

Writing The Heart Of Your Story The Secret To Cra

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Our Missing Hearts - Celeste Ng 2022-10-04

An instant New York Times bestseller • A New York Times Notable Book of 2022 • A TIME Magazine Best Book of 2022 • One of The Washington Post's Best Books of 2022 • A Reese's Book Club Pick From the #1 bestselling author of *Little Fires Everywhere*, comes the inspiring new novel about a mother's unbreakable love in a world consumed by fear. "It's impossible not to be moved." —Stephen King, The New York Times Book Review "Riveting, tender, and timely." —People, Book of the Week "Thought-provoking, heart-wrenching...I was so invested in the future of this mother and son, and I can't wait to hear what you think of this deeply suspenseful story!" – Reese Witherspoon (Reese's Book Club October '22 Pick) Twelve-year-old Bird Gardner lives a quiet existence with his loving but broken father, a former linguist who now shelves books in a university library. His mother Margaret, a Chinese American poet, left the family when he was nine years old without a trace. Bird knows to not ask too many questions, stand out too much, or stray too far. For a decade, his family's life has been governed by laws written to preserve "American culture" in the wake of years of economic instability and violence. To keep the peace and restore prosperity, the authorities are now allowed to relocate children of dissidents, especially those of Asian origin, and libraries have been forced to remove books seen as unpatriotic. Bird has grown up disavowing his mother and her poems; he doesn't know her work or what happened to her, and he knows he shouldn't wonder. But when he receives a mysterious letter containing only a cryptic drawing, he is pulled into a quest to find her. His journey will take him back to the many folktales she poured into his head as a child, through the ranks of an underground network of librarians, into the lives of the children who have been taken, and finally to New York City, where a new act of defiance may be the beginning of much-needed change. *Our Missing Hearts* is an old story made new, of the ways supposedly civilized communities can ignore the most searing injustice. It's a story about the power—and limitations—of art to create change, the lessons and legacies we pass on to our children, and how any of us can survive a broken world with our hearts intact.

Writing Irresistible Kidlit - Mary Kole 2012-11-06

Captivate the hearts and minds of young adult readers! Writing for young adult (YA) and middle grade (MG) audiences isn't just "kid's stuff" anymore—it's kidlit! The YA and MG book markets are healthier and more robust than ever, and that means the competition is fiercer, too. In *Writing Irresistible Kidlit*, literary agent Mary Kole shares her expertise on writing novels for young adult and middle grade readers and teaches you how to: • Recognize the differences between middle grade and young adult audiences and how it impacts your writing. • Tailor your manuscript's tone, length, and content to your readership. • Avoid common mistakes and clichés that are prevalent in YA and MG fiction, in respect to characters, story ideas, plot structure and more. • Develop themes and ideas in your novel that will strike emotional chords. Mary Kole's candid commentary and insightful observations, as well as a collection of book excerpts and personal insights from bestselling authors and editors who specialize in the children's book market, are invaluable tools for your kidlit career. If you want the skills, techniques, and know-how you need to craft memorable stories for teens and tweens, *Writing Irresistible Kidlit* can give them to you.

The Rural Setting Thesaurus: A Writer's Guide to Personal and Natural Places - Becca Puglisi 2020-09-04

Within the pages of a book exists a world drawn from a writer's deepest imaginings, one that has the ability to pull readers in on a visceral level. But the audience's fascination will only last if the writer can describe this vibrant realm and its inhabitants well. The setting achieves this by offering readers a unique sensory experience. So much more than stage dressing, the setting can build mood, convey meaning through symbolism, drive the plot by creating challenges that force the hero to fight for what he wants, and trigger his emotions to reveal his most intimate feelings, fears, and desires. Inside this volume you will find: • A

list of the sights, smells, tastes, textures, and sounds for over 100 settings revolving around school, home, and nature • Possible sources of conflict for each location to help you brainstorm ways to naturally complicate matters for your characters • Advice on the many effective ways to build mood, helping you steer both the character's and readers' emotions in every scene • Information on how the setting directly influences the plot by acting as a tuning fork for what a character needs most and by testing his dedication to his goals • A tutorial on figurative language and how different descriptive techniques can bring settings alive for readers while conveying a symbolic message or deeper meaning • A review of the challenges that arise when writing description, as well as special considerations that apply specifically to rural and personal settings The *Rural Setting Thesaurus* takes "show-don't-tell" to new heights. It offers writers a roadmap to creating fresh setting imagery that impacts the story on multiple levels and keeps readers engaged from the first page to the last.

Writing Articles From the Heart - Marjorie Holmes 2000-03

In a heartfelt and conversational style, Holmes provides advice, inspiration and examples on writing and selling personal essays.

