

Writing and Publishing Books with Free Software

Nathan Haines
nhaines@ubuntu.com

Nathan Haines

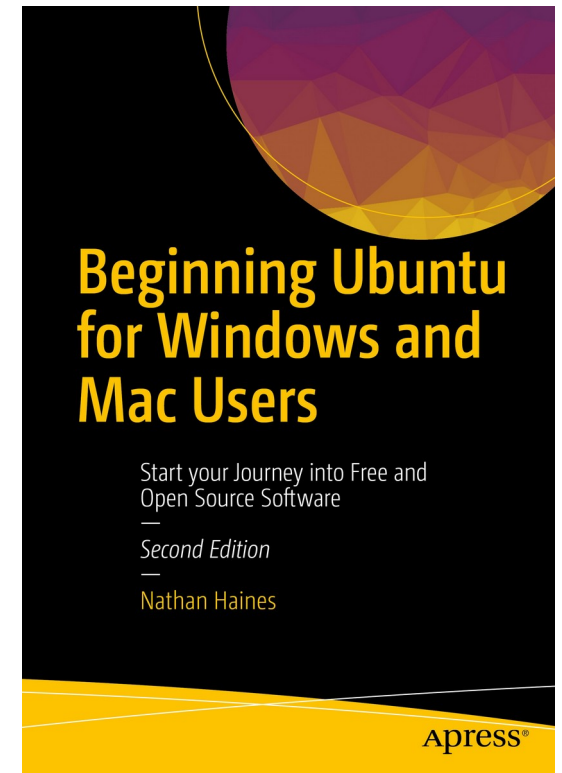
- Computer enthusiast
 - Programmer
 - Gamer
 - Computer technician

Nathan Haines

- Ubuntu member
 - California Local Community Team Leader
 - Ubuntu Community Council

Nathan Haines

- Author
 - Beginning Ubuntu
for Windows and Mac Users
(Apress; November 2022)
 - Original fiction
 - English translator for Farnham's Legend and
Egosoft's X-Universe series of novels



Why publish a book?



- Have a story to tell
- Want to connect with others
- Fame
- Fortune

Publishing a book



- Traditional Publishing
- Self-publishing

Traditional publishing



- Write a manuscript
 - Non-fiction books are sold by proposal
- Submit manuscript to agents
- Agent submits to publishers
- Publisher offers a contract

Self-publishing



- Write a book
- Hire editor(s)
- Hire cover designer
- Hire layout designer
- Publish the book

Royalties



- Traditional publishing
 - Publisher pays an advance on royalties
 - Publisher collects 45-55% of gross profit
 - Pays author 8-15% of net profit
 - Agent receives 10-15% of author's profit

Royalties



- Self-publishing
 - Author receives 100% of net profit
 - 35-70% of gross profit on ebooks

Royalties



- Traditional publishing
 - Team of experts work on your book
 - Access to book stores and libraries
- Self-publishing
 - You find and hire your own team
 - Keep creative control, rights, and marketing

Time to write



- Word processing software
 - LibreOffice Writer
 - FocusWriter
 - Your favorite text editor

Editing in Word

9781484206096_02.docx [Compatibility Mode] - Word (Trial)

File Home Insert Design Layout References Mailings Review View Tell me what you want to do...

Clipboard Font Paragraph Styles Editing

Navigation

Search document

Headings Pages Results

- Ubuntu Desktop
 - Unity Launcher
 - Unity Dash
 - Dash Privacy
 - Unity Menubar and Indicators
 - Unity HUD
 - Managing Windows
 - Installing and Updating Software
 - Upgrading Ubuntu
 - Find things in Ubuntu instead of Wi...
 - Find things in Ubuntu instead of OS X
 - Connect to a Windows Desktop Re...
 - Run Windows Applications
 - Connect to Windows Shared Folders...
 - Share Office Documents With Others
 - Share photos and graphics with oth...
 - Format Disks to Work with Other Op...
 - Summary

Printer". Click Brows to open a SMB Browser. This displays the Windows network, and you can navigate to the corresponding workgroup and computer that is sharing the printer (see Figure 2-13).




