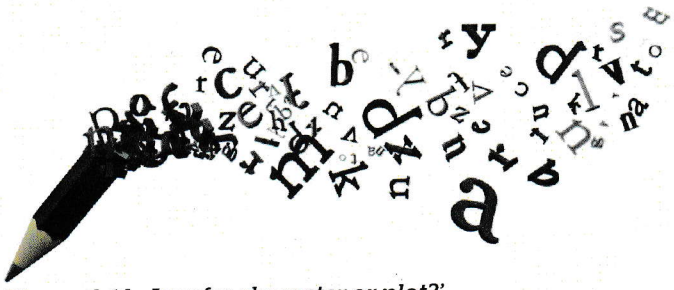
Ode to an audience

(aka what people want to know about being a writer?)

ABI SILVER

December 2018



They ask 'do I prefer character or plot?'
I answer that both are key
They ask then 'do I plan or not?'
I answer that "pantser" suits me

They ask if I base my characters on friends
I answer that would be unwise
They ask if I know how my book's set to end
I answer I'm always surprised

They ask if my legal career impacts each story
I answer I cannot deny
But when it's which protagonist is most like me
I almost invariably lie

They ask if Dostoyevsky was the first writer of crime
I answer I haven't a clue
They ask if I like Disney films in my downtime
I say I like fairy tales too

They ask why AI creeps into my stories
I answer I'm scared by its proliferation
Uncharted, unguided, unregulated entities
Each jostling for world domination

They ask if I read my one star reviews
I answer 'I do' and they hurt
They ask if I was on a desert island, which books would I choose
I answer Sherlock Holmes for starter, To Kill A Mockingbird for main and Rumpole of the Bailey for dessert

They ask if writing has changed my ways
I answer first 'no' and then 'yes'
Because really I've been writing all of my days
And feel unbelievably blessed

What's new is the audience - all of you folk
Equipped with questions, opinions and choice
To challenge and probe, to support and promote
And help me to find my real voice

(**DSD Says**: Love this poem and the lines *'... really I've been writing all of my days And feel unbelievably blessed'* have special resonance with us all and it is a thought we should hold dear as we journey forth into 2019)