

By Jason Blume Six Steps To Songwriting Success Revised Edition The Comprehensive To Writing And Marketing Enlarged 2nd

Jason Alexander

Shows examples of successful songs, describes the three basic songwriting forms, and discusses theme, repetition, wordplay, rhyme, rhythm, and common songwriting mistakes

THE INSTANT #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • FIVE STARRED REVIEWS Celebrate the joys of Black boyhood with stories from seventeen bestselling, critically acclaimed Black authors—including Jason Reynolds, Jerry Craft, and Kwame Mbalia! ? "Pick up Black Boy Joy for a heavy dose of happiness." —Booklist, starred review Black boy joy is... Picking out a fresh first-day-of-school outfit. Saving the universe in an epic intergalactic race. Finding your voice—and your rhymes—during tough times. Flying on your skateboard like nobody's watching. And more! From seventeen acclaimed Black male and non-binary authors comes a vibrant collection of stories, comics, and poems about the power of joy and the wonders of Black boyhood. Contributors include: B. B. Alston, Dean Atta, P. Djèlí Clark, Jay Coles, Jerry Craft, Lamar Giles, Don P. Hooper, George M. Johnson, Varian Johnson, Kwame Mbalia, Suyi Davies Okungbowa, Tochi Onyebuchi, Julian Randall, Jason Reynolds, Justin Reynolds, DaVaun Sanders, and Julian Winters

Writing great songs is not enough. To make money, songwriters need a firm, realistic grasp of how songs generate income, and how the songwriting business works. This Business of Songwriting is the first book to demystify the process of doing business as a songwriter. Author Jason Blume is a songwriter, music publisher, and educator whose songs are on albums that have sold more than 50 million copies, topped international charts, and are in top television shows and movies. He starts by defining terms and explaining the mechanics of how songwriters generate and collect royalties. The functions of music publishers, record labels, performing rights organizations, and the Harry Fox Agency are clarified, as are mechanical, performance, and print licensing; statutory mechanical royalty rates; estimates of the amounts earned for synchronization and master use licenses; and performance royalties for radio, television, and Internet broadcasts. He also includes a section on digital licensing and royalties. Samples of virtually every contract a songwriter might likely encounter are included, and with top music industry attorneys as consultants, Blume translates these contracts from legaleze to plain English--one paragraph at a time. Included contracts are: Single Song Publishing Agreement; Staff-Writing Agreement; Administration Deal; Collaborators' Agreement; Work-for-Hire Agreement; Mechanical License; Synchronization License; Lyric Reprint Licensing Agreement; Subpublishing Contract; and Copyright Form PA. The book walks readers step-by-step through the process of effectively pitching songs to publishers, artists, managers, A&R representatives, and producers. A chapter about writing and marketing music for television and films explains the process of "clearing" music, and the functions of music supervisors and production music libraries, as well as offering resources for reaching these decision-makers. Additional chapters explain self-publishing, and address the business considerations unique to performing songwriters, as well as those who are targeting special markets, such as Christian music, children's music, video games, and musical theater. This comprehensive text also includes sample lyric sheets and cover letters, as well as advice about how many songs to include--and how to attract attention--when approaching music industry professionals. It also includes a detailed explanation of how the singles and album charts work, and throughout, provides valuable information about how to make money writing songs. This Business of Songwriting is a one-volume resource that teaches the skills and knowledge every songwriter and music publisher needs to succeed. Here's what music professionals are saying about This Business of Songwriting: "If you are serious about being a professional writer, Jason has compiled the most comprehensive how-to guide I have ever read. All the way from getting a writing deal to understanding it once you get one. This is a must read! -- Tom Luteran, V.P./Creative, Sony Music Publishing Jason Blume's latest book is a must read for anyone serious about songwriting, whether you're just starting out or you're a seasoned professional. The writing is clear, concise and comprehensive, covering everything from how to dress for a pitch meeting to how to decipher sub clauses in a sync license. Highly recommended. -- Bob Regan, Grammy Nominated Songwriter/Adjunct Songwriting Professor, Belmont University/President, Nashville Songwriters Association International "Jason Blume has created songwriting's Rosetta Stone. Encyclopedic in scope, This Business of Songwriting unravels industry enigmas and firmly imparts a sense of direction to tomorrow's hit makers." -- Paul Corbin, VP Writer/Publisher Relations, BMI "If you're serious about your songwriting, this book will give you the information you need to be serious about your business." -- Timothy Fink, V.P., Writer / Publisher Relations, SESAC

