



Winner of the 2014 Romance Writers of Australia RUBY (Romantic Book of the Year) Award for Stories with Romantic Elements!

Crashing into an ancient Australian wilderness is pretentious socialite Abigail Mulholland's worst nightmare. She survives the accident with two complete strangers, however things go from bad to downright hellish when rescuers never come. As she battles to live in an environment that's as brutal as it is beautiful, Abigail finds herself also fighting her unlikely attraction to Mackenzie--a much younger man. A man she's willing to change for.

Mackenzie Steel is devastated by his partner's death in the crash, the only person with whom he shared his painful past. Now, as he confronts his own demons, he finds he has a new battle on his hands: his growing feelings for Abigail, a woman who's as frustratingly naïve as she is funny.

Fate brought them together, but they'll need more than luck to escape Kakadu alive. Could the letters of a dead man hold the key to their survival?



Lost in Kakadu Won The Romantic Book of the Year Award 2014, affectionately known as The Ruby. This is Romance Writers Australia's premier award and the only one of its kind in Australia. It's like the academy award for romance writers and is voted by Australian readers.



Lost In Kakadu was a finalist in the 2013 Australian Romance Readers Awards (ARRA):

**Best Romantic Suspense
Best Book Cover
Best New Author**



Kendall Talbot is an award winning author, thrill seeker and a hopeless romantic. She has travelled extensively, 36 countries and counting, and she's addicted to experiences that make her scream – white water rafting, scuba diving with sharks, and hang gliding are just a few. Her stories reflect her sense of adventure and her long running love affair with her very own hero.

Kendall collects junky jewellery and expensive perfume, her favourite night out is with great friends and a fabulous bottle of wine or two, and she rarely watches TV. She lives in Brisbane with her hubby, her two grown boys, and her little dog, Josie McLuvn.

TURN OVER - for one of her favourite tricks for increasing word count, or check out her website for more tips and ideas.

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Word Count Bingo

This is a little tip I've adopted from Dr Kim Wilkins.

I have 2 charts here. One for 30,000 words in a month and one for 35,000 words in a month.

The idea is that you highlight each square as you achieve the amount of words in the square. You have 5 day's off each month where you don't have to write any. At the end of the month, if you've marked off all the squares, then you've written at least 30,000 words. Simple.

30,000 words in 25 days				
380	1560	912	1001	1262
1519	517	2000	1200	1101
1601	690	1582	509	1309
828	1828	2000	1412	308
1696	695	1698	1214	1178

35,000 words in 25 days				
1380	1560	912	1401	1562
1519	917	2000	1200	1701
2001	690	1582	709	1809
928	1828	2000	1412	408
1696	1395	1698	1214	1478

Here are a few more tips to increase your writing productivity.

- 1) Turn off your internet while you are writing. If you get stuck for a word or need to do research for something, simply type XX and come back to it later. For example (XX need model of car or character name)
- 2) Before writing a scene do a 30-50 word brain storming session. List all the words describing the next scene. They can be regarding the internal or external factors of the scene. Doing this will help set the mood. I try to do this in the morning so it plays on my mind all day. When I sit down at night I'm ready to roll.
- 3) Use another device for brainstorming, eg, if you write on your computer, use an iPad or notepad. I use my iPad while I'm at the kitchen counter cooking dinner to write down aspects of my next scene. (I've burnt dinner a few times). It can be bullet points or whole sentences. The idea is to get your brain thinking about everything the next scene could involve. Then when I sit down at my computer I have all this lead up information to help me write.
- 4) When I'm on a roll with my writing, I sometimes skip scenes that are more involved and keep going. For example I may write (XX Insert sex scene) or (XX Insert fight scene). These are in-depth scenes that need detailed thought and I don't want to become bogged down with them. I list these scenes in a notebook to come back to.
- 5) When I just have thirty minutes or an hour to spare, I work on the scenes I've mentioned in tip 4. It could be to just brainstorming them or plot them out.
- 6) Always have a notebook or iPad with you. You never know when you'll have a brainwave that needs to be written down.

Check out my website for more tips and ideas. I also list some of my favourite writing resources.

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