

**WNC Mysterians**  
**Critique Group Procedures**

- 1 Group will meet every two weeks for a two-hour session. Maximum group size is seven (7).  
Schedule changes will be by majority agreement.  
A donation from participants will help defray any room rental fee.
- 2 Participants can submit up to 10-15 pages at a time to all regular members for critique.  
The goal here is to give more people more crit time. Submissions will be made via email. If needed, group leader will convert submission to pdf and forward to members.
- 3 Discussion will be on the basis of the prepared critiques, not on live readings.
- 4 Critiques by participants may be made on story printouts or separate sheet referenced to the submission and submitted to the author at the next crit session or before via email.
- 5 Critiques will emphasize constructive criticism, not author bashing. Be polite, but be honest.  
We're there to support one another and move the work forward.
- 6 Critiques will cite specific problems, i.e. where the reader lost interest, irritating character traits, discontinuities in behavior or site, plot issues, factual errors in technical matters, etc.
- 7 Author should not respond to crit the first time around the group.  
After the first round, author can respond or seek clarification.
- 8 If author's material is read aloud at crit sessions, it must be read by a neutral party, not by the author.
- 9 Discussion can be on:
  - finding ideas
  - research
  - factual errors
  - writing style
  - vocabulary
  - situation
  - setting – time/place
  - plot & structure
  - character development (“the plot behind the plot” – the murderer's story)
  - dialogue
  - exposition
  - description/mood/atmosphere
  - foreshadowing (weaving in clues)
  - using all 5 senses
  - editing/self editing (macro & micro)
  - writing habits
  - handling large projects – (planning, outlining, notes en route, word count)
  - rewriting
  - agents
  - publishers
  - marketing
  - other writing groups
  - anything else pertinent to writing and/or getting published.
- 10 Consider grammar, spelling & punctuation to be “second tier” concerns. Although important, these are mechanical issues and need to be mentioned, but not dwelt on.