



Title: **How to Give a Great Reading**
Instructor: **Ransom Stephens, Ph.D. (ransom@ransomstephens.com)**

“Ransom makes all writers feel confident enough to give a fantastic reading.” –Hyla Molander

Description:

You’ve just been invited to read at a literary event. What should you read for the time allotted? How can you guarantee a lasting impression that leaves the audience wanting to read your work? Readings are the central tool for building your audience and promoting your work. You need to be ready and you need to be good. Ransom Stephens has produced hundreds of readings and wants to prepare you. You’ll learn how to choose the right piece for each event, you’ll discover storytelling techniques that fit your style and enhance your readers’ experience, and, most important of all, you’ll see how to use this opportunity to develop an audience.

“...organized, funny and supportive.” – Laura Novak

This course will enable you to:

- Build your audience and sell books at readings.
- Choose the right piece, of the right length, with the right beginning and ending for a given venue to leave the audience hungry to read your work.
- Edit a passage for reading out loud.
- Apply the right diction to enhance characterization.
- Determine your intrinsic strengths as a storyteller and how to use them.
- Provide the perfect amount of story buildup.

“Great...learned a lot and got some critical evaluation.”- Donn Clark

Details:

The class is an interactive seminar that requires three hours for 15 people.
Bring a passage to read out loud!

About the instructor:

Ransom Stephens, Ph.D., has been a writer and public speaker for 20 years. He has 1000s of hours experience in the classroom as a university professor, and has produced hundreds of literary events. He is the author of what the SF Chronicle called “an ambitious first novel that sings of the heart and the scientific method as two parts of the same song,” *The God Patent* (Numina Press, www.TheGodPatent.com). He produces events for Litquake, the San Francisco Literary Festival, is co-producer and MC of the monthly reading series, Inside Story Time and the Aquas Speakeasy Literary Saloon and has performed at hundreds of readings drawing laughs, tears and sometimes both.

Ransom W. Stephens, Ph.D.

Writer • Physicist • Speaker

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