

Self Editing For Fiction Writers

How To Edit Yourself Into Print

Renni Browne

Editing is an invisible art where the very best work goes undetected. Editors strive to create books that are enlightening, seamless, and pleasurable to read, all while giving credit to the author. This makes it all the more difficult to truly understand the range of roles they inhabit while shepherding a project from concept to publication. In *What Editors Do*, Peter Ginna gathers essays from twenty-seven leading figures in book publishing about their work. Representing both large houses and small, and encompassing trade, textbook, academic, and children's publishing, the contributors make the case for why editing remains a vital function to writers—and readers—everywhere. Ironically for an industry built on words, there has been a scarcity of written guidance on how to actually approach the work of editing. This book will serve as a compendium of professional advice and will be a resource both for those entering the profession (or already in it) and for those outside publishing who seek an understanding of it. It sheds light on how editors acquire books, what constitutes a strong author-editor relationship, and the editor's vital role at each stage of the publishing process—a role that extends far beyond marking up the author's text. This collection treats editing as both art and craft, and also as a career. It explores how editors balance passion against the economic realities of

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publishing. What Editors Do shows why, in the face of a rapidly changing publishing landscape, editors are more important than ever.

You've finished the first draft of your novel – now to make it shine. This book will show you how by focusing first on the structural aspects of a great book and then getting down to the nitty gritty of copy editing and proofreading. Not sure if the beginning will hook the reader? Think your pacing might be off? Is something not quite right but you don't know what it is? Learn how to analyse what's not working in your manuscript and get tips on how to fix it. Claire Boston has been writing, mentoring and judging competitions for more than ten years and continues to see the same issues in beginner writers' work. She made the same mistakes when she was starting out. With her help you can avoid the pitfalls and ensure your manuscript is the best it can be before you submit it.

Seven Drafts: Self-Edit Like a Pro from Blank Page to Book divides writing and revision into distinct stages, with a new focus in each draft. Allison's frank, funny voice encourages writers to tackle even big editing tasks with a sense of humor and a feeling that someone who understands is on their side. After sections on story, elements of writing craft and structure, seeking and using feedback, and the publication process, Seven Drafts goes beyond the technical and into the mindset of a writer. How can envy be employed to fuel your own work? Where do you find a writing community? How will literary citizenship influence personal process? For Writers from All Walks of Life! There's no need to

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fear the big, bad world of writing with *The Little Red Writing Book* in hand. Brimming with clever advice, this book offers writers, students, and business professionals a concise guide to penning strong and effective work for all occasions. *The Little Red Writing Book* is designed for visual appeal and ease of use. Elegant yet practical, it will be an intriguing, inviting reference you'll turn to again and again. Author Brandon Royal offers concise explanations and nonintimidating instruction based on the four pillars of sound writing: structure, style, readability, and grammar. His discussion centers on 20 immutable writing principles as well as 30 commonly encountered rules of grammar. A wealth of examples, charts, and engaging exercises make *The Little Red Writing Book* an invaluable guide for anyone who wants to master those skills that will make a good writer even better.

Out Front the Following Sea is a historical epic of one woman's survival in a time when the wilderness is still wild, heresy is publicly punishable, and being independent is worse than scorned--it is a death sentence. At the onset of King William's War between French and English settlers in 1689 New England, Ruth Miner is accused of witchcraft for the murder of her parents and must flee the brutality of her town. She stows away on the ship of the only other person who knows her innocence: an audacious sailor--Owen--bound to her by years of attraction, friendship, and shared secrets. But when Owen's French ancestry finds him at odds with a violent English commander, the turmoil becomes life-or-death for the sailor, the headstrong

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Ruth, and the cast of Quakers, Pequot Indians, soldiers, highwaymen, and townsfolk dragged into the fray. Now Ruth must choose between sending Owen to the gallows or keeping her own neck from the noose.

The complete guide to self-editing, illustrating the most common problems with hundreds of before-and-after examples

Do you want to be a more relaxed author? There are plenty of books and tips on writing faster, learning more marketing tactics and strategies, trying to maximize your ranking, hitting the top of the charts, juicing the algorithms, and hacking different ad platforms. While these are all important things — which the authors themselves regularly write and talk about — it's also important to recognize that your author journey is a marathon, and not a sprint. Joanna Penn and Mark Leslie Lefebvre have been in the business long enough to see authors burning out and leaving the writing life because they turned what they love into a hamster wheel of ever more production and marketing tasks they hate. It doesn't have to be this way. This book is a collection of tips on how to be a more relaxed author — and return to the love that brought you to writing in the first place. You will discover:

- Why the 'relaxed' author?
- You are not alone. Why authors are not relaxed.