Copiously researched and documented, Hit Men is the highly controversial portrait of the pop music industry in all its wild, ruthless glory: the insatiable greed and ambition; the enormous egos; the fierce struggles for profits and power; the vendettas, rivalries, shakedowns, and payoffs. Chronicling the evolution of America's largest music labels from the Tin Pan Alley days to the present day, Fredric Dannen examines in depth the often venal, sometimes illegal dealings among the assorted hustlers and kingpins who rule over this multi-billion-dollar business. Updated with a new last chapter by the author. The legendary acting coach shares his inspirational philosophy and effective techniques--including case studies, exercises, and professional insights--designed to help actors connect personally with a script, develop a character from the inside out, overcome fear and inhibitions, hone technical skills, and more. Reprint. 17,500 first printing.

Eleven-year-old Isabella's blended family is more divided than ever in this "timely but genuine" (Publishers Weekly) story about divorce and racial identity from the award-winning and New York Times bestselling author of Out of My Mind, Sharon M. Draper. Eleven-year-old Isabella's parents are divorced, so she has to switch lives every week: One week she's Isabella with her dad, his girlfriend Anastasia, and her son Darren living in a fancy house where they are one of the only black families in the neighborhood. The next week she's Izzy with her mom and her boyfriend John-Mark in a small, not-so-fancy house that she loves. Because of this, Isabella has always felt pulled between two worlds. And now that her parents are divorced, it seems their fights are even worse, and they're always about HER. Isabella feels completely stuck in the middle, split and divided between them more than ever. And she is beginning to realize that being split between Mom and Dad involves more than switching houses, switching nicknames, switching backpacks: it's also about switching identities. Her dad is black, her mom is white, and strangers are always commenting: "You're so exotic!" "You look so unusual." "But what are you really?" She knows what they're really saying: "You don't look like your parents." "You're different." "What race are you really?" And when her parents, who both get engaged at the same time, get in their biggest fight ever, Isabella doesn't just feel divided, she feels ripped in two. What does it mean to be half white or half black? To belong to half mom and half dad? And if you're only seen as half of this and half of that, how can you ever feel whole? It seems like nothing can bring Isabella's family together again—until the worst thing happens. Isabella and Darren are stopped by the police. A cell phone is mistaken for a gun. And shots are fired.

Sanford Meisner was one of the best known and beloved teachers of acting in the country. This book follows one of his acting classes for fifteen months, beginning with the most rudimentary exercises and ending with affecting and polished scenes from contemporary American plays. Written in collaboration with Dennis Longwell, it is essential reading for beginning and professional actors alike. Throughout these pages Meisner is a delight—always empathizing with his students and urging them onward, provoking emotion, laughter, and growing technical mastery from his charges. With an introduction by Sydney

Pollack, director of *Out of Africa* and *Tootsie*, who worked with Meisner for five years. "This book should be read by anyone who wants to act or even appreciate what acting involves. Like Meisner's way of teaching, it is the straight goods."—Arthur Miller "If there is a key to good acting, this one is it, above all others. Actors, young and not so young, will find inspiration and excitement in this book."—Gregory Peck (*Berklee Guide*). Write songs that sell! Hit-songwriter/educator Andrea Stolpe shares time-tested tools of commercial songwriting. Her ten-step process will help you to craft lyrics that communicate heart to heart with your audience. She analyzes hit lyrics from artists such as Faith Hill and John Mayer, and reveals why they are successful and how you can make your own songs successful too. Stolpe advises on how to: streamline and accelerate your writing process; use lyric structures and techniques at the heart of countless hit songs; write even when you're not inspired; more!

"A modern guide for students on how to choose a major, create a four-year plan, make the most of your college experience, land an internship, and successfully secure your first job"--

Music is a universal language, and John Braheny speaks it eloquently as he helps prepare us for our big musical break--by teaching us the craft of songwriting and revealing secrets of the music business. Includes anecdotes, exercises, and examples from dozens of songwriters, such as Harry Chapin, Paul McCartney, and many others.