Epona - Michelle Dalton 2020-05-28

Can love conquer all?When a horrendous attack takes the lives of Sadie Munro's loved ones leaving her scarred and broken, her only hope is to escape the country of her birth. But Sadie's life may still be in danger. Blane Buchan is an Englishman seeking a life away from the emptiness of London society and a past he'd rather forget. Sadie and Blane's paths cross unexpectedly when a mysterious mare appears out of nowhere. Can Sadie overcome the trauma of her past and find redemption and love in the wild Scottish Highlands? "From the mountains of South Africa to the magical Highland Moors of Scotland, this is a story of redemption, love and the powerful connection between humans and horses." "Africa's heart beats deeply in this must-read love story." - T.M Clark "Michelle Dalton's touching love story of a gifted young woman, a compassionate land-owner and the mare that brings them together, will stay with you long after you've finished the book." - Diane Demetre

Write Your Heart Out - Rebecca McClanahan 2001

Write Your Heart Out explores how to turn personal experiences, ideas and emotions into stories, essays, poems and memoirs. In a clear, insightful voice, Rebecca McClanahan teaches readers how to mine and shape personal material, urging them to write deeply, honestly and imaginatively about the most important people, events and emotions in their lives. She emphasizes the importance of personal writing as both catharsis and discovery, addressing such topics as: - Writing about the past - Writing about, and from, strong emotions - Writing to communicate with family and friends - Writing about work, goals and interests Moving from the private to the public, the book's structure is formulated to guide readers in writing personal, heartfelt works that can, if so desired, culminate in publication. Rebecca McClanahan is the author of six books, including *Word Painting*. Her short stories, essays and poems have appeared in some of the finest literary journals in the country, including the *Kenyon Review*, the *Gettysburg Review*, and the *Georgia Review*, and have been anthologized in *Pushcart Prize XVIII* and *Best American Poetry*, 1998. She lives in New York City.

The Wanderers - Meg Howrey 2017

"In an age of space exploration, we search to find ourselves. In four years Prime Space will put the first humans on Mars. Helen Kane, Yoshi Tanaka, and Sergei Kuznetsov must prove they're the crew for the job by spending seventeen months in the most realistic simulation ever created. Retired from NASA, Helen had not trained for irrelevance. It is nobody's fault that the best of her exists in space, but her daughter can't help placing blame. The MarsNOW mission is Helen's last chance to return to the only place she's ever truly felt at home. For Yoshi, it's an opportunity to prove himself worthy of the wife he has loved absolutely, if not quite rightly. Sergei is willing to spend seventeen months in a tin can if it means travelling to Mars. He will at least be tested past the point of

exhaustion, and this is the example he will set for his sons. As the days turn into months the line between what is real and unreal becomes blurred, and the astronauts learn that the complications of inner space are no less fraught than those of outer space."

Outlining Your Novel - K. M. Weiland 2011-07

This bestselling guide will help you choose the right type of outline to unleash your creativity as a writer, guide you in brainstorming plot ideas, and aid you in discovering your characters.

Big Machine - Victor LaValle 2009-08-11

Ricky Rice is a middling hustler with a lingering junk habit, a bum knee, and a haunted mind. A survivor of a suicide cult, he scrapes by as a porter at a bus depot in Utica, New York, until one day a mysterious letter arrives, summoning him to enlist in a band of paranormal investigators comprised of former addicts and petty criminals, all of whom had at some point in their wasted lives heard what may have been the voice of God. Infused with the wonder of a disquieting dream and laced with Victor LaValle's fiendish comic sensibility, *Big Machine* is a mind-rattling mystery about doubt, faith, and the monsters we carry within us.

The Heart of the Story - Randy Frazee 2017-01-03

The Heart of the Story will help you see God's Word in a new and inspiring light. In the Bible's seemingly disconnected stories, you'll discover one grand, unfolding epic - God's story from Genesis onward - and your own life-story contained within it. "To understand the Bible," says author and pastor Randy Frazee, "you need bifocal lenses, because two perspectives are involved. The Lower Story, our story, is actually many stories of men and women interacting with God in the daily course of life. The Upper Story is God's story, the tale of his great, overarching purpose that fits all the individual stories together like panels in one unified mural." In this new edition, Randy dives deeper in the Upper and Lower stories and shows how both perspectives will open your eyes to the richness and relevance of the Bible. Illuminating God's master-plan from Genesis to our daily lives, *The Heart of the Story* will encourage you to experience the joy that comes from aligning your stories with God's.

Writing Plots with Drama, Depth and Heart - Roz Morris 2015-01-20

What keeps a reader curious? It's the story. You might have a dazzling prose voice and plausible characters, but if nothing happens, the reader is likely to lose interest. So where do you find story ideas? How do you make them into a captivating read? What's your personal vision? Do you know what genre you are best suited to write? What is literary fiction and how do you write that? How will you give your book depth without seeming preachy or bringing the plot to a standstill? What are the hidden structural patterns that ply the reader's emotions, regardless of your genre or style? How can you use them with originality? How should you begin and end? What should go in the middle? Where should you play your best twists - and what should they be? How can you write each scene so it holds the reader's curiosity? If you want to write a story that breaks with convention but still keeps readers riveted, how do you do it? Whatever type of novel you want to write, this book will show you, in down-to-earth tutorials, games and brainstorming exercises. Use it before you write and when revising, to diagnose your story's strengths and weaknesses. If you've had feedback from critique partners and editors, use it to decode what's really wrong - instead of what they think might be. Most of all, use it to find out where you already have spellbinding plot material. Discover where your best ideas are hiding and how to tell stories with drama, depth and heart.

