

**Join us on Saturday, April 14th for our Branch Meeting and Luncheon**

## **Writing Humor**

### **A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Death Scene: Why and How to Use Humor in Serious Stories**

**featuring Dean Gloster**

"As writers, we make readers feel emotions, and one of the easiest to create is the humor response. That's fortunate, because excellent reasons suggest including humor in even serious stories."

"For example, characters' humor helps readers bond with them, because 98% of readers believe their sense of humor is at least average or above. Research shows that readers automatically assign an array of other positive attributes to characters who use humor, assuming that they are also creative, intelligent, cooperative, pleasant, and considerate. Humor is also one of the most compressed ways to convey other information in a story."



- Getting Past Myths about Using Humor (Comedy is not difficult, and it can be learned)
- The Eight Reasons Why People Laugh (More useful than humor theory)
- Ten Reasons to Use Humor in Serious Stories
- The Top Ten Humor Tools for Writers

Dean Gloster is a former stand-up comedian who holds an MFA in writing for children and young adults from Vermont College of Fine Arts. His novel *Dessert First* from Merit Press/Simon Pulse was described by *School Library Journal* as a "divine debut novel... This wonderful story...will be a hit with fans of John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars* and Jesse Andrews's *Me and Earl and the Dying Girl*."