



The Complete Handbook Of Novel Writing: Everything You Need To Know About Creating & Selling Your Work (Writers Digest)

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Get advice from the best in the business on every stage of the novel-writing and publishing process!

In *The Complete Handbook of Novel Writing, 3rd Edition*, you'll learn from established writers about how to make your novel a reality. Discover techniques and strategies for generating ideas, connecting with readers emotionally, and finding inspiration you need to finish your work. This fully revised edition includes an updated marketing section for navigating the unique challenges and possibilities of the evolving literary marketplace.

Inside you'll find new essays from dozens of best-selling authors and publishing professionals detailing how to:

- Master the elements of fiction, from plot and character to dialogue and point of view
- Develop a unique voice and sensibility in your writing
- Manage the practical aspects of writing, from overcoming writer's block to revising your work
- Determine the key elements for success in every genre
- Find an agent, market your work, and get published—or self-publish—successfully

You'll also find interviews with some of the world's finest and most popular writers, including David Baldacci, Lee Child, Robert Crais, Khaled Hosseini, Hugh Howey, Stephen King, Dennis Lehane, George R.R. Martin, Jojo Moyes, Anne Rice, Jane Smiley, and Garth Stein. Their insights on the craft and business of fiction will provide you with invaluable mentorship as you embark on your writing journey.

The Complete Handbook of Novel Writing is your go-to guide for every aspect of creating a bestseller.

The Complete Handbook Of Novel Writing: Everything You Need To Know About Creating & Selling Your Work (Writers Digest) Details

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Sarah Hannah says

This is surprisingly a very dense, thorough, and wonderful collection of essays on writing. It's not insipid or corny, like books on writing that tell you to let your juices flow and let the angels move you and anyone can write and all that. It's also not as mean, maybe, as John Gardner. It's realistic, and I would say it's probably a better resource for beginning and intermediate writers than a lot of other works. It proves what I often stress, that I've learned the most about writing from, and gotten closer to final, good products and publications with, writers who would generally be pegged as "commercial," "mainstream," "not literary," or "minor." I think, whether you want to be a literary writer or a commercial writer or a ghost writer, but as long as you want to be both good and published, you stand to learn more from people who publish regularly to good sales and/or acclaim than moody MFA professors who publish a book a decade. Just saying. There is plenty to be learned at universities as well, but this is better. And cheaper.

This would be a great text for a course, and I think it has a fair amount to offer students of literature as well. There are a lot of dissections of genre and style and structure, and some matter of fact, pragmatic statements on market, marketing, and reception—i.e. "General fiction is anything written by a male that both men and women read. Women's fiction can be written by men or women, but is aimed at women, since most American men don't (yes, you may read 'won't' here) read women fiction writers unless it's in a genre they can publicly relate to—a genre like mystery." I think that's good for any aspiring writer, critic, or student to have in mind.

You could just read every back issue of *Writer's Digest* to get all this, but it's nice having it in one handy Kindle edition (free!).

Jason Armstrong says

Writing good fiction and getting published is hard. Giving crappy advice on how to write is apparently the easiest thing in the world.

Ashley says

I didn't realize this going in, but this is basically a collected edition of many *Writer's Digest* articles over the years. I found the advice interesting and varied, if sometimes contradictory (I think the different writers tackling the same points was intended as a counterpoint to each other). The advice on plotting and putting the words to the page was the most invaluable, and some of the essays induced eye-rolling. I skipped many of the interviews in the last chapter, but it was fun learning more about Cory Doctorow's writing process and Megan McCafferty's early success, though that interview seemed oddly dated to include in this edition. Could these essays be used to produce a viable story, even a novel? I don't think so: they generally lack cohesion in nailing down an actual process. However, the book is handy for introducing new ideas to change

your approach to idea and plot development, what details to focus on, etc. I'm getting ready to go in for a reread to get a second impression, though at a mighty 528 pages, I doubt it will be from cover to cover.

Nelou Keramati says

This book was an absolute god-send!