The Memoir Midwife: Nine Steps to Self-Publishing Your Book -

Stacy Dymalski 2014-11-11

"The Memoir Midwife" teaches you the nine specific steps needed to self-publish your book. Think of this as the self-publishing version of "What to Expect When You're Expecting." It's meant to let you know what you're in for and provide you with the confidence you need to push forward with your self-publishing goals.

On Writing - Stephen King 2002-06-25

The author shares his insights into the craft of writing and offers a humorous perspective on his own experience as a writer.

The Faraway Nearby - Rebecca Solnit 2014-04-29

A New York Times Notable Book Finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award A personal, lyrical narrative about storytelling and empathy, from the author of Orwell's *Roses Apricots*. Her mother's disintegrating memory. An invitation to Iceland. Illness. These are Rebecca Solnit's raw materials, but *The Faraway Nearby* goes beyond her own life, as she spirals out into the stories she heard and read—from fairy tales to Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*—that helped her navigate her difficult passage. Solnit takes us into the lives of others—an arctic

cannibal, the young Che Guevara among the leprosy afflicted, a blues musician, an Icelandic artist and her labyrinth—to understand warmth and coldness, kindness and imagination, decay and transformation, making art and making self. This captivating, exquisitely written exploration of the forces that connect us and the way we tell our stories is a tour de force of association, a marvelous Russian doll of a book that is a fitting companion to Solnit's much-loved *A Field Guide to Getting Lost*.

The Rocks - Peter Nichols 2015

A tale set around a popular Mediterranean seaside resort follows the story of two honeymooners who abruptly split in 1948 and live separately for decades until children from their rivaling families fall in love.

Crafting Novels & Short Stories - Writer's Digest Books 2012-01-12

Learn How to Create Stories That Captivate Agents, Editors, and Readers Alike! Inside you'll find the tools you need to build strong characters, keep your plots moving, master the art of dialogue, choose the right point of view, and more. This comprehensive book on the art of novel and short story writing is packed with advice and instruction from best-selling authors and writing experts like Nancy Kress, Elizabeth Sims, Hallie Ephron, N.M. Kelby, Heather Sellers, and Donald Maass, plus a foreword by James Scott Bell. You'll learn invaluable skills for mastering every area of the craft:

- Define and refine your characters.
- Make your plot and conflict high-energy and intense.
- Hone your story's point of view.
- Create a rich setting and backstory.
- Craft dialogue that rings true.
- Select the right words and descriptions throughout your story.
- Revise your story to perfection.

Throughout you'll find supplemental sections that cover special topics like getting started, beating writer's block, researching your work, and getting published. They'll help you integrate your skills into a balanced, productive, and fulfilling career. Whether you're writing flash fiction, a short story, a novel, or an epic trilogy, you'll come away with the tools you need for strong and effective storytelling.

Shoot Your Novel - C. S. Lakin 2014-10-02

Want to write a visually powerful novel? *Shoot Your Novel* takes an in-depth look at cinematic technique for fiction writers. No other writing craft book teaches you the secret of how to "show, don't tell." Best-selling authors of every genre know the secret to hooking readers--by showing, not telling, their story. But writers are not taught how to "show" scenes in a cinematic way. Without a clear, concise, and precise method for constructing dynamic scenes, a writer will likely end up with a flat, lifeless novel. Filmmakers, screenwriters, and movie directors utilize cinematic technique to create visual masterpieces, and novelists can too--by adapting their methods in their fiction writing. By "shooting" your novel, you can supercharge your story! Inside, you'll learn:

- * The real secret to "show, don't tell" and how it's all about "the moment"
- * More than a dozen "camera shots" novelists can borrow from screenwriters and directors to create powerful, active scenes
- * Instruction on how to piece camera shots together to create cinematic scene segments
- * Examples from novels and screenplays showcasing each facet of cinematic technique
- * How to devise a thematic image system of key shots, motifs, and images
- * Ways to use colors, shapes, sounds, and angles for purposeful subliminal effect

Shooting your novel with a filmmaker's eye will transform your good novel into a great one and will change forever the way you approach constructing your scenes. No other book gives you such deep, thorough instruction in cinematic technique for fiction writing. Here's what some best writing instructors and best-selling authors have to say about this essential writing craft book: "With such an extensive amount of experience in the screenwriting and filmmaking process, it comes as no surprise that C. S. Lakin writes with a trustworthy authority and wealth of insight when it comes to the craft of building dynamic scenes within novels.