Part 1: Relaxed Writing

- Write what you love
- Write at your own pace
- Write in a series (if you want to)
- Schedule time to fill the creative well and for rest and relaxation
- Improve your writing process — but only if it fits with your lifestyle

Part 2: Relaxed Publishing

- Make empowered publishing choices
- Understand persistence, patience, and

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partnership - Value your work. You create intellectual property assets. - Publish at your own pace - Publish wide (or don't) - Sell direct to your audience - Don't let piracy and plagiarism derail you - Deal with cancel culture, bad reviews, and haters - Find a community who support your publishing choices Part 3: Relaxed Marketing - Focus on the basics first - Simplify your author brand and website - Simplify and automate your email - Find one form of marketing you enjoy and can sustain for the long term - Put book 1 in a series free or permafrees - Choose social media that suits you — or don't use it at all - Advertise in campaigns - Outsource when you can - Embrace who you are. Double down on being human. - Think global, digital, long-term marketing Part 4: Relaxed Business - Do you really want to run an author business? - Create multiple streams of income - Eliminate tasks. Say 'no' more. - Organize and improve your processes - Use tools - Find voices you trust and tune out the rest - Learn about money - Look after your physical and mental health - Keep a long-term mindset If you want to be a more relaxed author, sample or buy today.

Your future as a writer is in your hands. Whether you are a newcomer or an accomplished professional, a novelist, story writer, or a writer of nonfiction, you will find this book a wealth of immediately useful guidance not available anywhere else. As Sol Stein, renowned editor, author, and instructor, explains, "This is not a book of theory. It is a book of useable solutions-- how to fix writing that is flawed, how to improve writing that is good, how to create interesting writing in the first place." You

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will find one of the great unspoken secrets of craftsmanship in Chapter 5, called "Markers: The Key to Swift Characterization." In Chapter 7, Stein reveals for the first time in print the wonderful system for creating instant conflict developed in the Playwrights Group of the Actors Studio, of which he was a founder. In "Secrets of Good Dialogue," the premier teacher of dialogue gives you the instantly useable techniques that not only make verbal exchanges exciting but that move the story forward immediately. You won't need to struggle with flashbacks or background material after you've read Chapter 14, which shows you how to bring background into the foreground. Writers of both fiction and nonfiction will relish the amphetamines for speeding up pace, and the many ways to liposuction flab, as well as how to tap originality and recognize what successful titles have in common. You'll discover literary values that enhance writing, providing depth and resonance. You'll bless the day you read Chapters 32 and 33 and discover why revising by starting at page one can be a serious mistake, and how to revise without growing cold on your manuscript. In the pages of this book, nonfiction writers will find a passport to the new revolution in journalism and a guide to using the techniques of fiction to enhance nonfiction. Fresh, useful, informative, and fun to read and reread, Stein on Writing is a book you will mark up, dog-ear, and cherish.

Congratulations You just finished writing your first novel "What do I do next?" If you're like I was, that was the first question you asked yourself. Do you remember what I said last time? In "Nine Day Novel: Writing?" Steve, I

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totally remember: You said, "Bravo Pop champagne and..." You remember that part after the champagne about calling someone, right? Your Editor-the Last Line of Defense. But editors cost a lot of money and wouldn't be helpful if we could minimize some of that expense by doing a little bit of editing ourselves? Before we send it off to an expensive professional? Don't make the mistake I did On my first novel, I debated for months between paying an editor and whether I should just "edit" the entire thing myself. After all, how hard it be, right? Predictably, money won out, and I chose poorly, publishing my first book before a professional editor had proofread it. That was a big mistake. That one decision set my writing career back about a year. Why? Because my book languished on Amazon as yet another unprofessional, unfinished and unwanted draft, posing as a completely finished novel. I got discouraged, disappointed and down. It took months before I overcame my fear of what a professional editor would say about my first novel. Because that was the real reason I had edited it myself all along. A great editor will make your novel shine. Picture your reader, trying to follow the fantastic story that you painstakingly outlined, researched and wrote. As they read, their eyes are interrupted by misspellings, grammatical errors, improper word usage and dialogue that's punctuated poorly. Finally, unable to stay engaged through those constant interruptions, they give up and close your book. We're not going to let that happen Your editor will have the single biggest impact on the professional look and feel of your novel. But that doesn't mean we can't do a little bit