Figure 2-13. Shared printers work just like local ones—if the remote computer is turned on!

Select the desired printer and then click OK. The SMB Browser will disappear and the printer URI will have been filled in for you in the New Printer screen. Click Forward, and you can choose a compatible printer driver by selecting a manufacturer and model. Then click "Forward" again and set any printer options that apply to the shared printer. Click "Forward" again and you will be able to give your printer a name. Once you confirm these options, Ubuntu will ask if you wish to print a test page. This is a good way to test the printer as well as save a copy of your printer settings. Now the printer will be listed as a choice when you print from any application.

Share Office Documents With Others

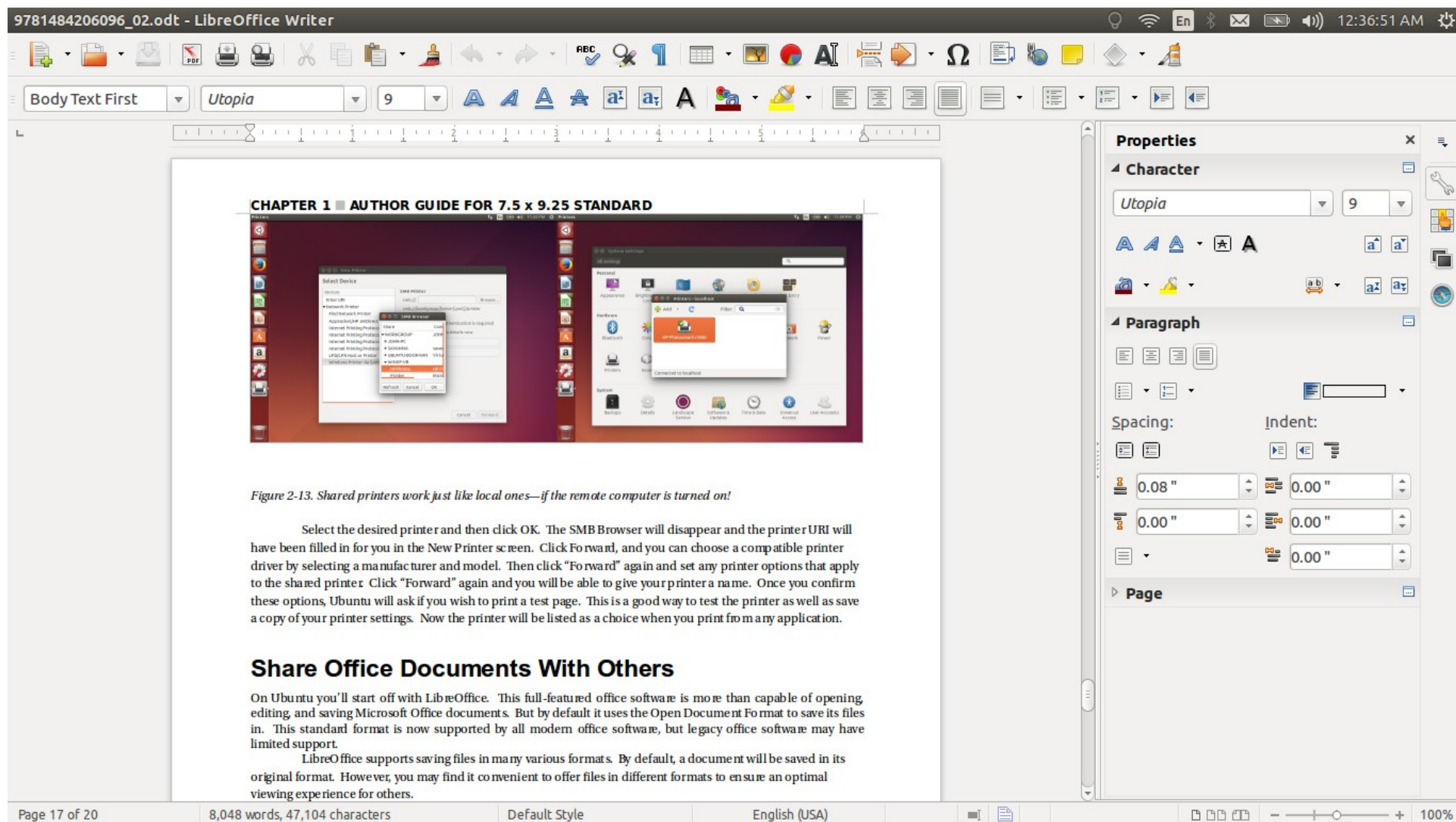
On Ubuntu you'll start off with LibreOffice. This full-featured office software is more than capable of opening, editing, and saving Microsoft Office documents. But by default it uses the Open Document Format to save its files in. This standard format is now supported by all modern office software, but legacy office software may have limited support.