The Heart of Arcrea - Nicole Sager 2012-09-01

Hoping to free his father from an unjust imprisonment, Druet the blacksmith sets out on a quest that will solve an ancient riddle and crown a man as Arcrea's first king. A host of memorable characters join Druet on his mission of justice, but opposition quickly rises to test their level of commitment and their faith in God. Will the dangerous wilds of Arcrea and her seven oppressive lords succeed in bringing an end to Druet's quest? Will they crush forever the kingdom's hopes for a just king?

The 12 Key Pillars of Novel Construction - C S Lakin 2015-02-19

The 12 Key Pillars of Novel Construction takes the mystery out of building a solid story and shows you how to go from idea to complete novel in practical, easy-to-understand steps. Build smart! Over and over, struggling writers make the same fatal mistakes in their manuscripts. Even writers who have studied all the best writing craft books and taken

workshops and followed writers' blogs still don't get the structure. Truth is, a lot of writers believe they can write a novel without taking time to learn the nuts and bolts of novel construction. Just as with building a house, writers need to adeptly wield the proper tools and materials, and follow structurally sound rules if they hope to "build a novel." Build strong! Smart writers will take the time to learn how to structure strong pillars that will hold up their novels. This new comprehensive writing craft book clearly lays out just how to build each essential pillar so it can carry the weight of your story. Without such foundational support, collapse is inevitable. There are 12 key pillars of novel construction, and if any of these pillars is weak, made of faulty materials, it will compromise the integrity of your novel. Build a novel that will stand up to scrutiny and thrill readers! Inside, you'll learn: what the four primary support pillars are, and why and how you need to build those first, before tackling any other components in your novel. how to determine if an idea has the potential to become a riveting concept with a kicker, and how to transform that idea into a stunning concept. what high stakes is really all about and how to ensure your novel is exploding with them. the secret to creating a riveting protagonist, and the two goals he needs to be pursuing. what tension really is and how to ramp it up in your novel. the key to portraying evocative settings and how to come up with them. 7 important tips to creating believable dialog. what voice is, and how it differs from writing style. ways to brainstorm ideas for plot, themes, motifs, setting, and rich characters through asking a series of questions that will take you deep below the surface of your story. what the difference is between theme and motif, and why both are essential. Ideas and instructions on how to mind map your characters, plot, settings, themes—all the important elements of your story—and integrate them into your 12 pillars. In addition, you'll get 12 comprehensive "inspection checklists," each with 12 sets of deep, thought-provoking questions meant to ensure your pillars are truly strong enough to hold the weight of your story. You need to pass every inspection! Don't waste time trying to guess at novel structure. By using this concise, detailed blueprint, you can be sure you'll end up with a terrific novel—every time! The 12 Key Pillars of Novel Construction is part of The Writer's Toolbox Series of writing craft books for novelists. Be sure to get all of the books so you'll have your toolbox filled to the brim with the tools you need to write novels that readers will rave about!

Leaving Rock Harbor - Rebecca Chace 2010-06-01

An unforgettable coming-of-age story and a luminous portrayal of a dramatic era of American history, Rebecca Chace's *Leaving Rock Harbor* takes readers into the heart of a New England mill town in the early twentieth century. On the eve of World War I, fourteen-year-old Frankie Ross and her parents leave their simple life in Poughkeepsie to seek a new beginning in the booming city of Rock Harbor, Massachusetts. Frankie's father finds work in a bustling cotton mill, but erupting labor strikes threaten to dismantle the town's socioeconomic structure. Frankie soon befriends two charismatic young men—Winslow Curtis, privileged son of the town's most powerful politician, and Joe Barros, a Portuguese mill worker who becomes a union organizer—forming a tender yet bittersweet love triangle that will have an impact on all three throughout their lives. Inspired in part by Chace's family history, Frankie's journey to adulthood takes us through the First World War and into the Jazz Age, followed by the Great Depression—from rags to riches and back again. Her life parallels the evolution of the mill town itself, and the lost promise of a boomtown that everyone thought would last forever. Of her acclaimed novel *Capture the Flag*, the *Los Angeles Times* said, "Chace's writing resembles a generation of New York writers heavily influenced by John Updike: Rick Moody, A. M. Homes, Susan Minot, and, more recently, Melissa Bank." With its lyrical prose and compelling style, *Leaving Rock Harbor* further establishes Chace's position in that literary tradition.

In Joy Still Felt - Isaac Asimov 1980

The prolific and famous science and science-fiction writer continues the tale of his life, proceeding from the years immediately following his early successes and continuing through the writing of his 200th book

The Catcher in the Rye - J. D. Salinger 2019-08-13

The "brilliant, funny, meaningful novel" (*The New Yorker*) that established J. D. Salinger as a leading voice in American literature—and that has instilled in millions of readers around the world a lifelong love of books. "If you really want to hear about it, the first thing you'll probably want to know is where I was born, and what my lousy childhood was like, and how my parents were occupied and all before they had me, and all that David Copperfield kind of crap, but I don't feel like going into it, if you want to know the truth." The hero-narrator of *The Catcher in the Rye*

is an ancient child of sixteen, a native New Yorker named Holden Caulfield. Through circumstances that tend to preclude adult, secondhand description, he leaves his prep school in Pennsylvania and goes underground in New York City for three days.