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of "editing" ourselves. In fact, inside this book, I'll show you how you can do quite a bit of self-editing before your draft needs to go to an editor. And that'll save you money. Removing the mystery. To many beginning authors, editing is a mysterious and often misunderstood process. In this book, I'll define the types of editing you need, outline the parts that you can and should do yourself, and then explain the process that your editor will go through as they clean up what's left. No idea where to find an editor? I'll show you how to find a good one on popular freelancing sites. If that doesn't work, I'll give you the contact information of my own editor. Then I'll introduce you to a piece of software that'll save you countless hours in turnaround time, working with your editor. And I'll walk you through the steps my writing partner and I use to fix our own drafts before they go to our editor. Editing is much easier if you make fewer mistakes in the first place. Seems simple, right? It should be. For that reason, I felt it was important for this book to have two parts to it: How to clean up what you had already written ... and how to minimize all that cleanup by knowing what and how to write fiction sentences in the first place. So the first half of the book is about editing process and work-flow. And the second half is a refresher course on the very basics of writing fiction sentences. And the bonuses... I created tutorial videos to show you exactly how I've cut Word loose and now collaborate directly with my editors inside Scrivener. So whether you've never worked with an editor before or you just want to save some time, money and headache editing your next draft, I wrote this book for you

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Learn how to self-edit your novel at sentence level so that readers feel compelled to turn the page. Each chapter focuses on a different aspect of narrative and dialogue. In addition to the line-craft guidance, there are examples from published fiction that illustrate the learning in action.

"Nothing is unreal as long as you can imagine like a crow." --Munia Khan Conventional wisdom says that a crow can not be tamed. These intelligent creatures are often understood as harbingers of doubt and uncertainty, whose high nesting grant them an unusually elevated perspective. For the writer, the crows of doubt circle over every project. This book shows they can be tamed.

Writing is a magical hobby and form of expression but getting words on the page is not the same as finalizing material which you are happy to send out and share.

This book is a complete toolkit which will help you to tame doubts and insecurities and engage with your internal critic in order to assert control over your manuscript and elevate your writing. Written by the team behind one of the world's most successful literary consultancies, *Taming the Crows* will show you how to master the art of self-editing--perhaps the least understood but most vital skill in the writer's toolkit. You will learn to compose, draft, and edit while sharpening your writing and ensuring that your novel is structurally sound, authentic, well-written and ready for submission. About the Series: The Teach Yourself Creative Writing series helps aspiring authors tell their stories. Covering a range of genres from science fiction and romantic novels to illustrated children's books and comedy, this series is

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packed with advice, exercises, and tips for unlocking creativity and improving your writing. And because we know how daunting the blank page can be, we set up the Just Write online community, as tyjustwrite.com, for budding authors and successful writers to connect and share.

"Editing your own writing can feel like doing your own brain surgery.?" After you've completed your manuscript and you're standing at the foot of Revision Mountain, climbing to the summit can feel impossible. It's hard to look at your own writing with the objective eye needed to shape it into a tight, polished, publishable story-but just like writing, self-editing is a skill you can learn. Developmental editor Tiffany Yates Martin has spent her career in the publishing industry honing practical, actionable techniques to help authors evaluate how well their story is working, where it might not be, and how to fix it. With a clear, accessible, user-friendly approach, she leads writers through every step of deepening and elevating their own work, as well as how to approach the edit and develop their "editor brain," and how to solicit and process feedback. *Intuitive Editing* doesn't offer one-size-fits-all advice or rigid writing "rules"; instead it helps authors discover what works for their story and their style-to find the best version of their vision. Whether you're writing fiction, narrative nonfiction, or memoir; whether this your first story or your fiftieth, *Intuitive Editing* will give you the tools you need to edit and revise your own writing with inspiration, motivation, and confidence. Tiffany Yates Martin has spent nearly thirty years as an editor in the publishing industry,

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working with major publishers and bestselling authors as well as newer writers. She's led workshops and seminars for conferences and writers' groups across the country and is a frequent contributor to writers' sites and publications. Visit her at www.foxprinteditorial.com.

A comprehensive guide to the art of self-editing, written by a professional editor. This book introduces an innovative, easy-to-follow, three-stage process for authors looking to effectively self-edit their book, be it for self-publication or if they are looking to polish their manuscript before submission to agents or traditional publishers.

Two missing girls. Thirteen years apart. An intense psychological thriller for readers of *I Am Watching You*, *The Luckiest Girl Alive*, and *All the Missing Girls*. Olivia Shaw has been missing since last Tuesday. She was last seen outside the entrance of her elementary school in Hunts Point wearing a white spring jacket, blue jeans, and pink boots. I force myself to look at the face in the photo, into her slightly smudged features, and I can't bring myself to move. Olivia Shaw could be my mirror image, rewound to thirteen years ago. If you have any knowledge of Olivia Shaw's whereabouts or any relevant information, please contact... I've spent a long time peering into the faces of girls on missing posters, wondering which one replaced me in that basement. But they were never quite the right age, the right look, the right circumstances. Until Olivia Shaw, missing for one week tomorrow. Whoever stole me was never found. But since I was taken, there hasn't been another girl. And now there is.