Page 17 of 19 7990 words English (United States)

Ask me anything

12:13 AM 7/9/2015

Editing in LibreOffice Writer



Revision




- LibreOffice Writer
 - Track changes
 - Compatible with Word tracking and comments
- Source control
 - Probably overkill
 - Good for changes, not for comments

Revising in LibreOffice Writer

9781484206096_02.docx - LibreOffice Writer

Chapter Title | Arial Narrow | 30

CHAPTER 2 ■ Getting Started with Ubuntu



Please add a reference to this figure in the above text.

Jim Markham
01/22/2015 10:29

program running and think that Wine installs all the default Windows applications? (This might also be confusing since it does actually install Notepad and they might see the two and conclude so). Maybe here you could mention that you copied the exe file from your Windows installation?

Jess Bermudes
01/22/2015 10:26

Loader.

Properties

Character

Arial Narrow | 30

Paragraph

Spacing: | Indent:

0.17" | 0.00"

0.83" | 0.00"

0.00"

Page

Figure 2-11. With Wine, you can pit Aisleriot Solitaire and Windows Solitaire against each other. Fight!

While many applications will run without further effort, some applications can be made to run using various amounts of configurations changes. For a place to find reviews on whether an application will run or tips to improve performance for any specific application, visit the Wine Application Database at <https://appdb.winehq.org/>. Applications reviewed by other Wine users and are rated on a color scale, where Platinum applications run perfectly right "out of the box", Gold applications just need a little special configuration, Silver applications have some issues that shouldn't get in the way of normal usage. Bronze

Page 17 of 22 | 7,892 words, 46,279 characters | First Page | English (USA) | 100%

Interior Layout



- LibreOffice
 - Styles and page formatting
- Scribus
 - Full desktop publishing solution
- Sigil
 - EPUB formatting for ebooks

First page layout

Activities

Document Viewer

Nov 9 10:24

100 %

4 of 91

Called Under

Called Under-print.pdf

82.7%

Q

≡

—

□

×

4

5

6

7

8

9

This is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously and are not to be construed as real. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, organizations, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

Copyright © 2019 Nathan Haines
ISBN-13: 978-1-0758-7696-7
ISBN-10: 1-0758-7696-6

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be used or reproduced in any manner whatsoever without written permission, except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical articles and reviews.