The Shipping News - Annie Proulx 2008-01-01

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize, Annie Proulx's *The Shipping News* is a vigorous, darkly comic, and at times magical portrait of the contemporary North American family. Quoye, a third-rate newspaper hack, with a "head shaped like a crenshaw, no neck, reddish hair...features as bunched as kissed fingertips," is wrenched violently out of his workaday life when his two-timing wife meets her just desserts. An aunt convinces Quoye and his two emotionally disturbed daughters to return with her to the starkly beautiful coastal landscape of their ancestral home in Newfoundland. Here, on desolate Quoye's Point, in a house empty except for a few mementos of the family's unsavory past, the battered members of three generations try to cobble up new lives. Newfoundland is a country of coast and cove where the mercury rarely rises above seventy degrees, the local culinary delicacy is cod cheeks, and it's easier to travel by boat and snowmobile than on anything with wheels. In this harsh place of cruel storms, a collapsing fishery, and chronic unemployment, the aunt sets up as a yacht upholsterer in nearby Killick-Claw, and Quoye finds a job reporting the shipping news for the local weekly, the *Gammy Bird* (a paper that specializes in sexual-abuse stories and grisly photos of car accidents). As the long winter closes its jaws of ice, each of the Quoyes confronts private demons, reels from catastrophe to minor triumph—in the company of the obsequious Mavis Bangs; Diddy Shovel the strongman; drowned Herald Prowse; cane-twirling Beety; Nutbeem, who steals foreign news from the radio; a demented cousin the aunt refuses to recognize; the much-zipped Alvin Yark; silent Wavey; and old Billy Pretty, with his bag of secrets. By the time of the spring storms Quoye has learned how to gut cod, to escape from a pickle jar, and to tie a true lover's knot.

Creating Character Arcs - K. M. Weiland 2016-10-28

Explores the techniques of effective character development in the processing of writing novels to take the author's stories from good to great, including how to determine which arc is right for your character, why you should never pit plot against character, and how to avoid the pitfalls of writing novels without character arcs.

Through the Year with Jesus: Gospel Readings and Reflections for Children - Katherine Bogner 2021-01-29

The liturgical year invites us to walk with Jesus through the most wonderful story ever told: the Gospel. In *Through the Year with Jesus: Gospel Readings and Reflections for Children*, catechist and popular blogger Katherine Bogner reveals the rich mystery of the seasons we celebrate in the Church. With Gospel readings for each week of the liturgical year, along with tools for reflection, discussion, and prayer, *Through the Year with Jesus* offers endless opportunities for discovering who Jesus is and better understanding Catholic teaching about his life and mission. Promote prayer and conversation about the life of Christ with children through Weekly readings from the Gospels *Lectio Divina* prompts to nurture personal prayer or journaling Sacred art to accompany the Gospel reading Stories of saints and many rich Catholic traditions for the liturgical year The easy-to-use format of *Through the Year with Jesus* helps adults lead children to an intimate encounter with the heart of Jesus through the rhythm of the liturgical year and the powerful words of Scripture.

Redeeming Love - Francine Rivers 2020-10-13

NATIONAL BESTSELLER • SOON TO BE A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE • A favorite Christian romance classic—a tragically wounded soul, the man called to marry her, and the only love that heals all—now available in a beautiful keepsake, linen-bound edition! "A literary masterpiece, reminding us that God's love is unconditional."—Debbie Macomber California's gold country, 1850. A time when men sold their souls for a bag of gold and women sold their bodies for a place to sleep. Angel expects nothing from men but betrayal. Sold into prostitution as a child, she survives by keeping her hatred alive. And what she hates most are the men who use her, leaving her empty and dead inside. Then she meets Michael Hosea, a man who seeks his Father's heart in everything. Michael obeys God's call to marry Angel and to love her unconditionally. Slowly, day by day, he defies Angel's every bitter expectation, until despite her resistance, her frozen heart begins to thaw. But with her unexpected softening comes overwhelming feelings of unworthiness and fear. And so Angel runs. Back to the darkness, away from her husband's pursuing love, terrified of the truth she no longer can deny: her final healing must come from the One who loves her even more than Michael

does . . . the One who will never let her go. A powerful retelling of the story of Gomer and Hosea, Redeeming Love is a life-changing story of God's unconditional, redemptive, all-consuming love.

Unless It Moves the Human Heart - Roger Rosenblatt 2011-01-04

Multiple award-winner Roger Rosenblatt has received glowing critical acclaim for his exceptional literary works—from the hilarious novels *Lapham Rising* and *Beet* to his poignant, heartbreaking, ultimately inspiring memoir *Making Toast*. With *Unless It Moves the Human Heart*, the revered novelist, essayist, playwright, and respected writing teacher offers a guidebook for aspiring authors, a memoir, and an impassioned argument for the necessity of writing in our world. In the tradition of Anne Lamott's *Bird by Bird*, Rosenblatt's *Unless It Moves the Human Heart* provides practical insights and advice on the craft, exquisitely presented by one of contemporary literature's living treasures.