Revised 2013 About the Book Achieving "hit writer" status has always been a formidable goal for any songwriter. Never more so however than in the 21st century. Catching the ear of the monumentally distracted, fragmented listener has never been more difficult. Getting their attention, inviting them in to your song and keeping them there for long enough for your song to become "their song" requires more than being just a "good" songwriter. Murphy's Laws of Songwriting "The Book" arms the songwriter for success by demystifying the process and opening the door to serious professional songwriting. Hall of fame songwriter Paul Williams said in his review of the book "If there was a hit songwriters secret handshake Da Murphy would probably have included it." About the Author Ralph Murphy, songwriter, has been successful for five decades. Consistently charting songs in an ever-changing musical environment makes him a member of that very small group of professionals who make a living doing what they love to do. Add to that the platinum records as a producer, the widely acclaimed Murphy's Laws of Songwriting articles used as part of curriculum at colleges, universities, and by songwriter organizations, his success as the publisher and co-owner of the extremely successful Picalic Group of Companies and you see a pattern of achievement based on more than luck.

The classic collection of candid interviews with the greatest songwriters of our time, including Bob Dylan, Brian Wilson, Patti Smith, Paul Simon, Tom Petty, and dozens more This expanded fourth edition of *Songwriters on Songwriting* includes ten new interviews--with Alanis Morissette, Lenny Kravitz, Lou Reed, and others. In these pages, sixty-two of the greatest songwriters of our time go straight to the source of the magic of songwriting by offering their thoughts, feelings, and opinions on their art. Representing almost every genre of popular music, from blues to pop to rock, here are the figures that have shaped American music as we know it.

Proven techniques for songwriting success This friendly, hands-on guide tackles the new face of the recording industry, guiding you through the shift from traditional sales to downloads and mobile music, as well as how you can harness social media networks to get your music "out there." You get basic songwriting concepts, insider tips and advice, and inspiration for writing — and selling — meaningful, timeless songs. *Songwriting 101* — get a grip on everything you need to know to write a song, from learning to listen to your "inner voice" to creating a "mood" and everything in between Jaunt around the genres — discover the variety of musical genres and find your fit, whether it's rock, pop, R&B, gospel, country, or more Let the lyrics out — master the art of writing lyrics, from finding your own voice to penning the actual words to using hooks, verses, choruses, and bridges Make beautiful music — find your rhythm, make melodies, and use chords to put the finishing touches on your song Work the Web — harness online marketing and social networks like Facebook, Twitter, and others to get your music heard by a whole new audience Open the book and find: What you need to know before you write a single note Tips on finding inspiration Ways to use poetic devices in lyrics Computer and Web-based shortcuts and technologies to streamline songwriting A look at famous songwriting collaborators Writing for stage, screen, and television How to make a demo to get your song heard Advice on how to make money from your music Learn to: Develop your songwriting skills with tips and techniques from the pros Use social networking sites to get your music out to the public Break into the industry with helpful, how-to instructions

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • This instant classic explores how we can change our lives by changing our habits. NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY The Wall Street Journal • Financial Times In *The Power of Habit*, award-winning business reporter Charles Duhigg takes us to the thrilling edge of scientific discoveries that explain why habits exist and how they can be changed. Distilling vast amounts of information into engrossing narratives that take us from the boardrooms of Procter & Gamble to the sidelines of the NFL to the front lines of the civil rights movement, Duhigg presents a whole new understanding of human nature and its potential. At its core, *The Power of Habit* contains an exhilarating argument: The key to exercising regularly, losing weight, being more productive, and achieving success is understanding how habits work. As Duhigg shows, by harnessing this new science, we can transform our businesses, our communities, and our lives. With a new Afterword by the author "Sharp, provocative, and useful."—Jim Collins "Few [books] become essential manuals for business and living. *The Power of Habit* is an exception. Charles Duhigg not only explains how habits are formed but how to kick bad ones and hang on to the good."—Financial Times "A flat-out great read."—David Allen, bestselling author of *Getting Things Done: The Art of Stress-Free Productivity* "You'll never look at yourself, your organization, or your world quite the same way."—Daniel H. Pink, bestselling author of *Drive* and *A Whole New Mind* "Entertaining . . . enjoyable . . . fascinating . . . a serious look at the science of habit formation and change."—The New York Times Book Review

Of songs artists write for themselves and those that are typically recorded by artists who do not write their own material.

