

**Build your brand
with technical writing!**



Kathi Kellenberger

Editor and Advocate
Redgate Software

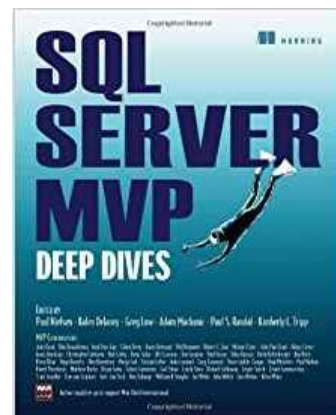
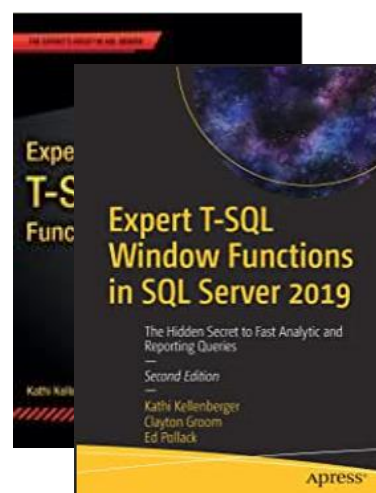
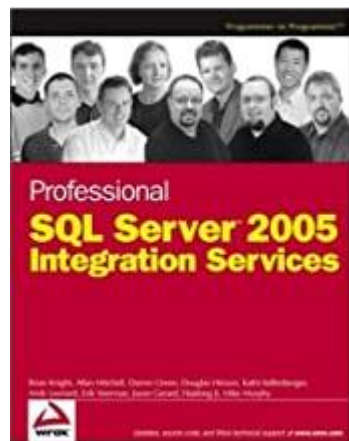
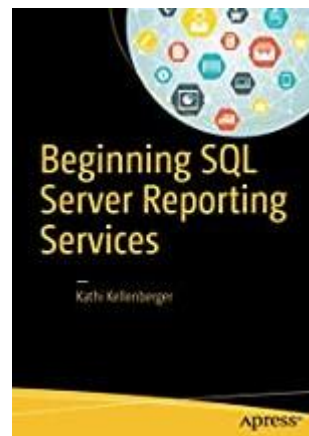
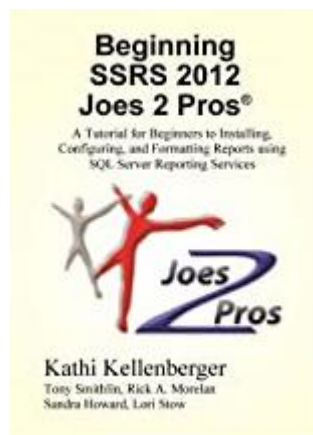
 /Kathikellenberger

 @aunkathi

 <http://aunkathisql.com>

Lifelong learner
Teacher

Co-leader of WIT
2008 PASSion award
winner
Data Platform MVP



Are you a writer?

- Book
- Article
- Blog
- Documentation
- Email
- Social media

Photo by [Liam Anderson](#) from [Pexels](#)



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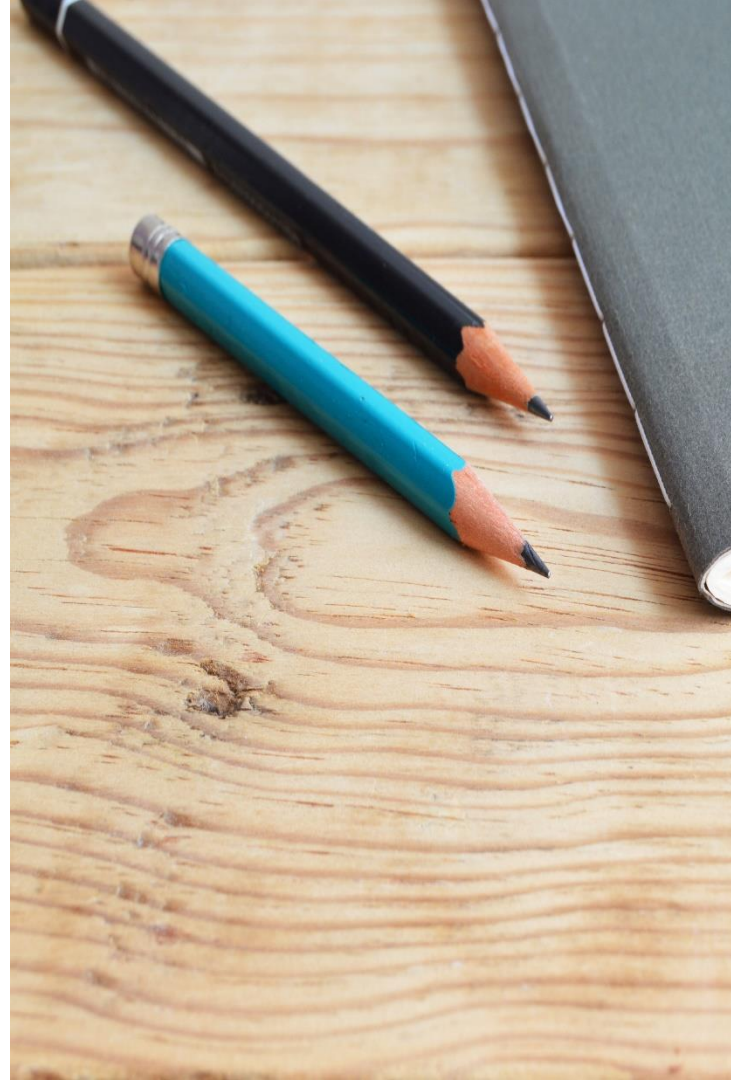


Why write?