First electronic edition: June 2019
First paperback printing: June 2019

Visit Nathan Haines on the World Wide Web
at <https://www.nhaines.com/>

ONE

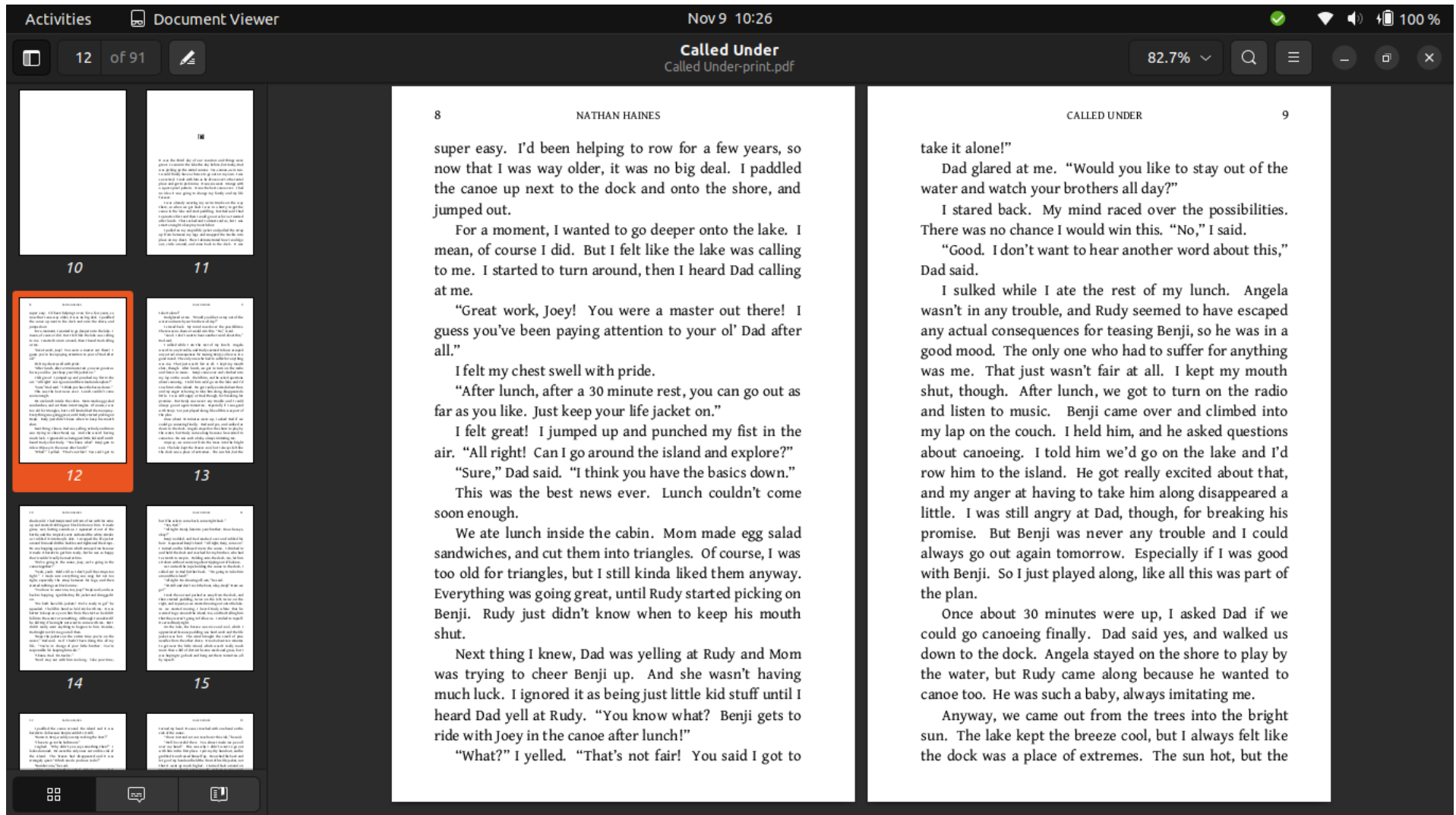
I remember when our family used to love to go on vacation in the summer. Every year, we'd rent a cabin up in the mountains, right by a lake. It was a two or three hour drive away, and my parents would pack me and my two brothers and my sister into the car and we'd drive up for a week while we were out from school. As far back as I can remember.

A real tradition.

