

Mr. Dan,

I grew up not too far from Ocala, Florida, a place called Deland.  
My family is still there and my roots at Stetson University School of Music play inside my head.

(Whatever)

But guess what happened to me the other day...?

Here I am, in the thick of hardship.  
You know, the kind of stress that keeps you from breathing  
until you realize you're not breathing!!??  
A place where you're at the very bottom,  
and can't make sense of the confusion through the fog.

You've been there, done that.  
And you know things will get better,  
but you feel alone...  
and fear how bad it might get.

That's me. Right now.

You see...  
I have four children,  
I quit my \$110K corporate sales and marketing job to become a freelance copywriter,  
savings are gone,  
time keeps moving on without me,  
and a pile of debt sits on my chest, like an overflowing dirty laundry basket. (Make that  
four of them - one for each kid - the tall plastic white ones.)

So I borrowed more money to attend this copywriting workshop two states over.  
I'm all packed, ready to go.  
Kids are at school and all is taken care of for two days.  
The house is quiet...  
there's no one but me.

As I gather my things to head out the door,  
...there sits today's mail on the counter.

It's Doberman Dan's newsletter.

Hmmm. I am curious....

So I stopped to open it up....

(Why? I don't know!

I had to set my freakin' heavy bags down,  
take my bottomless purse off my shoulder,  
drop the shoes out of my hand....

and before you know it,

I had once again managed to frustrate myself with another distraction).

It was very inconvenient, but anyway...

It read:

"Dear Amy Sahf,

I'm sending you this mini Excalibur sword....as a reminder that a knight in the Marketing Camelot isn't afraid to fight for her dreams...and whenever the dragons of fear and distraction rear their ugly heads...remind yourself of your knighthood, pick up your Excalibur and send those dragons running in fear!

All the best,  
Doberman Dan"

There I stood.

Speechless.

Feeling completely naked.

Just me....and a choice.

So I did the only thing anyone should do...

I grabbed my shiny gold and silver mini Excalibur sword, grabbed my bags,  
I went out into the unknown.... and will fight the dragons!

A Sincere 'Thank You!' Doberman Dan,  
~ Yours Truly, Amy Sahf