- Establish your brand
- MVP/SQL celebrity
- Career opportunities
- Give back
- Learn more
- Not to make money 😞

How to get started

- Start blogging
 - Problems you have solved
 - Things you have learned
 - Things you want to learn
- Put writing on your calendar!



Blogging

- Free sites like WordPress/SQL Server Central
- Domain names are inexpensive
- Promote posts on social media
- You are in control
- (Check with your company!)

Aunt Kathi's SQL Server Home

*Learn SQL Server from your favorite
aunt!*

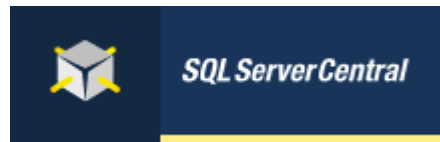


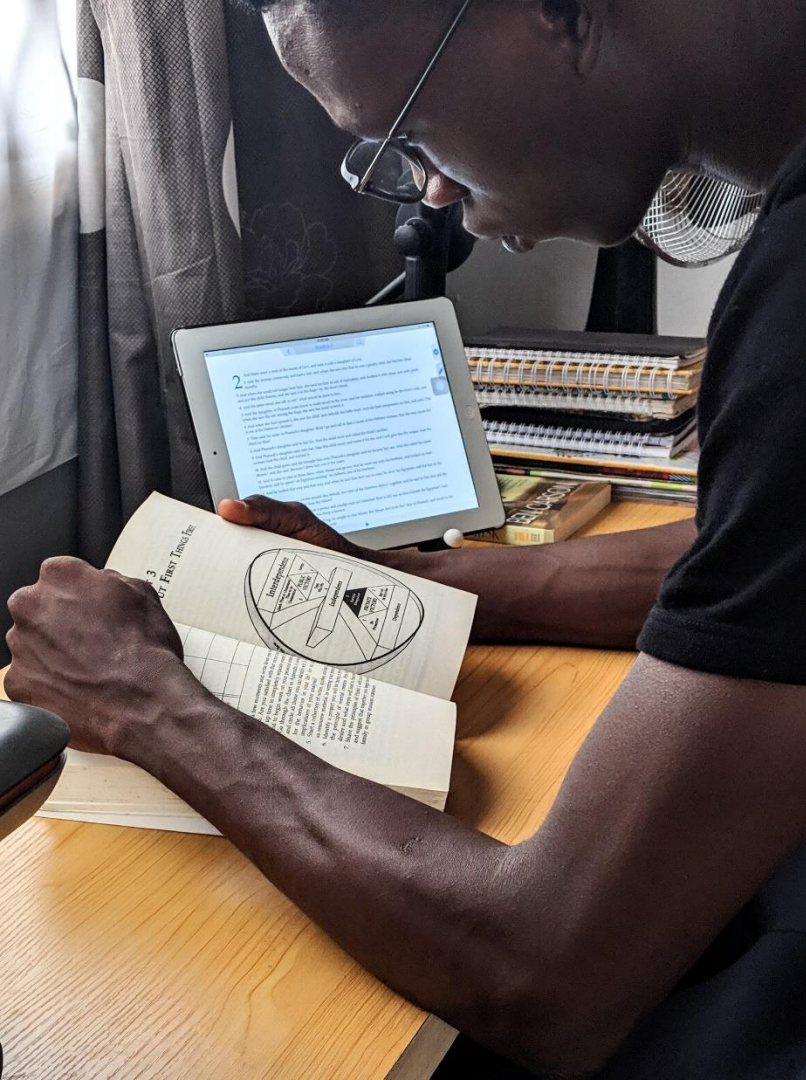
Articles

- Often reviewed
- Less control
- Sometimes you get paid
- Easier than books
- Turn a presentation into an article
- But might lead to a book!



Simple Talk
Articles & opinion





Getting involved with a book project

- Write articles and blogs first!
- Network with authors
- Start by contributing one chapter
- Deadlines
- Less control
- Ultimate bucket-list item

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Publisher vs. self-publishing

Publisher

They are in charge
Project management
Editors / artists
Marketing / publicity
Printing / e-books
Royalty advance

Self-publishing

You are in charge
You have to figure everything out
May need cash up front
Self-publishing companies
Might make more money



CreateSpace is moving to Kindle Direct Publishing

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Writing tips and tools

- Grammarly
- Avoid choppy short sentences
- Avoid long, run-on sentences
- Avoid using the same word multiple times in a sentence or paragraph
- Avoid switching voice or tense
- Articles and book chapters are more formal than presentations or blog posts

DEMO

Fix a writing sample



Offer

- Introduction to Apress
- Write for Simple Talk

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