



**Calling Alexandria's Someday Novelists:
Salinas, California Challenges You!**

Write a Novel in the Month of November!

**Salinas California, *City of Letters* and Birthplace of John Steinbeck,
Challenges Alexandria, Egypt to a Literary Duel through NaNoWriMo**

November 4, 2009 — In an act of irrational literary abandon, the Salinas Public Library has issued an international challenge to the Library of Alexandria, Egypt: Let the novelists of our cities of letters engage in a literary duel during the month of November as they strive to write a 50,000-word novel in one month. Why? Because the world needs more laughter, and everyone loves exploits of remarkable literary ambition. And because November is *National Novel Writing Month*, lovingly called “NaNoWriMo,” when 100,000 people from the far corners of the earth will join in the spirit of daring and unlikely exploits. It is a month of brazen challenges, outsized claims, and international incidents of the literary kind. **Join Us!**

This is not so crazy! Salinas' native son John Steinbeck wrote his 454-page opus *The Grapes of Wrath* in five short months—at the rate of about 31,000 words per month. If you would like to embark on the most daring literary adventure of your life, sign in at www.NaNoWriMo.org, make your home town Alexandria, Egypt, sign up for the Egypt regional message board (you won't see it until you've signed in), and start writing your novel! (There is also a Young Writer section, where writers can set their own word count, at <http://ywp.nanowrimo.org>.) It's free, and it will connect you with a worldwide network of someday novelists, a high-humored bunch of writers who will tilt at anything. Particularly the novelists of Salinas, who can't wait to square off against the novelists of Alexandria. Accept the challenge on the Egypt regional board at www.NaNoWriMo.org.

www.salinaspublishinglibrary.org

The Salinas Public Library. Come Get Us.