

1086-AH-2481 **Dana Mackenzie*** (qxpch@yahoo.com), 1165 Whitewater Cove, Santa Cruz, CA 95062. *Exposing and Expositing Math to the Public: Two Paths.*

I will describe briefly the path that led me from being a mathematics teacher and researcher to becoming a mathematics writer. I will argue that there are two paths for accomplishing this transition, and neither is for the faint-hearted. Path 1 is to cut your strings with academia and establish yourself as a journalist, first and foremost. This means writing for newspapers, magazines, TV, or radio. Probably there is nothing the math profession can or should do to make this path easier. However, there could be more discussion of this career path in graduate school, particularly for students who are disenchanted with academia. Path 2 is to stay in academia, get tenure, and then establish yourself as an authority by writing popular books. This path could be facilitated by establishing more explicit rewards for math exposition. Ideally, it should become feasible even for non-tenured mathematicians. Whether you choose Path 1 or Path 2, good writing is good writing. There are certain bad habits of academic writing that you will need to break, and some major attitude adjustments that you will need to make if you want to succeed as a popular writer. (Received September 25, 2012)