From initial demos to mixing and mastering, seasoned authors Mark Cousins and Russ Hepworth-Sawyer show you how to get the most from Logic Pro X. By exploring the essential workflow and the creative possibilities offered by Logic's virtual instruments and effects, Logic Pro X: Audio and Music Production leads you through the music creation and production process, giving you all the tips and tricks used by the pros to create release-quality recordings. Using full color screenshots throughout, alongside related boxouts that expand on the key concepts, Logic Pro X: Audio and Music Production is an informative and easy-to-read guide to using Logic Pro X. Key features include: Production FAQs – Instructional Walkthroughs and Knowledgebases present information clearly and answer common production-specific problems. Methods – Professional techniques for recording and editing in Logic Pro X – whether you're dealing with real musicians or cutting-edge virtual instruments. Workflow – Use Logic Pro X's tools and functions in an optimal way. Website – Access audio examples, samples (Apple Loops), Logic projects, sampler instruments, and instrument patches at www.focalpress.com/cw/cousins Logic Pro X: Audio and Music Production covers more than just the software; it will help you make the most out of every recording session and will illuminate and inspire your creative and sonic endeavors!

This book teaches an innovative method called Immersion Composition that drives musicians to engage their creativity by writing as much music as possible in a set time period. After learning to apply the method, elusive moments of inspiration can be summoned on command. The book also explains how to form a group of like-minded songwriters (a "lodge"), presents dozens of tips and games for making the most out of an Immersion Composition session, and shows how to turn brainstormed raw materials into polished songs.

An updated guide to becoming a music mogul explores alternative markets for all musical genres, utilizing the power of the Internet and offering suggestions for marketing overseas.

Six Steps to Songwriting Success, Revised Edition The Comprehensive Guide to Writing and Marketing Hit Songs Billboard Books

Give Your Songwriting a Competitive Edge This book takes you on the songwriter's journey from the first inspiration for a song to the collection of worldwide royalties.

Experienced songwriters Pat and Pete Luboff point out the stumbling blocks you'll encounter along the way, and how to turn them into stepping stones to songwriting success. In 101 fun and easy-to-read chapters, you'll find tips on: building solid, marketable song structures creating the perfect lyrics accompanied by moving melodies forming productive and profitable collaboration ventures producing effective demos that you can pitch tracking your royalty collection You'll also discover how new technology is changing songwriting and how to use that to your advantage. Plus, you'll get insider tips on traveling to and living in the songwriting centers of the country—Los Angeles, New York City, and Nashville. Everything you need to live and succeed at the songwriter's life can be found in this great resource.

Music industry veteran Frederick discusses 126 shortcuts and techniques used by today's top songwriters to give their tunes the power and edge that make listeners want to hear them over and over again.

To make money, song-writers need a firm, realistic grasp of how songs generate income. This volume demystifies the process of doing business as a songwriter. It walks the reader step-by-step through the process of starting and operating a publishing company, teaches how to pitch songs to publishers, and more.

This comprehensive guide shows you how to integrate a variety of production tools for the Mac OS X platform into all stages of audio production so that you can create and produce music. From single applications to complete suites, you'll discover the software toolsets that are best for you and then discover how to incorporate them into a coherent workflow. Featuring best practices, real-world examples, and interviews with audio professionals, this book pulls together all the programs and tasks you need.

"Songwriting" is both a comprehensive course for beginning and experienced songwriters and a rich source of new ideas, inspiration, and tricks of the trade for those who have already achieved professional standing. This new edition not only contains all of the original volume's cogent advice on how to write the always-popular genres - the country song, the ballad, and the love song - but it has been revised to include: examples of hard rock, acid, heavy metal, bubblegum, hip-hop, salsa, rap, gangsta, reggae, ska, soul, and many other of today's most recorded styles; finding a song concept, distilling the hook, choosing a form, adding harmony and selecting rhythm; an appendix telling how to copyright, computerize, notate, record, and sell your song; and full glossary of musical and songwriting terms, an explanation of rap-speak with a useful section on rhyme for rap songs, many musical examples of well-known songs, and a complete index. For the novice, Stephen Citron goes step-by-step through the writing of a song presupposing no prior knowledge of notation, harmony, rhythmic values, or rhyme. For the more experienced songwriter, "Songwriting" will serve as a one-stop reference and as an endless source of fresh ideas.

