# **Author Biography Template**

Mark Player is the author of the critically-acclaimed novel, “Tools for Life.” He was born on the 5th of August, 1997 and currently lives in New York although he lived in Salt Lake City, Utah as a child.

Being the only child, he was lonely without any siblings to keep him company. He gives credit to his family of instilling in him certain values that have served him well throughout his life. His parents say that he always displayed a maturity beyond his years and loved nothing more than sitting with his nose buried in a book.

As a dedicated reader, academic success wasn’t difficult for John, and he was a star student throughout his school years, graduating as class valedictorian. He was the editor of his school newspaper and actively involved in a number of other extra-curricular activities.

John enrolled in the University of Utah for a Bachelor’s Degree in History and English, and it wasn’t long before he became editor of the college magazine. He also began writing various pieces he submitted to online magazines, and when they were accepted, it gave him such a thrill he realized that he wanted to spend the rest of his life writing. He loved the idea that he was able to take readers and transport them to a different time and place.

After his degree, John began teaching as he was still not making enough money from his writing. He loved teaching, but he never gave up his desire to write and continued to submit short stories and articles to magazines.

He decided to finally pursue a master’s degree in creative writing that he credits with the success of “Tools for Life.” This novel catapulted him in the limelight. Furthermore, he drew attention from some of the novelists he had always looked up for.

The book took two years to finish, and he started it while he was doing his MA. He was writing a completely different novel that seemed to be going nowhere when his tutor suggested he write a short story.

He found this ironic as this is what he had been doing already, but he dutifully abandoned his long novel and began writing another short story. He received so much encouragement and positive feedback from his tutor and other students that he found that he couldn’t stop writing.

The flow of words seemed effortless, and before he knew it, it had grown beyond a short story, and he had a novel on his hands.

John’s novel went on to win the Whitbread First Novel Award which made him understandably excited. He has another novel scheduled for publication in the coming year. He has turned to crime fiction for his latest offering.

He is hoping that it will enjoy as much success as his previous novel, although it is in a completely different genre. He assures fans of his first novel that it has the plot intricacy and intriguing characters they loved in his first novel.