Writing the Heart of Your Story - C.S. Lakin 2014-06-26

Learn the secret of how to write the heart of your story! This writing skills book, full of fiction writing technique, is like no other. Some novelists write with the goal of becoming a best seller, hoping for wealth and fame. Some just want to write novels that earn them a steady income so they can feed their families and pay their bills. Some write to express their creativity and don't care if anyone ever reads their books. Then there are the other writers. They want to write an unforgettable novel—the kind of book that gets called a classic, that endures the ravages of time, that stays long in readers' hearts and changes their lives. These writers want to know the secret of how to reach the heart of their readers. If you are one of those writers, *Writing the Heart of Your Story* is the book you've been waiting for. Inside, you'll learn: what the most important key elements are that must be in the very first scene of your novel—and some in the first paragraph. how to tap into the heart of your story, characters, setting, plot, and themes by employing specific writing exercises. ways to brainstorm ideas for plot, themes, motifs, setting, and rich characters through asking a series of questions that will take you deeper below the surface of your story. what the most important question is that must be asked in the opening scene in order to write an unforgettable novel. what three things each character must be asked for them to become truly believable and compelling. the secrets to structuring powerful scenes by focusing on the "high moment." Don't just write a good novel. Write a great one—by mining the heart of your story! Here's what the best writing instructors and bloggers have to say about this essential writing craft book: "A fresh and motivating take on conventional wisdom, but with unconventional heart. This is highly accessible teaching that transcends 'how to' and goes deep into 'why to' in a way that will force you to choose between reading it again and jumping on your own project. Bravo." -Larry Brooks, best-selling author of *Story Engineering* and *Story Physics* "As authors, our job is to make people feel, and to do this we need to connect with our own deepest selves in the hope that we can meet the reader where they are. This book will teach you how to delve into your own heart in order to impact those who read your words." -Joanna Penn, author of *From Idea to Book* "A veritable compendium of sound writing advice and technique. Written in a style that is both accessible and fun, Lakin's book will be a welcome companion on your writing journey." -James Scott Bell, best-selling author of *Conflict and Suspense* and *Plot and Structure* "I read dozens of writing craft books every year. All too many of them are ho-hum, been-there-done-that. This one is absolutely posolutely not. Lakin offers a refreshingly structured—and yet freeing—approach to not just creating a solidly entertaining story but to crafting a tale of emotional resonance and resilience. Her useful writing exercises and spot-on story sense offer epiphany after epiphany. This is one I will read and reread." -K. M. Weiland, author of *Outlining Your Novel* and *Structuring Your Novel* "C. S. Lakin once again shares her generous heart and knowledge and experience with writers in this inspiring and inspired *Writing the Heart of Your Story*. Ready to take your writing to the next level? Lakin offers practical exercises to help you bring heart to your own stories." -Martha Alderson, author of *The Plot Whisperer* series of writing books

Writing from the Heart - Nancy Slonim Aronie 1998-02-23

With warm, lively, often humorous anecdotes, advice, and lessons, this unique approach to creative writing as a path to healing the self shows how to reverse the damaging effects done to writers in school, where red pens disciplined grammar and taught them to mistrust their natural ability as storytellers—freezing them in their creative tracks NPR sponsorships .

Writing Your Story's Theme - K. M. Weiland 2020-10-12

Theme Is What Your Story Is Really About Theme—the mysterious cousin of plot and character. Too often viewed as abstract rather than

actionable, theme is frequently misunderstood and left to chance. Some writers even insist theme should not be purposefully implemented. This is unfortunate, because in many ways theme is story. Theme is the heart, the meaning, the point. Nothing that important should be overlooked. Powerful themes are never incidental. They emerge from the conjunction of strong plots and resonant character arcs. This means you can learn to plan and implement theme. In doing so, you will deepen your ability to write not only stories that entertain, but also stories that stay with readers long after the end. *Writing Your Story's Theme* will teach you: How to create theme from plot and character. Why every supporting character and subplot should enhance the theme. How to prevent theme from seeming preachy or "on the nose." What to consider in identifying the best theme for any given story. And much more! Conscious mastery of theme will elevate every story you write and allow you to craft fiction of depth and meaning. *Take Control of Your Story Via a Powerful Implementation of Theme*

