

*Kourtney Heintz/
K.C. Tansley*



*Author
Appearance Kit
Workshops for Adults*



Author Kourtney Heintz

All About Kourtney

Birth Name: Kourtney Heintz

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I am someone who pursues my dreams with gusto, but I also accept when dreams change. Mine have. I've been a management consultant, an auditor, and a risk manager on Wall Street. I even had a short stint as a news desk aide at the Washington Post when I first graduated college.

I am proficient at writing and speaking Mandarin Chinese and received a Master of Pacific International Affairs with a concentration in international risk and a regional focus on China from the University of California, San Diego. I received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a double major in finance and international business and a minor in Chinese from Georgetown University.

I grew up in Connecticut, but lived most of my adult life in New York, NY, Washington, D.C., and San Diego, CA. Being an author is something I've stuck with for years because it's my passion and getting to do it every single day is amazing.

As Kourtney Heintz, I'm an Amazon Bestselling and award-winning author for adults. Under my pseudonym K.C. Tansley, I'm an Amazon Bestselling and award-winning author for teens. Most people wonder why I have two different author names. My books are incredibly different in style, content, and character. Kourtney Heintz writes novels that cross genres (paranormal, suspense, and love story) with more of a literary bent. They are character-driven stories that contain things that are best suited for adults (violence, sex, swearing, etc.). As K.C. Tansley, I write stories that are time-travel mysteries for teens. These are plot-driven adventures that a teen, a mom, and a grandmother will all enjoy reading. They are very PG-12.

Because I write series, I want my readers to know what they are getting when they pick up one of my books. A K.C. Tansley book will be very different from a Kourtney Heintz book. I also don't want angry parents emailing me, so I try to keep the lines between my books clear by using different author names.

I blame J.K. Rowling for my becoming an author. When I found out the Harry Potter series was ending, I was distraught. I would never go on a new adventure with Harry and Hermione. Sure, I could reread the books but there would be no new ones. I decided to write my own stories so that I could hang out with my characters as much as I wanted and only have to let them go when I wanted to.

The Girl Who Ignored Ghosts (written as K.C. Tansley) is a time travel murder mystery for teens. It's about a prep school student who accidentally time travels and must solve a murder and break a curse. This story has been with me most of my life. My best friend and I came up with the concept for it when we were eleven. We worked on character sketches, but got mired down in them. We abandoned the project after a few months.

When I was in my late 20s, I emailed him and asked if we could work on it. He was busy being a Fulbright Scholar in Croatia, but said to go for it and he'd help when he could. That was back in 2006. I kept going with it until I sold the book to a publisher. Now I'm working on the next book in the series. (If you're interested in more details about my journey, check out my website: <http://kourtneyheintz.com/about/>)

The Girl Who Ignored Ghosts is an Amazon Bestseller. It's been on the Amazon Top 100 Lists in Time Travel, Mysteries & Thrillers, and Horror for teens. It's the first book in The Unbelievables series.

The Girl Who Ignored Ghosts has won several awards:

- **2017 EPIC's Ariana Cover Design Awards Finalist**
- **2017 EPIC's Ebook Award Finalist**
- **2016 Moonbeam Children's Book Awards Gold Winner**

- **2016 Killer Nashville Silver Falchion Judges' Choice Awards Winner**
- **2016 National Indie Excellence Awards Finalist**
- **2016 International Book Awards Finalist**
- **2015 Readers' Favorite International Book Awards Finalist**

The Six Train to Wisconsin is a cross-genre novel for adults. When Kai's telepathy spirals out of control, her husband Oliver brings her to the quiet Wisconsin hometown he abandoned a decade ago—Butternut, Wisconsin—where he must confront the secrets of his past to save their future.

The Six Train to Wisconsin (written as Kourtney Heintz) has been on the Amazon Top 100 Lists for Psychic Mysteries and Paranormal & Urban Fantasy. It is the first book in The Six Train to Wisconsin Series.

The Six Train to Wisconsin (written as Kourtney Heintz) won several awards:

- **2014 National Indie Excellence Awards Winner**
- **2014 Readers' Favorite International Book Awards Bronze Winner**
- **2014 International Book Awards Finalist**
- **2014 EPIC Ebook's Awards Finalist**
- **2013 USA Best Book Awards Finalist**
- **2012 Amazon Breakthrough Novel Awards Semifinalist**
- **5 Star Review from Readers' Favorite**

As Kourtney Heintz, I've been a panelist and presented writing workshops at writing conferences, universities, high schools, bookstores, libraries, non-profit organizations, and fantasy conventions. I'm a member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, Sisters in Crime, Mystery Writers of America, and Romance Writers of America. I've also been featured in the *Republican American*, on WTNH's *CT Style*, and *Everything Internet* on the radio.

