



The Monthly Digest



**Official
newsletter for
writer
Brian McAleer.**

1st Edition

Jan 2016

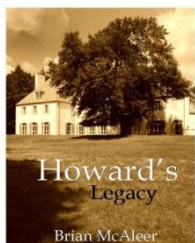
Hello and Welcome!

This is Brian McAleer, writer and creator of this newsletter called "The Monthly Digest".

You've subscribed to this to be kept up to date on all my writing stuff. I appreciate your interest and support as I live the writers life. I aim to make these newsletters informative and interesting for you. You can read about my latest projects, or a film review, or a poem, or one of my latest articles. I'll even do the occasional book review and share some writing tips. This newsletter will come out once a month, so keep an eye on your inbox for the email and Happy Reading (and writing). Not a subscriber yet? Get the newsletter emailed direct to your inbox each month by [subscribing here](#).

Brian

Current Writing Project: Update



**"Howard's Legacy"
- a novel by
Brian McAleer**

Work on the 1st draft of my first novel is ploughing through. It's a five part story, and I'm just starting to write the final part of the story. Hit 114,000 words this week and should hit my target of 150,000 with no troubles. To be kept up to date with the story as I write it up until publication, just jump over to and Like the [official Facebook page](#).

Extra! Extra!

Film Review - "Duel" 1971. Directed by Steven Spielberg.

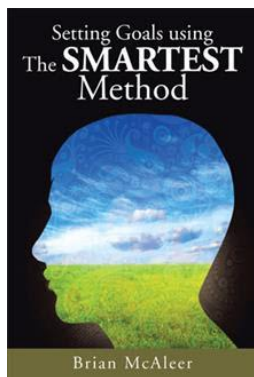
Steven Spielberg has had a long, very successful career as a filmmaker in Hollywood. Go back to 1971 and experience "Duel" his first film as director. Originally made as an ABC Movie of the Week, Spielberg brought the level of quality for this little film far above what the studio were expecting. So much so, it had a theatrical run overseas and cemented the director's place in movies for a long time to come. On my blog "An Aussie Goes Hollywood" [read the review](#) to find out more about the production, the story of this cracking little suspense film and watch the original trailer.



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have The Monthly Digest emailed to you every month.

Previous Work



"Yours for just \$5!"

My first self-published book, "Setting Goals using The SMARTEST Method" is available to buy online. If you like your books electronic, you can buy the eversion for just \$5. The book has pages to write down your goals as you work through the chapters, or you can download those pages from [the blog](#). To get your hands on a copy of the book for just \$5 head over to [this page](#) and go through the payment steps.

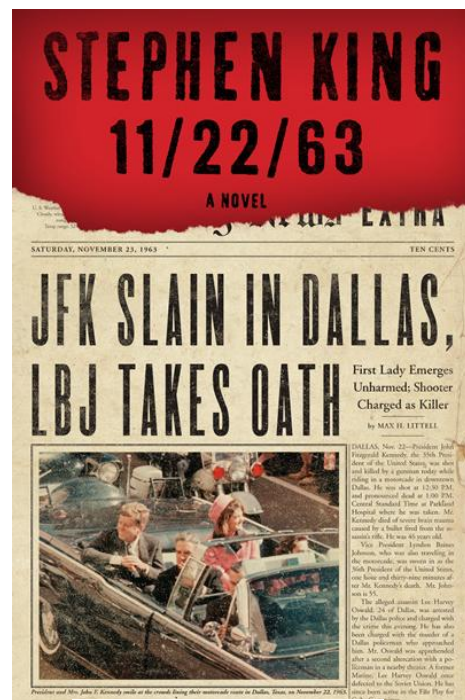
Book Review - 11/22/63 by Stephen King

"A dangerous mission back through time"

Stephen King is historically known for his large contribution of horror stories, but here he dabbles in time travel. At least, that's the initial hook in this riveting story about a College teacher, Jake Epping, who journey's back through time to do a favour for an old friend. That favour? Stop the assassination of John F. Kennedy. With a portal to 1958 in his diner pantry, the old friend gives Jake explicit instructions on what to do, taking over the special mission from him. With five years until that fateful day, Jake lives a life in the past, meets a beautiful girl, teachers at college and slowly but surely prepares himself to keep a close eye on one young Lee Harvey Oswald, before he commits the act that would change the world.

Stephen King's books are also historically known to be long, and 11.22.63 is no exception. But hang in there and be swept up in a detailed account of life in the past, which King writes about with vivid imagination, and genuine love for a time gone by. The characters are more real than you'd expect, and there are no trademark King factors like monsters, ghosts or goblins. But the thought of trying to prevent one of the defining events in the 20th century is scary in itself, and our lead character Jake takes it on with steadfast commitment and undying patience.

My rating? 4 ½ out of 5 stars. Looking forward to the TV mini series starring James Franco, coming out this year.



Writing Tips - #1

"Omit needless words"

This comes from the classic rule book for fiction writers, "The Elements of Style" Oliver Trunk. Written back in 1918, it's still relevant and used by some of the world's most successful writers. In regards to this tip, don't write 'he is a man who' when you can just write 'he' and same goes for 'the reason why is that' when 'because' conveys that point but sooner.