Structuring Your Novel - K. M. Weiland 2013-08

Acclaim for "Structuring Your Novel" "I have long wished for a book like this. "Structuring Your Novel" is so much more than a writing craft book—it's a recipe to help writers structure a deep, meaningful journey for their hero that will captivate readers from beginning to end." -Angela Ackerman, Author of "The Emotion Thesaurus" "There is absolute gold in this book—and I am grateful that the author has a real talent for distilling some of the somewhat clunky information found elsewhere, into really simple-to-understand and easy-to-follow techniques." -Robert Scanlon "This book shows a writer how to structure their novel from beginning to end in a no-nonsense manner. It's fast and easy reading, and MAKES SENSE" -Carrie C. Spencer About the Book Is Structure the Hidden Foundation of All Successful Stories? Why do some stories work and others don't? The answer is "structure." In this IPPY and NIEA-Award winning guide from the author of the bestselling "Outlining Your Novel," you will learn the universal underpinnings that guarantee powerful plot and character arcs. An understanding of proper story and scene structure will show you how to perfectly time your story's major events and will provide you with an unerring standard against which to evaluate your novel's pacing and progression. "Structuring Your Novel" will show you: How to determine the best techniques for empowering your unique and personal vision for your story. How to identify common structural weaknesses and flip them around into stunning strengths. How to eliminate saggy middles by discovering your "centerpiece." Why you should NEVER include conflict in every scene. How to discover the questions you "don't" want readers asking about your plot—and then how to get them to ask the right questions. Story structure has enabled countless bestselling and classic authors. Now it's your turn More Praise for "Structuring Your Novel" "K.M. Weiland delivers another exceptional resource for writers—offering practical guidance on everything from crafting a book's hook to its resolution." -Elizabeth Spann Craig, Author of the *Myrtle Clover Mysteries* "Structuring Your Novel" will give you the blueprint for making your story more powerful. I'm taking this one with me to my desert island" -Jennifer Ibarra "After finishing the book, I reviewed my own writing and was easily able to see where the story wasn't working, understand why it wasn't, and figure out what I needed to do to fix it." -Abby Geiger More storytelling assistance from K.M. Weiland: *Outlining Your Novel: Map Your Way to Success*—Can outlining help you write a better story?

While the World Watched - Carolyn McKinstry 2011-02-01

On September 15, 1963, a Klan-planted bomb went off in the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama. Fourteen-year-old Carolyn Maull was just a few feet away when the bomb exploded, killing four of her friends in the girl's restroom she had just exited. It was one of the seminal moments in the Civil Rights movement, a sad day in American history . . . and the turning point in a young girl's life. *While the World Watched* is a poignant and gripping eyewitness account of life in the Jim Crow South: from the bombings, riots, and assassinations to the historic marches and triumphs that characterized the Civil Rights movement. A uniquely moving exploration of how racial relations have evolved over the past 5 decades, *While the World Watched* is an incredible testament to how far we've come and how far we have yet to go.

Queen of the Owls - Barbara Linn Probst 2020-04-07

A chance meeting with a charismatic photographer will forever change Elizabeth's life. Until she met Richard, Elizabeth's relationship with Georgia O'Keeffe and her little-known Hawaii paintings was purely academic. Now it's personal. Richard tells Elizabeth that the only way she can truly understand O'Keeffe isn't with her mind—it's by getting into O'Keeffe's skin and reenacting her famous nude photos. In the

intimacy of Richard's studio, Elizabeth experiences a new, intoxicating abandon and fullness. It never occurs to her that the photographs might be made public, especially without her consent. Desperate to avoid exposure—she's a rising star in the academic world and the mother of young children—Elizabeth demands that Richard dismantle the exhibit. But he refuses. The pictures are his art. His property, not hers. As word of the photos spreads, Elizabeth unwittingly becomes a feminist heroine to her students, who misunderstand her motives in posing. To the university, however, her actions are a public scandal. To her husband, they're a public humiliation. Yet Richard has reawakened an awareness that's haunted Elizabeth since she was a child—the truth that cerebral knowledge will never be enough. Now she must face the question: How much is she willing to risk to be truly seen and known?

Your Story - Joanne Fedler 2017-07-25

We either think our lives are so special that everyone should be interested in what's happened to us, or so ordinary that we can't imagine anyone would care. The truth lies somewhere in between: yes, we are all special, and no, people will not care—unless we write with them in mind. Joanne Fedler, a beloved writing teacher and mentor, has written *Your Story* to help all people, even those who don't necessarily identify as "writers," value their life stories and write them in such a way that they transcend the personal and speak into a universal story. This book shows how to write from your life, but for the benefit of others. Each human life is unique, and the meaning we each make from our joys and suffering can, if written with a reader in mind, be an act of generosity and sharing. Filled with practical wisdom and tools, the book tackles: •mindset issues that prevent us from writing •ways to develop trust (in yourself, the process, the mystery) •triggers or prompts to elicit our own stories •Joanne's original techniques for "lifewriting" developed over a decade of teaching and mentoring •and much more "Joanne understands the writer's loneliness," says one such writer whose life she's touched, the award-winning Israeli author Nava Semel. "In this book she has created a menu of encouraging possibilities on how to overcome our fears and dig deep into our souls, so that our true voice can emerge."

News Values - Jack Fuller 1997-11-08

Collection of essays in which the author, president and publisher of the Chicago Tribune, discusses what he understands to be the underlying public values a newspaper serves and the implications of those values.

