

Title:

How To Survive A Good Review

Word Count:

859

Summary:

When the first reviews for my most recent novel (Great Sky Woman, Random House 2006) started o

The second review came in two weeks later. This one, from ^Booklist,~ used words like ^magnifi

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Keywords:

writing, novel, advice, creativity

Article Body:

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I sighed. Boy, oh boy, did I need to hear that. Why? Because I am an insecure artist. Because

Some say to ignore reviews, that they are only the opinions of people who, often, are jealous

To be absolutely frank, there have been times I curled up and cried because a reviewer I respe

An artist needs feedback. We must know whether what we do communicates the message intended. T

But there are times when the good review is more damaging than the bad one. It often seems tha

Deep within such an artist is a driving, gnawing, ravenous urge to be loved, respected, seen,

Of course, attention isn't always on the artist herself: sometimes we merely want to draw atte

And when those reviews come in, we can either read them at an emotional arm's length, or we ca

Which are more important? I'm not certain. But when those positive reviews come, I notice that

But God help you if you ever need it. Then, with an exquisitely perverse precision, it will be

I love the process of writing. I love the books themselves. I love my audience. And I love tho

That voice, and no other, can you trust

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