All About My Workshops and Presentations for Adults

Using PowerPoint slide shows, I focus each workshop on a specific aspect of my writing career and give the participants the tools to effectively navigate the challenges they will face there.

I also discuss what it's really like to be an author and share what authors do all day.

The workshop sessions are limited to 40 people per session so everyone can have a chance to get involved and receive hands-on feedback during the workshop.

The presentations are more informational and the interactive component is limited to a Q&A session. Presentation sessions are limited to 80 people per session to ensure an effective presentation.

Workshops for Adults

Juggling Priorities: How to Be a Productive Part-Time Writer (60 minutes)

I will share time management techniques that will help you do more in less time. While working full time on Wall Street, I wrote two novels. We will discuss how to set realistic deadlines with measurable and reachable goals. There will be tips about how to manage real life intrusions into your writing time and prevent them from derailing you.

Over the years, I've developed a process for scheduling and planning all my writing projects from drafting to revising to querying. I will walk you through how to use my process by creating a project plan for completing a novel in a year as a part-time writer. You will leave this workshop with the tools to help you manage your time and a method to plan any writing project and complete it on time.

Turning Up the Heat: Writing Good Love Scenes (60 minutes)

I will discuss what makes a love scene good and why we can write horrible love scenes much more easily than good ones. We will discuss the importance of turning up the physical heat and emotional heat between your characters and deepening the story with love scenes.

I will share 7 techniques for writing good love scenes. We will read a good love scene and work in groups to examine how the writer applied these 7 techniques to the scene. You will leave this workshop with a new approach to writing love scenes and an understanding of how to revise a love scene.

Finding Your Story: How to Turn an Idea into a Story (60 minutes)

Every person has at least one story inside them. You just have to discover yours. I will show you how to find your story. We will start with a discussion of inspiration and how it can give you an idea.

Then we'll take an initial idea (character, setting, situation, or conflict) and discuss how

to develop it into an actual concept, which includes all four types of these ideas. At the end of the workshop, all attendees will write a one-sentence summary of their concept, which is the hook for their story.

The Importance of Giving Up (60 minutes)

We all have moments of self-doubt. Times where we wonder if we are on the right track with a story or with our pursuit of publication. Everyone talks about the power of perseverance, but no one really talks about how important it is to give up. To let yourself admit that things aren't working out and to re-evaluate what you are doing.

Sometimes we need to step back and decide if something is really worth it. We need to remember that this is a choice. And at any time we can choose to stop. Sometimes giving up is the only way to find our way back to our story and our dream of publication.

Presentations for Adults

The Paths to Publication (60 minutes)

Authors face so many options in getting their work to market. I'll give an overview of traditional, indie, and self-publishing and what each entails. Then I'll talk about my own paths to publication, including my traditional publishing deal that ended before publication, my experiences self publishing, and what it's been like to work with a small press.

An Insider's Peek at the Author's Life (60 minutes)

Ever wonder what an author really does? In today's ever changing publishing industry, authors must be writers, publicists, bookkeepers and their own assistants. I'll share my perspective on publishing options and talk about how each one impacts the author's day-to-day life.

I'll give you a peek into what my author workday encompasses: writing, revising, storystorming, processing orders for signed copies, tracking personal sales, maintaining social media, and setting up events to keep the promotional wheel in perpetual motion.

****Author Appearance at Book Clubs****

Book Club Chats in person (if local) and via Skype (anywhere)

Contact author to arrange a date and time. There is no fee for the author to join your discussion and participate in a Q&A session. It is greatly appreciated if book club members purchase the book in paperback or e-book format and leave a review on Amazon to support the author.

Adult Workshop and Presentation Pricing

Single session (Day or Evening): \$150

2 sessions: \$275

3 sessions: \$400

4 sessions: \$500

1 hour Skype writing workshop/presentation: \$75

Each workshop session is limited to 40 participants to ensure that all participants have a chance to participate.

Each presentation session is limited to 80 participants to ensure an effective presentation for the participants.

Block Booking Discounts Available

Travel fees apply for locations beyond a one-hour drive
Driving - \$0.50/mile for each mile beyond initial 50 mile drive

*For locations requiring overnight stays or long-distance travel,
please contact me.*