Totally Entwined Group PO Box 228 Market Rasen LN8 9DD

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# Words of wisdom for aspiring authors

Meet Claire, our CEO and the driving force behind the Totally Entwined Group.

Working together with her team of editors and 400+ authors around the world, it's Claire's mission to bring fabulous erotic romance fiction to the broadest possible reading audience.

Originally an avid reader, Claire was quick to recognise that sizzling storylines offered real women a wonderful escape from the demands of daily life.

Claire's experience was that taking a little 'time out' to indulge your imagination really could be be a life-enhancing experience and one she was eager to share with women of all ages, backgrounds and circumstances.

With this vision firmly front of mind, Totally Entwined was born. Now, some 12 years later our team is totally determined to bring only the best books with the strongest storylines,

charismatic characters and scorching scenes to our readers.

In order to further our cause, we're always on the look out for accomplished authors and aspiring new writers to join our team...

#### We asked Claire why authors should choose Totally Entwined?

"We're here to offer our authors a totally unique experience.

We're passionate about fabulous, well-written stories and every aspect of our relationships with our authors and our publishing processes are built to support this.

For our writers, it means they enjoy a special kind of relationship with our team. They have a dedicated editor throughout their career with us. Someone who takes time to really understand what makes them tick and gets to know how they think and write.

By doing this, it means we're

positioned to really bring out the best in each and every book, from the moment it's submitted, to the point of publication.

We also believe that we're in it together. Which is why we've developed a whole package of marketing advice and support for our authors – because we succeed when our authors succeed.

And there's no better way to judge this success than in numbers of books sold and royalties generated.

We know that happy authors are productive authors - so it's our aim to make the writer/ publisher relationship as professional and profitable as possible.

We treat our authors with the utmost respect, whether we're working on a manuscript or promptly paying the allimportant end of month royalties.

Our authors can rely on us 100%."

### We're passionate about fabulous, well-written stories and every aspect of our author relationship.

# encouraging words

What words of encouragement would you give to a first-time writer?

"Complete your manuscript and get a good beta reader to check it over before sending it to us. We're not looking for perfectly polished prose, (particularly from rookie writers), but we are strict on good strong storylines. . .because that's what gets readers hooked.

Always follow the submission guidelines and remember that what we're looking for a fresh voice and an original style – so be yourself!, Don't worry or overthink your submission.

Pay particular attention to developing dynamic and intelligent characters that your readers will remember.

We're always on the lookout for plot-driven erotic romances that illustrate the relationship between key characters. Ideally, a true Erotic Romance should have a happy ending, but if not (and particularly if you've got a serialisation in mind), a happy for now ending may suffice.

Let's not beat around the bush. Erotic Romance should be spine-tinglingly sexy, so we're looking for varying degrees of sex throughout the story, with lots of opportunity for erotic exploration.

Tension can be just as important as passion - because we all enjoy the thrill of anticipation, so don't be afraid to do a little reader teasing of your own.

We're looking for meaningful and expressive language that is explicit, but suitable for the storyline. Avoid repetition, the last thing we want is to be boring or predictable!

Our best writers are those who have a unique and new approach and a writing style that sets them apart from the mainstream. Focus on your talent for storytelling and we'll help you take it from there."

### Avoid repetition, the last thing we want is to be boring or predictable!

Here at the Totally Entwined Group we don't expect each manuscript to be perfect - we're looking for great stories. Our editors are here to help with the rest. Submission calls are a great way of kick-starting ideas. Don't be afraid to ask questions – if you don't yet have a manuscript to submit but you have some ideas we'll still look at them.

**Rebecca Scott** 

Publisher



# be a total success

How does a writer go from writing a book to building a career as an author?

"The best way is to plan a series, rather than a one book release.

We know from experience that getting reader buy-in to your work is extremely important in developing a fan base. Once you've got readers hooked and hungry for more of your stories, you're half way down the road to success.

Try writing a few books in a series before submitting the first one to a publisher. If you plan to work this way, it helps your publisher to schedule releases in a way that will keep you in the forefront of your readers' minds.

It also means you'll have a head start that gives you time to write additional stories and keep up with demand without having a big break between releases. Another great way to build own social m a successful writing career order to spreis to take responsibility for far and wide." developing your own profile from the outset.

We recommend our authors write a blog, connect with readers on Facebook and Twitter and employ any of their other favourite social media channels to develop a direct relationship with their fanbase.

Our team back at 'Totally Towers' is busy helping our writers do precisely this and we regularly provide our authors with top-tips and 'how-to' guides to help them along the way.

Naturally, we also provide direct marketing support when titles are published, promoting releases via the media, pushing them via our own eCommerce sites and working hard with 3rd party sites to ensure maximum profile and distribution.

We also talk up a storm for all our authors through our very

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own social media channels in order to spread the message far and wide."





## our commitment

So why should ambitious new and expendent authors put Totally Entwined at the top of their list of publishing partners?

"For an intensive, creative vocation like writing, your relationship with your publisher really matters. Here at Totally Entwined, we're in it for the long haul and we want authors who want the same.

We really care about our writers and about making their books the very best they can be. That is why we cultivate a culture of respect, nurture our authors' individual talents and build really rewarding relationships.

We know that modern women want to indulge their imaginations with high-quality erotic romance and we're absolutely determined to carve out a role as the number one provider of this life-enriching genre.

We believe that Totally Entwined creates a totally unique environment where

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new and experienced authors can flourish and reach their

We are always on the look out for talented individuals to join our team. Contact us and experience the Totally Entwined difference for yourself!"







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## "Here at Totally Entwined, we're in it for the long haul and we want authors who want the same."