

Query Letter!

You know you gotta



A Query Letter,

is a short and sweet one page (300 words) note introducing yourself to an agent and asking if they're interested in representing your book.



**First, you need to understand what an agent
is and does for you...**

Agent: Steven Hutson, WordWise Media

Literary agents (aka authors' representatives), serve as intermediaries between writers and potential employers such as publishers and television producers.

ES: ENGLISH



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In addition to finding a publisher to publish your manuscript, agents also negotiate contracts, pursue publicity, and advise clients in their careers.

Agent: Mona Kanin, Great Dog Literary

EXAMPLES OF A BOOK DEAL \$

A 'Nice' deal = \$50,000

A 'Very Nice' deal = \$50,000 –
\$99,000

A 'Good' deal = \$99,000 –
\$250,000

A 'Significant' deal = \$250,000 –
\$499,000

A 'Major' deal = \$500,000+





All agents require a query letter for novels, poetry, screen plays, and nonfiction book ideas.



81

**It introduces you and
your work!**

**NO MORE THAN 300
WORDS!**

**Fiction Authors – you
need to have a
finished and polished
manuscript before you
begin querying.**

**Non-Fiction Authors –
you need a book
proposal.**



1st Paragraph



**1st paragraph
(1 to 2 sentences)**

**Introduction
(your bond – what you
have in common...
think as if you were
dating this person).**

**This is your opening
paragraph, your hello.**





Example of an Introduction:

Dear [Agent's Name],
I hope this message finds you well. My name is [Your Name], and I am seeking representation for my debut novel. After researching agents and reading about your agency, I feel that you would be a great fit for my work.

2nd Paragraph



**2nd paragraph
(1 to 2 sentences)**

Your book's hook!

Probably the most important line(s) in your query. The hook: the description of your story and the most critical query element; 150-300 words is sufficient for most narrative works.

Your hook should offer a moment of intrigue, peak the reader's interest, provide an interesting factoid that leaves the reader wanting to read more.





Example of a Hook:

My novel, [Title], is a captivating story of love, loss, and redemption set against the backdrop of [Unique Setting]. This work of [Genre] will transport readers into a world of [Unique Element] and leave them breathless with its vivid characters, emotional depth, and breathtaking plot twists.

3rd Paragraph





**3rd paragraph
(1 to 2 sentences)**

**The housekeeping:
your book's genre, category,
word count, title/subtitle,
sticky mash up**

Example of:

Genre:

[Title] is a work of [Genre]. It is a [Description of Genre] that is sure to appeal to fans of [Similar Authors or Books].

Word Count:

The manuscript is approximately [Word Count] words in length, and it has been professionally edited to ensure the highest quality of writing.

Stick Mashup:

[Title] is a perfect mashup of [Two Genres] with the heart and soul of [Unique Element]. Think [Comp Title 1] meets [Comp Title 2] with a dash of [Unique Element].

4th Paragraph





**4th paragraph
(1 to 2 sentences)**

**Bio note;
something about yourself,
usually 50-100 words,
writing credentials,**

**For non-fiction -
what makes you an expert on the topic,
your industry knowledge/activity,
author platform information.**



Example of Bio:

I am an aspiring author with a passion for storytelling. While this is my first novel, I have been writing for [Amount of Time] and have received [Awards, Publications, or Other Accomplishments]. I am an active member of [Writing Group or Community] and have worked tirelessly to perfect my craft. I am excited about the opportunity to work with an agent who shares my passion for literature and is dedicated to helping me achieve my dreams.

5th Paragraph



**5th paragraph
(1 sentence)**

**Thank you and closing;
final details,
whether your manuscript
(mss) has been professionally
edited,**

**for non-fiction – if the
proposal is finished.**





Example of Close:

My manuscript was professionally edited by
[Editor's Name].

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look
forward to hearing from you soon.

Best regards, [Your Name]

Total wordcount = 277

<https://chat.openai.com/>

**What
agents
DON'T like**

- Words in Bold
- Pictures
- Talking about more than one book in a query
- Not having a finished manuscript (fiction writers)
- Poor story telling (fiction writers)





- Querying more than one agent at a time (and then not telling them)
- Querying the wrong agent (they don't represent your genre – wasting their time)
- Not having the right amount of word count for the genre
- Typos
- Bragging



- Lies
- Being rude
- Asking for free advice
- Making them think or do work just to read your query
- Emailing them to find out if they read it

Submission Guidelines



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**Pitch your query on
BookWizard Hub's
new mobile app
platform.**

**Look for:
BookWizard-Author**