The Must-Have Guide for Songwriters Writing Better Lyrics has been a staple for songwriters for nearly two decades. Now this revised and updated 2nd Edition provides effective tools for everything from generating ideas, to understanding the form and function of a song, to fine-tuning lyrics. Perfect for new and experienced songwriters alike, this time-tested classic covers the basics in addition to more advanced techniques. Songwriters will discover:

- How to use sense-bound imagery to enhance a song's emotional impact on listeners
- Techniques for avoiding clichés and creating imaginative metaphors and similes
- Ways to use repetition as an asset
- How to successfully manipulate meter
- Instruction for matching lyrics with music
- Ways to build on ideas and generate effective titles
- Advice for working with a co-writer
- And much more

Featuring updated and expanded chapters, 50 fun songwriting exercises, and examples from more than 20 chart-toppings songs, Writing Better Lyrics gives you all of the professional and creative

insight you need to write powerful lyrics and put your songs in the spotlight where they belong.

Winnie Barringer's best friend, Iggy, has moved away. How is Winnie going to make it through summer vacation? Then the Garber family moves into Iggy's House, and Winnie is thrilled. The problem is, not everyone is as welcoming as Winnie.

Kathryn Petras and Ross Petras, bestselling authors of the scathingly funny *Unusually Stupid Americans* and *Unusually Stupid Celebrities*, now set their bipartisan sights on the hallowed halls of the United States government. *Unusually Stupid Politicians* exposes the mind-boggling but true political mishaps, missteps, and miscues that have even the savviest spin doctors shaking their heads and saying "No comment." Sections include • Extreme Hairsplitting—such as when Florida governor Jeb Bush, after being accused of hiding in a closet from rampaging Democrats, denied the allegation completely, stating that "it was actually a boiler room" • Brilliant and Innovative Ideas from The Pentagon—like their groundbreaking "Gay Bomb," their "Bad Breath Inducing" halitosis weapon and their plans to enlist The Three Stooges in the fight against terror. • Creative Political Excuses—such as "I just discovered I'm Jewish and it's a Holy Day,"—used by Senator George Allen, who, after learning of his Jewish heritage, got out of a Senate hearing to "observe" Yom Kippur • The Most Egregiously Large Political Egos—measured in standard Chuck Schumer Ego Units (CSEUs) This hilarious and eye-opening exposé gives awards for "How I Blew My Campaign" and "Worst Campaign Ad," and shares a list of candidates "endorsed by God," as well as a list of those who lost because of Satan. So turn off C-SPAN and quit text-messaging congressional pages—you're about to learn what the definition of "is" is.

Answering the eternal question... WHAT TO WATCH NEXT? Looking for a box set to get your adrenaline racing or to escape to a different era? In need of a good laugh to lift your spirits? Hunting for a TV show that the whole family can watch together? If you're feeling indecisive about your next binge-watching session, we've done the hard work for you. Featuring 1,000 carefully curated reviews written by a panel of TV connoisseurs, *What To Watch When* offers up the best show suggestions for every mood and moment.

The *Billboard Guide to Writing and Producing Songs that Sell* unveils the secrets to climbing the charts and reaching success in today's ultracompetitive music industry. Eric Beall supplies his firsthand knowledge of today's record business, as well as interviews with successful writers, producers, and executives from the worlds of pop, hip-hop, country, adult contemporary, and R&B. The result: a proven approach to constructing songs that open doors, create careers, and communicate to listeners around the world. Key areas explored include: •How does a song become a hit? •What makes a song a single? •Is there a formula for creating a hit? Fun and practical exercises provide opportunities to hone skills and expose specific talents, helping songwriters combine their unique voices to the demands of the commercial marketplace. Filled with fresh ideas that will spark beginners and veterans alike, this book will lead the way toward the industry's ultimate challenge: the creation of that chart-topping hit song.

In her first two books, Sheila Davis classified the major song forms and enduring principles that have been honored for decades by America's foremost songwriters. Those books have become required reading in music courses from NYU to UCLA. In *The Songwriters Idea Book*, Davis goes one step further, giving you 40 strategies for designing distinctive songs. You'll break new ground in your own songwriting by learning about the inherent relationship between language style, personality type and the brain. • You'll go, step by step, through the creative process as you activate, incubate, separate and discriminate. • You'll learn to use the whole-brain techniques of imaging, brainstorming and clustering. • You'll expand your skilled use of figurative language with paragons, metonyms, synecdoche and antonomasia. • You'll be challenged to design metaphors, form symbols, make puns and coin words. • And, you'll learn how to prevent writer's block, increase your productivity and maintain your creative flow. Over 100 successful student lyrics from pop, country, cabaret, and theater serve as role-models to illustrate the "whole-brain" songwriting process.

