12—Publicly Commit to Your Book Goal TRANSCRIPT

Okay, take a deep breath with me!

You have done scarier things than tell the world that you're on the cusp of becoming a published author.

That said, it wasn't that long ago that I was where you are now, if this is your first book. The very thought of owning this writing that came straight from my heart and soul – even though all I wrote was a silly fiction book - made my pulse increase and made me light-headed. I can bring that feeling back right now, just thinking about how it felt to hit publish on Amazon. Sitting waiting as though the extra few minutes would change something.

And I have 25 years experience saying, "I am a writer," when people ask what I do.

But saying, "I am a published author?" That felt very different.

It was scary until it was done. It kind of reminds me of an analogy. Like the year my son bought me a sky diving lesson for my birthday since he knew it had been on my bucket list. Caution about what you tell people is on your bucket list! He used almost a month of his summer job money to buy us each diving tickets so we could have the experience together. I was terrified but there was no way I could say, "No."

Sitting with my legs hanging off the edge of the plane I felt sick. And then falling out of the plane was horrifying. But once the parachute opened and we were kind of flying... it was the best feeling ever.

That's what this is like.

You'll feel the fear, but you'll do it anyway.

Because the only thing that can happen is that people will start to congratulate you and they'll be in awe of your accomplishment and say things like, "I've always wanted to write a book, too, but I don't have it in me."

And you'll be able to say, "Yeah you do! I know exactly how you feel, I felt like that, too. But here I am. I am a published author!"

And if you happen to be late with your delivery of this book, nobody will judge you. Nobody worth investing time in at least.

I have pre-ordered many books. Many books, since I know a lot of authors and most of them make their books available for pre-order before the actual book is fully completed. That's a thing. And sometimes the book is delivered when it was planned to be. And sometimes it takes longer. And that's okay.

It's an easy and honest answer to anyone who says, "Hey, wasn't your book supposed to be done by X date?" for you to say, "Yeah, it was, but I want to make it the best book it can be and it's taken me a little bit longer than I expected."

So, for today's 21-minutes, I would like you to create a new email signature line and then share that with us in the Facebook group. And in that signature line you're going to put your name with your book title and, if you feel brave, a date that you expect to have it published.

And, I'd like you to choose the one social media platform – the one you use most – and add "author of your book title" to your bio, whatever that is.

Finally, if you have a website, and this is bonus, weekend work or later, since it will take more than 21 minutes, I would love for you to create an "About the Author" page on your website. And, if you already have an "About me" page, just add new paragraph or a couple of lines that mentions your book-in-progress and states when you expect to have it available.

And if you already have an About the Author page, I invite you to share the link to that on the special post in the Facebook group so that other writers in this course, in the group, can look to your example as they develop their own page or paragraph.

I have one rule only with your posts. There can be no apologies for any aspect of what you're sharing. It is good enough. You are good enough. This is a process, the entire journey, and the very fact that you've shown up so fully, excuses you from having a website that hasn't been updated in 2 years, or having a photo that's a bit blurry, or a whatever it is that you feel compelled to say isn't good enough. No apologies. Just take pride in a job well done!

That's it for today! I can't wait to see your new email signatures, and if you go the extra step, your About the Author page or your About Me page on your website (the burbs). And there will be places on the Facebook group for you to share that.

All right! Thank you so much for being here! It's getting very exciting! See you soon!