After sending yet another revised version of my first novel out to friends/family/colleagues, I was beginning to feel overwhelmed. No matter how much work I put into the book, my readers would continue to complain of the same recurring issues.

As a first-time novelist with no professional training in writing, I was in desperate need of a guide that could clearly articulate:

- a. What I'm doing wrong, &
- b. How to fix it.

Let me tell you, it is the BEST \$20 I've ever spent (cause I bought retail...)

In over 500 pages, it covers absolutely everything you need, from before starting, to after publishing.

Though I had to trim quite a bit of fat (the first 5 chapters were reduced by ~6000 words/24 pages), the novel is flowing so much faster. And although I have lived and breathed the scenes and characters, I find my own heart racing after applying only a few of the techniques!

This handbook is invaluable, and I recommend it even to experienced writers. It is a simple, fun read, but it deepens virtually every aspect of novel creation.

It provides advice on:

Inspiration and ideas

Plot and structure

Characters

Writing methods/styles

Genres

How to avoid plot holes

Write Mystery, Romance, Thriller, etc.

Showing, instead of telling

Raising the stakes

Speeding the pace

And much much more!

If you're in the process of writing,, absolutely give this book a read before publishing! I guarantee, if you stick to these simple guidelines, you will be maximizing on your narrative's potential. This is the third time I'm reading/internalizing its content, and I was compelled to finally reach out and write this review.

Best of luck!

Lily says

I found this book the bookshelf, (my real one at home) and it looked interesting, plus I've always wanted to be a writer.

Barb says

This book tells you how to choose how you want to write your book in first person, 2nd, 3rd. Also explains how to get a publisher and what to look for. Talks about plots, characters, etc. Just a lot of useful information in here.

Newton Nitro says

Uma coleção extensa e bem variada de artigos com dicas para escritores da famosa revista americana Writer's Digest

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SINOPSE

No "The Complete Handbook Of Novel Writing - Reader's Digest", 3rd Edition, você vai aprender com escritores estabelecidos sobre como fazer o seu romance uma realidade.

Descubra técnicas e estratégias para a geração de ideias, conectando com os leitores emocionalmente, e encontrar inspiração que você precisa para concluir seu trabalho.

Esta edição totalmente revista inclui uma seção de marketing atualizados para navegar os desafios e as possibilidades do mercado literário em evolução.

Dentro de você encontrará novos ensaios de dezenas de best-sellers e profissionais de publicação detalhando como:

- Dominar os elementos de ficção, de enredo e personagem para o diálogo e ponto de vista
- Desenvolver uma voz única e sensibilidade em sua escrita
- Gerenciar os aspectos práticos da escrita, e saiba como superar o bloqueio de escritor, e técnicas para rever seu trabalho
- Determinar os elementos-chave para o sucesso em todos os gêneros
- Encontrar um agente, comercializar o seu trabalho, e seja publicado, ou auto-publicar com sucesso.

Você também encontrará entrevistas com alguns dos escritores melhores e mais populares do mundo,

incluindo Margaret Atwood, David Baldacci, Lee Child, Robert Crais, Khaled Hosseini, Hugh Howey, Stephen King, Dennis Lehane, George RR Martin, Jojo Moyes, Anne Rice, Jane Smiley, e Garth Stein. Seus insights sobre a arte e negócios de ficção irá lhe fornecer orientação inestimável como você embarcar em sua jornada de escritor.

RESENHA

Essa é realmente, em termos de tamanho, uma bíblia de dicas para escritores. O livro, que é na verdade uma reunião dos melhores artigos da revista Writer's Digest, tem dica de tudo quanto é tipo, dadas por escritoras e escritores de sucesso.

Tem muita sugestão interessante, indo desde aspectos práticos como a criação de uma rotina de escrita, até criação de histórias, caracterização de personagens, técnicas de marketing e promoção do escritor, e no final, uma série de entrevistas interessantes com escritores famosos.

Um guia muito bom, de temas bem variados, e que podem ajudar aos escritores iniciantes descobrirem maneiras de consertar o que não está funcionando muito bem tanto em sua escrita como em sua rotina de escritor.