This workbook will give you a solid foundation of theory and new insights into the subtleties of craftsmanship, whether you're a new or professional songwriter and whether your targeted market is country, gospel, top-40 or theatre.

What's the secret to writing a hit song? It's as simple as 1-2-3-4-5-6! Innovative, practical, and inspiring, *Six Steps to Songwriting Success* presents a surefire step-by-step approach to mastering the elements consistently found in hit songs. Author Jason Blume, a songwriter with the rare distinction of having had songs on the Country, Pop, and R&B charts simultaneously, has packed this book with such key aids as the three-step lyric writing technique used by the pros; lyric, melody, and demo checklists; and tools for self-evaluation—plus many other exercises that work. Blume's warm, humorous style features motivational anecdotes and entertaining stories of how hit songs came to be written and recorded. Get *Six Steps to Songwriting Success*, and get on the charts!

Why not write your own songs? You've learned the basics and rehearsed other musicians' pieces—now you want to try your own hand at writing. But it can be hard to get started...and sometimes even harder to know when to stop. *"The Young Musician's Guide to Songwriting"* is an ideal resource, designed specifically for guiding the young musician through the songwriting process—from idea generation to completed song. It is also a refreshing tool for music teachers, private instructors, and parents of musicians, who have a young artist in need of some rails to guide them down the songwriting tracks. Whether you're a beginning or advanced musician, author and musician Lisa Donovan Lukas compiles her years of experience teaching and working in the music industry to provide exercises that help the songwriter get started quickly; lessons on structure, lyrics, melody, harmony, and rhythm; and perhaps most importantly—the discovery and development of a good song idea. So grab your instrument (and maybe your teacher), and crack open this book to unlock the gates to your own musical journey.

Making Music With Samples is packed with creative, hands-on tips - aimed at getting the reader actively enjoying the art of sampling as quickly and easily as possible - interspersed with snippets of essential theoretical stuff: whether it's the science of sound, or copyright legalities. Starting with the absolute basics of what sampling is, author Dan Duffell progresses from simpler, widely-used tools like small loop-based samplers, through the various platforms available to the sample user - the different methods and equipment required to create and manipulate samples, including: hardware samplers, sampling/keyboard workstations, computer setups, software samplers, drum samplers, etc. He then describes the setting up procedures needed to get you started - connections and installation, signal levels and so on - at the same time providing some relevant background information on how a sampler actually works. Next: choosing source

material - whether created you, or from sample CDs like the one attached, or from other people's recordings - which inevitably also raises the thorny subject of copyright and licensing: sampling and the law. Then there's a section depicting the basic layout and operation of some well-known software and hardware samplers, and a look at Sampling & Synthesis and Modular Systems...

All You Need to Know About the Music Business by veteran music lawyer Don Passman—dubbed “the industry bible” by the Los Angeles Times—is now updated to address the biggest transformation of the music industry yet: streaming. For more than twenty-five years, All You Need to Know About the Music Business has been universally regarded as the definitive guide to the music industry. Now in its tenth edition, Donald Passman leads novices and experts alike through what has been the most profound change in the music business since the days of wax cylinders and piano rolls. For the first time in history, music is no longer monetized by selling something—it’s monetized by how many times listeners stream a song. And that completely changes the ecosystem of the business, as Passman explains in detail. Since the advent of file-sharing technology in the late 1990s to the creation of the iPod, the music industry has been teetering on the brink of a major transformation—and with the newest switch to streaming music, this change has finally come to pass. Passman’s comprehensive guide offers timely, authoritative information from how to select and hire a winning team of advisors and structure their commissions and fees; navigate the ins and outs of record deals, songwriting, publishing, and copyrights; maximize concert, touring, and merchandising deals; and how the game is played in a streaming world. “If you want to be in music, you have to read this book,” says Adam Levine, lead singer and guitarist of Maroon 5. With its proven track record, this updated edition of All You Need to Know About the Music Business is more essential than ever for musicians, songwriters, lawyers, agents, promoters, publishers, executives, and managers—anyone trying to navigate the rapid transformation of the industry.

