1. Use white 8.5 by 11-inch paper.
2. Double space using either Times New Roman 12 or similar font.
3. In the header, give your last name, a slash (/), and a short title on the left and the page number on the right (at the top of each page).
4. Use one-inch margins.
5. Use one side of the paper only.
6. If possible, use line numbering.
7. Note: Your synopsis may be single-spaced.

Each person, in turn, will read 1,000 words or less (15 to 20 minutes) or the author will read their own writing, based on preference; then, the group facilitator will ask for discussion from the group. While each person is reading, we urge all other participants to offer written comments on the manuscript. All copies will be returned to each author.

The goal of every critique is: "How can we make it better."

Meetings are held on the third Saturday in odd-numbered months: January, March, May, July, September, and November.

Meetings are open to the public and everyone is welcome. There is no fee for members of Texas High Plains Writers to attend our regular bi-monthly meetings. A \$10 fee may apply to nonmembers.

(Note: We must occasionally switch our meeting location, or we may need to change the date to avoid conflicts. So, please check the address and date for each meeting.)

Our meetings/programs follow this schedule:

**Check-In and Meet & Greet**

9:30 - 10:00 a.m.

**Business Meeting**

10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

**Program/Presentation**

10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

**Lunch On Your Own**

12:15 - 1 p.m.

**Critique Session, if Announced**

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Need to contact us?

**Write to us at:**

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P. O. Box 19303  
Amarillo, TX 79114

**Email us:**

[info@texashighplainswriters.com](mailto:info@texashighplainswriters.com)



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might be of interest to the writing community. We will happily promote new releases and book signing events for THPW members.

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