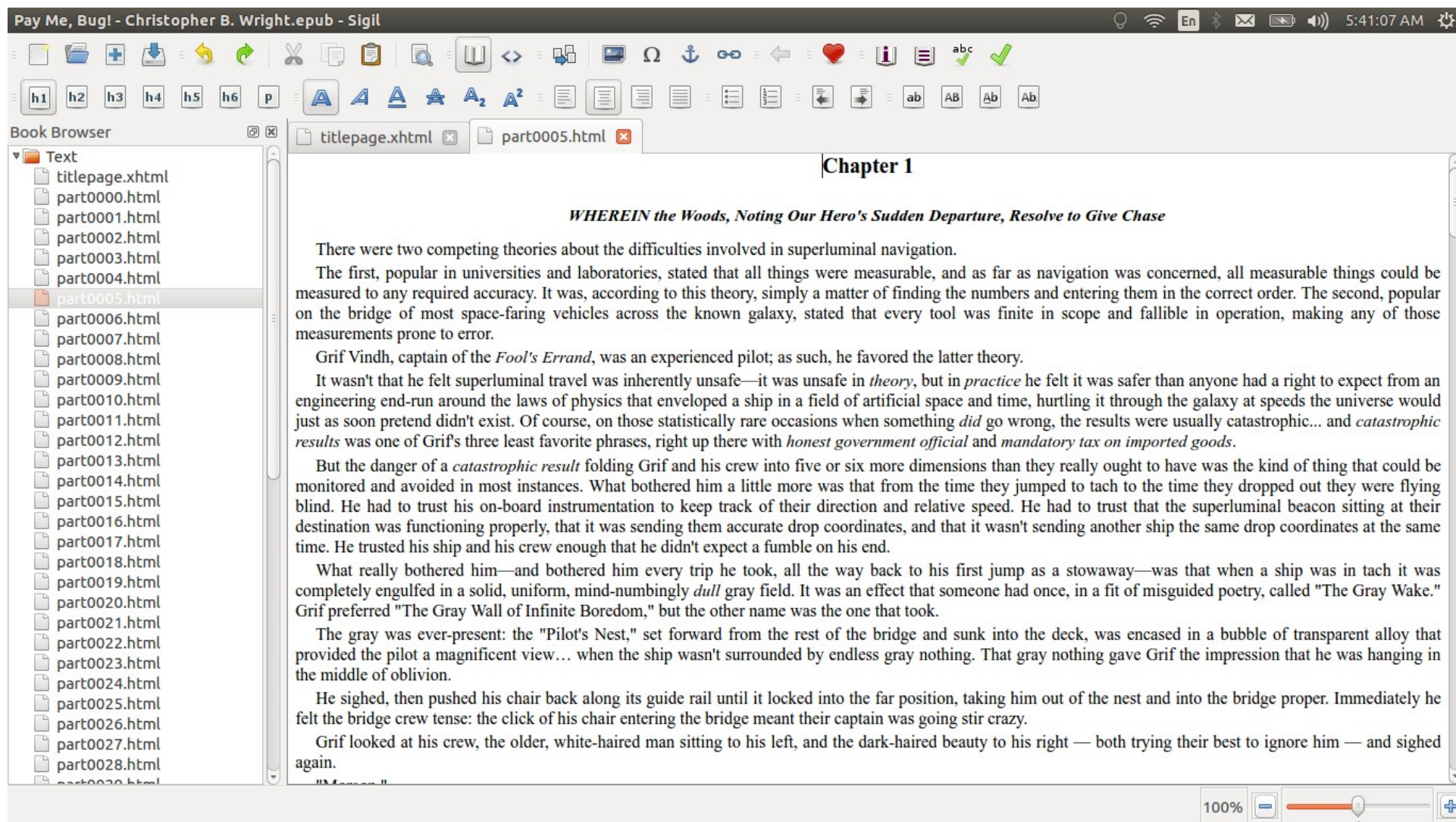
A year ago, when I was 12, I was excited to head back up to the cabin. My dad had finally said I was old enough to paddle a canoe by myself, even if I did have to wear an embarrassing life jacket. I hated them because they were rough and made me sweat, and then the sweat wouldn't evaporate. But those were the rules. Dad made it clear that I had to follow them or else.