[You Can Trust God to Write Your Story](#) - Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth 2019-09-03

WHAT'S GOD DOING IN YOUR STORY? Our kids beg us for stories at bedtime or while we drive; we gather around firepits and dinner tables to tell and retell our favorite tales—the more dramatic the better. But when it comes to our actual lives, we prefer something less sensational, even boring—sunny skies and smooth sailing, please and thank you. We want our own stories to be predictable, safe, controllable, and catastrophe-free. When plans fall apart, jobs are lost, kids wander off, doctors give bad reports, we often wonder, "What are you doing, God? Are you sure you have this under control? It doesn't really seem like it right now." God is the master Storyteller. He's writing your story and it's a part of His bigger, grander, eternal Story. But we're still in the middle. We haven't gotten to the happy ending yet, and it can be hard to trust Him in the thick of our struggles. That's why Robert and Nancy share their own story, friends' stories, and the stories of people in the Bible who have faced life-altering challenges, but, in the end, have found God to be faithful. Learn why you really can trust God to write your story—no matter what plot twists you may encounter along the way. "This is a unique and charming book, integrating stories of God's providence from His people and His Word. Nancy and Robert write personally and beautifully, infusing readers with a Christ-centered vision, hope, and trust for the future." -Randy Alcorn, author of *Heaven, Giving is the Good Life*, and *Deception* "You Can Trust God to Write Your Story is an

amazing book whose title says it all. For if you are a follower of Jesus, every day of your life—whether you feel like it or not—is weighted with kingdom purpose, eternal significance, and a royal destiny filled with joy and contentment. Let my dear friends, Robert and Nancy, help you embrace the mysteries of the Lord's Providence. For when it comes to happy endings, you can't find a better Author than the God of the Bible. Happy endings are His forte—turn the page, trust Him, and discover it for yourself." -Joni Eareckson Tada, Joni and Friends International Disability Center

[Through the Year with Mary: Ponder and Pray Together with Children](#) - Katherine Bogner 2022-01-10

For two-thousand years, Christians around the world have sought the Blessed Virgin Mary as a guide to growing closer to her Son, Jesus. Through Scripture, Catholic teaching, devotions, and countless works of art, we come to see Mary as our Mother, too. *Through the Year with Mary* by Katherine Bogner brings together the Church's traditions in one place and provides a year-long plan for coming to know and love the Mother of God through Weekly passages from Scripture, saints, and scholars Reflections to nurture your understanding of Marian teaching and devotion Sacred art from around the world Marian prayers to teach you to grow closer to Jesus through Mary This comprehensive resource will help adults and children alike to entrust themselves to the most loving Mother of Jesus. *Through the Year with Mary* has received the nihil obstat and imprimatur. Nihil obstat: Msgr. Philip D. Halfacre, V.G. Censor Librorum Imprimatur: Most Rev. Daniel R. Jenky, C.S.C. Bishop of Peoria September 15, 2021

[Creating Characters](#) - Writer's Digest Books 2014-11-01

Create characters that leap off the page—and into readers' hearts! Populating your fiction with authentic, vivid characters is a surefire way to captivate your readers from the first sentence to the last. Whether you're writing a series, novel, short story, or flash fiction, *Creating Characters* is an invaluable guide to bringing your fictional cast to life. This book is a comprehensive reference to every stage of character development. You'll find timely advice and helpful instruction from best-selling authors like Nancy Kress, Elizabeth Sims, Orson Scott Card, Chuck Wendig, Hallie Ephron, Donald Maass, and James Scott Bell. They'll show you how to: • Effectively introduce your characters • Build a believable protagonist • Develop strong anti-heroes and compelling villains • Juggle multiple points of view without missing a beat • Craft authentic dialogue that propels the story forward • Motivate your characters with powerful objectives and a believable conflict • Show dynamic character development over the course of a story No matter what your genre, *Creating Characters* gives you the tools necessary to create realistic, fascinating characters that your readers will root for and remember long after they've finished the story.

[The Heart of the Film](#) - Cynthia Whitcomb 2017-03-31

Most movies include a love story, whether it is the central story or a subplot, and knowing how to write a believable relationship is essential to any writer's skill set. Discover the rules and laws of nature at play in a compelling love story and learn and master them. Broken into four sections, *The Heart of the Film* identifies the critical features of love story development, and explores every variation of this structure as well as a diverse array of relationships and types of love. Author Cynthia Whitcomb has sold over 70 feature-length screenplays and shares the keys to her success in *The Heart of the Film*, drawing on classic and modern films as well as her own extensive experience.

[Girl in the Arena](#) - Lise Haines 2010-08-17

As a modern gladiator's daughter, Lyn and her family live by the rules of the Gladiator Sports Association. But those rules can turn against you. When Lyn's seventh father dies in the ring, his opponent, Uber, captures Lyn's dowry bracelet—and her hand in marriage. To win her freedom, Lyn will do what no girl has done before: enter the arena and fight her father's murderer—even though she's falling in love with him.