Muitas dicas são bem valiosas, como a parte de inspiração e criação, métodos e estilos de prosa, as dificuldades dos gêneros literários, os segredos dos romances de mistério, suspense, horror, a importância de MOSTRAR mais do que NARRAR (e dessa vez explicada de um jeito tão legal, que irei fazer um NITRODICAS só com esse tema novamente), como aumentar e diminuir o ritmo da narrativa, etc.

Tem dicas sensacionais de monstros da literatura como Stephen King, Margaret Atwood, Joyce Carol Oates, James Patterson, entre muitos outros.

A parte do mundo dos negócios dos livros americanos, que achei fascinante e até mesmo amedrontador.

Merece destaque a entrevista com o Cory Doctorow, sobre como usar a internet e como divulgar o seu trabalho através de uma plataforma online e permitindo a cópia por meio da licença Creative Commons.

E, como uma prova da complexidade da arte da escrita, muitos conselhos dos artigos são contraditos por outros conselhos em outros artigos. Ou seja, cada escritor tem que descobrir o seu próprio caminho mesmo, porém, ler o testemunho de escritoras e escritores que estão na mesma labuta, ajuda demais.

Recomendadíssimo!

ONDE COMPRAR

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Julie Christine says

Terrific collection of essays from a variety of writers and industry wonks on every aspect of writing and publishing a novel. I'll be dipping into this for inspiration for my own writing workshops and coaching.

Lara Lee says

This is a book of articles by various well-selling authors on numerous subjects about writing. Some of the pieces were alright, but some were fantastic. My favorite part of the book were the interviews with various authors such as Margret Atwood and Stephen King. It was really neat to compare the writing styles of these successful people. Some use outlines, some didn't. Some worked a rigid schedule, other worked when they could. I came away with great advice, but also a sense that whatever works for you is actually fine too. These writers I had on pedestals came across as real people wrestling with the art of writing just like the rest of us. The main difference is they kept improving and didn't quit. A very inspiring book that works well as a reference tool. You can read just the articles that are interesting or pertinent and save the rest for later.

Aubrey says

A good collection of essays about various aspects of novel writing from start to publication. I found a couple particularly helpful for where I'm at right now, and I know that as I write I'll find others helpful too. Lawrence Block's essay was particularly funny.

Deborah says

This book has advice for every aspect and genre of writing. This is one of the first books I read when I switched to writing fiction, and parts of it were immensely helpful. Some of this advice I've heard again in many other writing books, but others I've never heard again elsewhere despite the fact I found it insightful. I'd recommend this book to beginning writers.

D. L. says

This book was insanely helpful to me. I've used a lot of the tips contained within - especially the idea of keeping a journal as you're writing in order to document where your brain is and possibly some ideas that you aren't yet ready to completely flesh out. The book was chock full of useful tips like that, and examples of things that other writers use to get through the process. It was presented in a format of articles and interviews that made it easy to set down the book when necessary, and then pick right back up from where I left off. I would highly recommend this book to my writer friends!

Gina says

This book is great for anyone who is either a) already an author, or b) starting to write. Great tips!

Tracy says

Writing tips on a variety of topics from a variety of authors. I thought the one from Richard Russo was great as well as the article on point of view. Just like any other writing book, take the tips that work for you and throw the others out. But this one had lots to choose from.

Sable says

An excellent writing guide, suited for writers of all levels.

I think this collection of essays and articles will have the most utility to the beginning writer. There's everything a writer who has decided to be serious about it will need. How to get started. How to find time for writing. Pacing. Character. Plot. Theme. Genre. It's all there.

It will be almost as good for the intermediate writer. Agents. Publishing. Whether to go indie or traditional.

Even the active, professional publishing writer will get stuff out of this. Marketing. Advanced writing techniques. Movie rights.

As an emerging neo-pro with some publications but no big successes yet, I got quite a lot out of it. The whole thing was worth the read, and I think I'm going to keep it in my personal library, rather than pass it along. I will likely reference it again several times in the future.

In short: highly recommended to writers of all levels.
