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## Amateur poet now professional novelist

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Homer Starkey's first novel, "You WILL Believe in Love: A Tale of Love's Little Kinks," was recently published by Aventine Press.

Homer Starkey has been writing since junior high school, when he began composing his own poetry. Poetry gave way to songwriting and, eventually, Starkey decided to try his hand at writing fiction. This summer, Starkey celebrated a milestone that many writers only dream of accomplishing – the publication of his first novel.

Set in the Houston area, "You WILL Believe in Love: A Tale of Love's Little Kinks," tells the story of friends and opposites Gab and Pal, who attempt to start a primal scream therapy business. The book was published by Aventine Press and is available on Starkey's website, as well as Amazon, Barnes and Noble, iTunes and other online retailers.

"'You WILL Believe in Love' is the story of two unlikely friends and would-be entrepreneurs," Starkey said. "One an impulsive optimist and the other a perpetual skeptic, they find themselves in yet another situation for which they are ill prepared, but this time one that involves matters of the heart. Set a decade ago in and around Houston, the novel begs the question: What must you admit about yourself before you can truly believe in love?"

Starkey will host a book signing for "You WILL Believe in Love" at 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 17, at the Raspberry Rose Boutique, located at 2434 Rice Blvd. in Rice Village.

Writing can be a difficult career path, but Starkey loves his work.

"(My favorite thing about being a writer is) creating characters that make you laugh, cry and look inward," he said.

When he's not busy writing or fulfilling his duties as managing editor for marketing at Schlumberger, Starkey stays busy performing with various local musicians and spending time with his 3-year-old son. He also enjoys running and recently signed up for his very first half-marathon.

To learn more about Homer Starkey or "You WILL Believe in Love," email [contact@homerstarkey.com](mailto:contact@homerstarkey.com) or visit [www.homerstarkey.com](http://www.homerstarkey.com). You can also connect with Starkey on Facebook and Twitter.

For more information on Starkey's upcoming book signing at Raspberry Rose Boutique, call 713-529-2260, email [rasprose@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rasprose@sbcglobal.net), visit [www.raspberryroseboutique.com](http://www.raspberryroseboutique.com) or connect with the boutique on Facebook.

### ABOUT Homer Starkey

AGE: 39

OCCUPATION: Managing editor for marketing at Schlumberger

COMMUNITY CONNECTION: Works in Memorial

FAST FACT: Starkey used to teach English at Kingwood High School

Megan Mattingly-Arthur is a freelance writer. She can be reached at [neighborhoods@chron.com](mailto:neighborhoods@chron.com).

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