Packed with literally hundreds of hints, tips, and inside information only a working writer would know, The Art of Writing Great Lyrics demonstrates proven, no-fail methods for everything from communicating through song, defining styles, and collaborating with a partner to studying the market, making a great demo, and getting started on a career. Full of creative exercises, writing do's and don'ts, and a handy A to Z checklist for reviewing new songs, The Art of Writing Great Lyrics provides a lifetime of proven success tips in one indispensable volume.

His songs have been recorded by an incredibly diverse range of artists, including Britney Spears and both the Backstreet Boys and the Oak Ridge Boys. And when he’s not writing music for chart-topping artists, he writes best-sellers. Jason Blume, author of the best-selling 6 Steps to Songwriting Success, returns with a book that has been called the musician’s version of Natalie Goldberg’s million-selling Writing Down the Bones. Inside Songwriting presents both inspirational stories of the author’s long, and sometimes difficult, climb to the top, as well as practical advice, valuable tools, and instructive activities that no accomplished or aspiring songwriter, singer, or musician should be without. It provides a richly detailed, no-holds-barred account of the author’s personal experiences (trying to make a go of it in the topsy-turvy music world), and offers inspiration and practical instructions on the techniques and raw artistry required to put a song together. Far from being a traditional “how-to,” each of the 60 short chapters in this book uses attention-grabbing anecdotes to relay valuable insights and important lessons. But Inside Songwriting also offers much more; it provides a rare look at the business of songwriting from “both sides of the desk,” and offers aspiring songwriters what they need most—encouragement, comfort, and hope. • Follow-up to the best-selling 6 Steps to Songwriting Success (0-8230-8422-1) •

Author is an unflagging and influential advocate for his books, presenting songwriting workshops across the country as well as appearing on television and radio

These days, it’s harder than ever to know how to act like a real man. We’re not talking about the touchy-feely, ultra-sensitive, emotion-sharing, not-afraid-to-cry version of manhood that Oprah and Dr. Phil have been spouting for years. We’re talking about the tough, smart, confident, charming, classy, all-around good fella that upholds the true ideal of what is known as “a man’s man.” Now, renowned actor and true-life man’s man Frank Vincent, famed for his unforgettable tough-guy roles in such classic films as Raging Bull, Goodfellas and HBO’s The Sopranos, is going to show how any man can be all that he can be in love, work, play, and life. Everything you need to know is covered here, including, getting the best women by being the best man, dressing like a champ and taking on the world, winning big money and big respect in Las Vegas, selecting, smoking, and savoring a great cigar, and much more. If you want to learn how to be a man’s man, you gotta learn from a man’s man. And with the great Frank Vincent vouching for you, you’ll be on your way to getting everything you ever wanted outta life.

Based on police wiretaps and exclusive interviews with drug kingpins and hip-hop insiders, this is the untold story of how the streets and housing projects of southeast Queens took over the rap industry. For years, rappers from Nas to Ja Rule have hero-worshipped the legendary drug dealers who dominated Queens in the 1980s with their violent crimes and flashy lifestyles. Now, for the first time ever, this gripping narrative digs beneath the hip-hop fables to re-create the rise and fall of hustlers like Lorenzo “Fat Cat” Nichols, Gerald “Prince” Miller, Kenneth “Supreme” McGriff, and Thomas “Tony Montana” Mickens. Spanning twenty-five years, from the violence of the crack era to Run DMC to the infamous murder of NYPD rookie Edward Byrne to Tupac Shakur to 50 Cent’s battles against Ja Rule and Murder Inc., to the killing of Jam Master Jay, Queens Reigns Supreme is the first inside look at the infamous southeast Queens crews and their connections to gangster culture in hip hop today.

Infuse your lyrics with sensory detail! Writing great song lyrics requires practice and discipline. Songwriting Without Boundaries will help you commit to routine practice through fun writing exercises. This unique collection of more than 150 sense-bound prompts helps you develop the skills you need to: • tap into your senses and inject your writing with vivid details • effectively use metaphor and comparative language • add rhythm to your writing and manage phrasing Songwriters, as well as writers of other genres, will benefit from this collection of sensory writing challenges. Divided into four sections, Songwriting Without Boundaries features four different fourteen-day challenges with timed writing exercises, along with examples from other songwriters, poets, and prose writers.

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