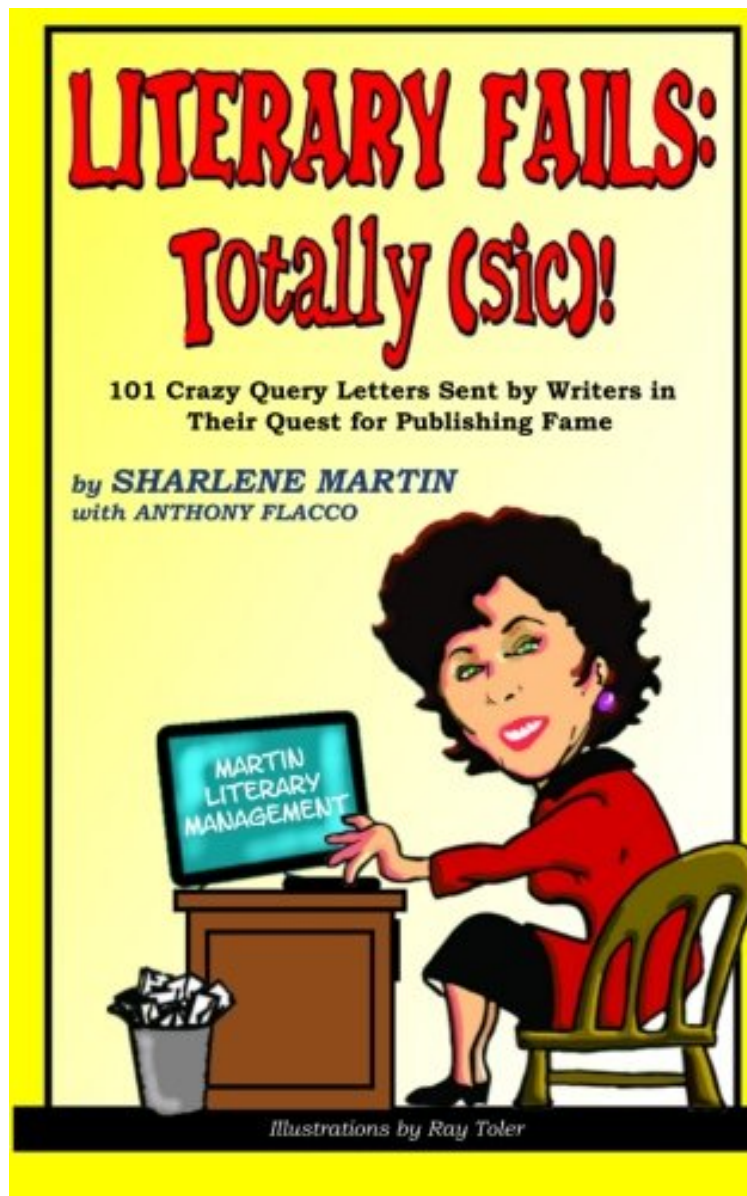


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Literary Fails: Totally (sic)!: 101 Crazy Query Letters Sent By Writers in Their Quest for Publishing Fame

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Sharlene Martin, Anthony Flacco : **Literary Fails: Totally (sic)!: 101 Crazy Query Letters Sent By Writers in Their Quest for Publishing Fame** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Literary Fails: Totally (sic)!: 101 Crazy Query Letters Sent By Writers in Their Quest for Publishing

Fame:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Jay Leno's Headlines in the Form of Literary Queries By classicalsteve Humorous look at some of the more silly and inept queries received by a literary agent, and as hard to believe as it is, these queries are real. Literary agents receive many queries from un-published authors seeking representation. Most fail because they are either badly written, badly conceived, or a combination of the two. Many are unintelligible. A small number were written by people who think they have received the short end of the stick; in other words people who think they deserve to be famous. They are not recognized because the literary establishment are a bunch of idiots who don't recognize genius when they see it, and their query is the first step in "righting" this terrible wrong. I recommend anyone who is considering sending a query letter to an literary agent to read this book and learn what to avoid!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Laughed Til I Hurt! By Kim Bryan Really, I wasn't surprised to learn literary agents received thousands of letters each day from eager new authors looking to get their books out there on the shelves. BUT what I didn't anticipate is just how crudely and improperly these proposals were made. Literary Agent Sharlene Martin presents 101 of the most hilarious, ill-written, mind-blowing letters she's received from obtuse "authors" who can't write well enough to be considered for even the funny pages - unless, of course, their "work" was the subject. Frankly, if it offends you, that tells me you need to seriously reconsider either (1) your own writing skills; or (2) your sense of humor because it's obviously fault.

Literary Fails: Totally (sic)!: 101 Crazy Query Letters Sent By Writers in Their Quest for Publishing Fame is a quick humorous read perfect for traffic jams, short flights, or whenever you need a quick comedy fix. 5 stars. 2 thumbs up. If u like 2 laughalot, ull wanna read this 1. :)

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Let's not make this same mistakes, m'kay? By Diane Tincher A little painful to read, both because of the stupid queries and because of Sharlene's caustic, sarcastic wit. I wish I had read this before sending off my query to Sharlene!

LITERARY FAILS: Totally (sic!) has been a work in progress for several years. These handpicked 101 excerpts, selected from tens of thousands of actual query letters received by Martin Literary Management were sent by severely "misguided individuals" in their desire to become commercially published authors. Each section of the book and many individual letters are accompanied by fabulous original artwork in pen and ink. Every quoted letter in this book is verbatim, right down to the misspellings, the word spacing, and the typos. Only the responses represent wishful thinking. In other words-Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus, but no, there is no hope that these letters are made up- the people who wrote them are really out there, sharing the road with us, serving on juries, and voting in elections. These anti-examples of letters and responses are offered to amuse, but more importantly to encourage every conscientious writer to remember-the literary marketplace is crowded, but a lot of the traffic generated by their "competition" looks like this-- sent by hapless writers too careless or too crazed to beat others out of their desired goal of writing and selling worthy words! The responses, always with a sense of humor, leave you turning the pages wanting more.

About the Author Sharlene Martin is the Founder of Martin Literary Management located in Seattle. She specializes in highly commercial nonfiction genres including memoirs, prescriptive (how to) parenting, health, business (entrepreneurial driven) true crime, celebrity related books and pop culture. She is the co-author of Publish Your Nonfiction Book: Strategies for Learning the Industry, Selling Your Book, and Building a Successful Career (Writer's Digest Books). Considerate Literary Management for the 21st Century is her motto and she tries to honor that daily in her business relationships. For more about MLM, see: www.MartinLiteraryManagement.com