But by the time we reached the mountain and were driving up the winding road to where we were going to stay, I wasn't so upset about it. It was a hot day like it was every July, and I knew it would be cooler, which was good

Interior page layout



Ebook interior layout

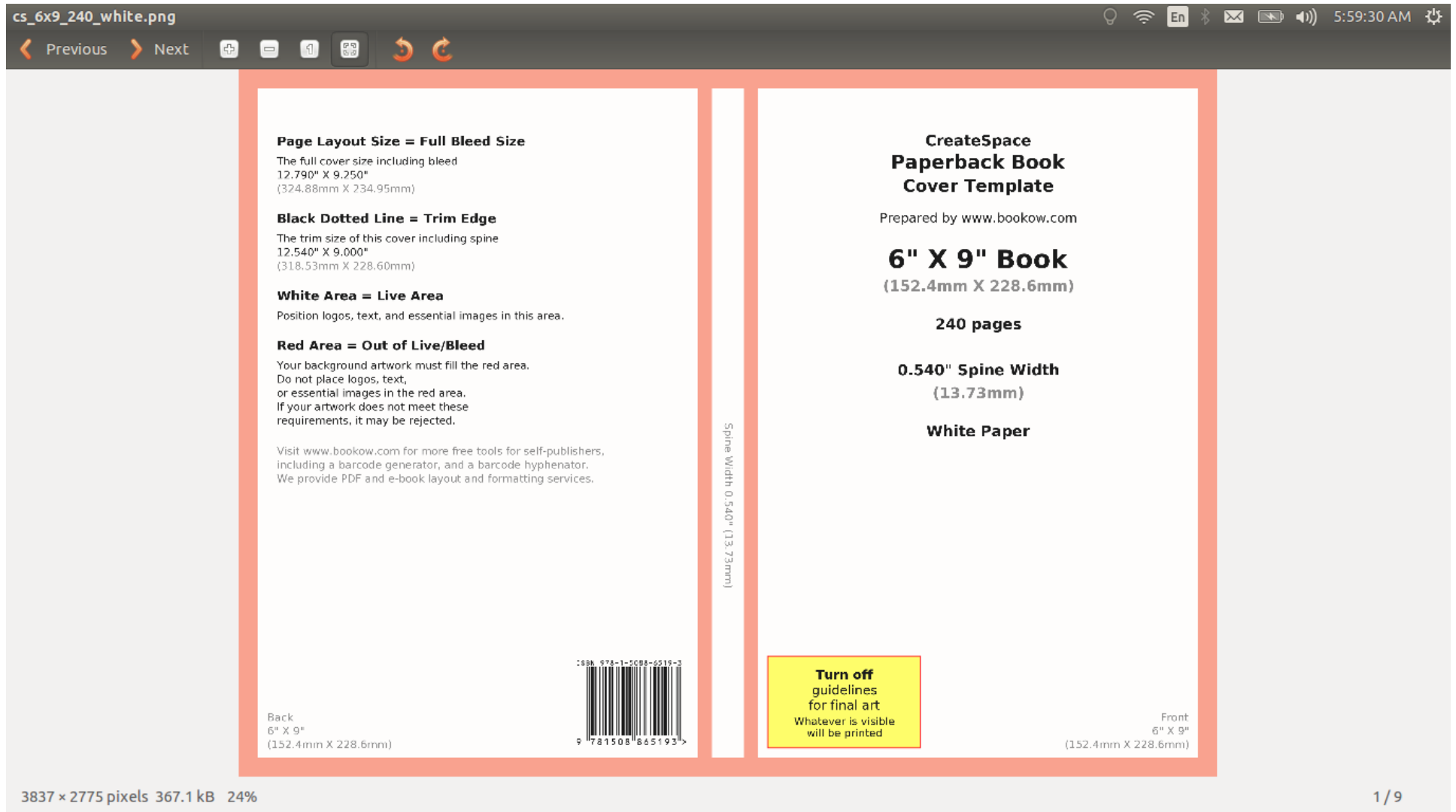


Cover Design

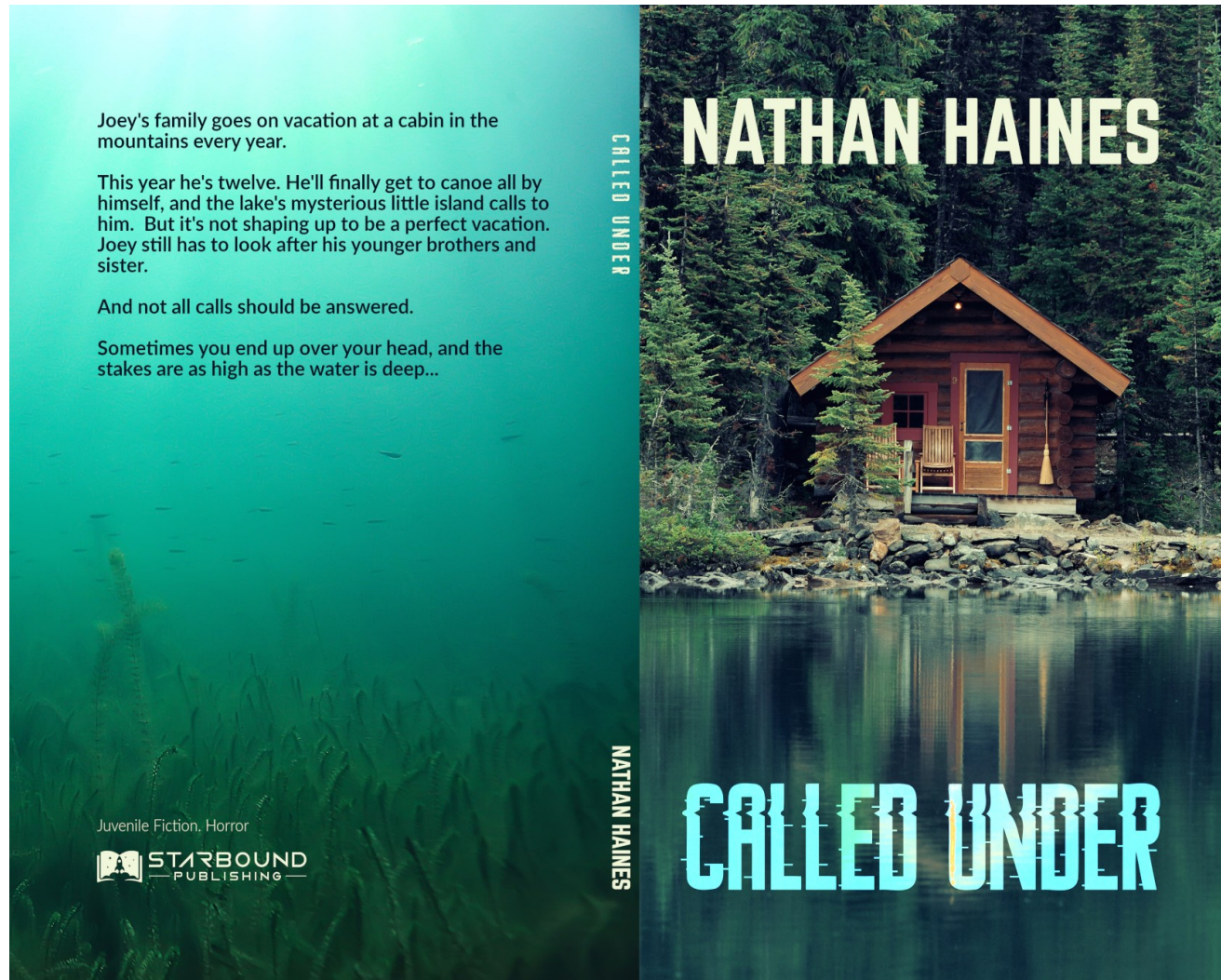


- Gimp
- Inkscape
- Front cover for ebooks
- Wraparound cover for print

Print cover template



Finished cover



Publishing a print book



- Publisher takes care of this step
- Print-On-Demand prints PDF files
 - Amazon KDP Print
 - IngramSpark
 - Draft2Digital Print?

Publishing an ebook



- Most ebook stores accept Word or EPUB
 - Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing
 - Nook Press
 - Apple Books
 - Draft2Digital

Digital Rights Management



- Digital Restrictions Management?
 - Only affects paying customers
 - Can be automatically stripped in seconds

Questions?

