



photo by r halfpaap

**Being a literary citizen is a beautiful pursuit. Start with this quick guide...**

- 1. Create your manifesto.** This begins with *who you want to be* and the world you want to live in.
- 2. Choose your habits.** These will be based on your manifesto, to support your personal direction as an epic literary citizen.
- 3. Find your tribe (your citizenry).** The habits you choose will be better supported in a like-minded community you find or build.
- 4. Learn some lingo.** Speaking the common language of literary devices with your tribe will strengthen your experience and discoveries.
- 5. Search for historical treasure.** Connecting to a literary past can enrich your literary citizenship in the present.
- 6. Step outside the circle.** Once you've reached a certain level of experience, it's time to step outside the circle—to go deeper and wider.
- 7. Invite others into your literary world.** This keeps it vibrant, for others and you.
- 8. Keep the storytellers telling, the poets poeming, and the cosplayers cosplaying.** Partnering with creators in myriad ways helps their creativity continue to be possible.
- 9. Celebrate!** It's good for your soul. It reminds you who you are, and who you want to be. It connects you to your fellow literary citizens, strengthening bonds and forging new ones.
- 10. Dream and dream again.** Every so once in a while, it can be good to revisit your manifesto. Is this still who you want to be? Is this still the world you want to create or keep?