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"Bell's prose is elegant and wonderfully readable in this artful guide."—Publishers Weekly The Artful Edit explores the many-faceted and often misunderstood—or simply overlooked—art of editing. The book brims with examples, quotes, and case studies, including an illuminating discussion of Max Perkins's editorial collaboration with F. Scott Fitzgerald on *The Great Gatsby*. Susan Bell, a veteran book editor, also offers strategic tips and exercises for self-editing and a series of remarkable interviews, taking us into the studios of successful authors such as Michael Ondaatje and Ann Patchett to learn from their various approaches to revision. Much more than a manual, *The Artful Edit* inspires readers to think about both the discipline and the creativity of editing and how it can enhance their work. In the computer age of lightning-quick composition, this book reminds readers that editing is not simply a spell-check. A vigorous investigation into the history and meaning of the edit, this book, like *The Elements of Style*, is a must-have companion for every writer.

The bestselling *Emotion Thesaurus*, often hailed as “the gold standard for writers” and credited with transforming how writers craft emotion, has now been expanded to include 56 new entries! One of the biggest struggles for writers is how to convey emotion to readers in a unique and compelling way. When showing our characters’ feelings, we often use the first idea that comes to mind, and they end up smiling, nodding, and frowning too much. If you need inspiration for creating characters’ emotional responses that are personalized and evocative, this ultimate show-don’t-tell guide for emotion

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can help. It includes:

- Body language cues, thoughts, and visceral responses for over 130 emotions that cover a range of intensity from mild to severe, providing innumerable options for individualizing a character's reactions
- A breakdown of the biggest emotion-related writing problems and how to overcome them
- Advice on what should be done before drafting to make sure your characters' emotions will be realistic and consistent
- Instruction for how to show hidden feelings and emotional subtext through dialogue and nonverbal cues
- And much more! The Emotion Thesaurus, in its easy-to-navigate list format, will inspire you to create stronger, fresher character expressions and engage readers from your first page to your last.

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 cliches that are prevalent in YA and MG fiction, in respect to characters, story ideas, plot structure and more.
- Develop themes and ideas in

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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.

Write Better Proposals Faster to Accelerate Your Writing Career! Whether you are a true beginner or a seasoned writer looking to secure more book contracts, *The Weekend Book Proposal* shows you how to take your best ideas and create powerful proposals--quickly and professionally. No need to spend months laboring over a proposal when in just a few days you can write one that will ignite the interest of agents and editors. Ryan G. Van Cleave presents the tools you need to craft an eye-grabbing proposal for your nonfiction, memoir, anthology, textbook, novel, and more. Jam-packed with proven strategies, nuts-and-bolts advice, sample queries and proposals, interviews with publishing experts, and "Hit the Gas" tips for speeding up the proposal process, *The Weekend Book Proposal* will show you how to succeed and prosper as a writer--and sell your books before you've even written them! *The Weekend Book Proposal* explains how to:

- Write a

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catchy title and book description. • Create a compelling author bio and chapter outline. • Develop a targeted, engaging concept statement. • Build a strong marketing plan and endorsements list. • Structure your proposals based on those crafted by successful authors.

Hundreds of books have been written on the art of writing. Here at last is a book by two professional editors to teach writers the techniques of the editing trade that turn promising manuscripts into published novels and short stories. In this completely revised and updated second edition, Renni Browne and Dave King teach you, the writer, how to apply the editing techniques they have developed to your own work. Chapters on dialogue, exposition, point of view, interior monologue, and other techniques take you through the same processes an expert editor would go through to perfect your manuscript. Each point is illustrated with examples, many drawn from the hundreds of books Browne and King have edited.

"Highly recommended: On Editing is indispensable reading for anyone who is or wants to be a writer. Every desk should have a copy!" - Dr Samantha J. Rayner, Director of the Centre for Publishing, UCL
"On Editing is a feast with many courses. When you have finished this book, you will feel encouraged, empowered, and indomitable. If you are writing-or editing-a novel, you could do no better than to have

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this book by your side. Comprehensive, easily digestible, it is a classic in the making." - Shaye Areheart, Director of the Columbia Publishing Course Writing a novel is a magical but often difficult journey; and when your first draft is complete, that journey's not over. As the editing process gets underway, authors often find themselves in unfamiliar territory. What does it mean to 'map your plot'? How do you know if you're 'head-hopping'? When is your novel ready to send out to agents, and how do you make each submission count? Written by the team behind one of the world's most successful literary consultancies, *On Editing* will show you how to master the self-edit. You will learn to compose, draft, and edit while sharpening your writing and ensuring that your novel is structurally sound, authentic, well-written, and ready for submission. *On Editing* will help you harness your creative potential, transform the way you think about your writing, and revolutionise your editorial process. "It's easy for writers to be overwhelmed by the technicalities of writing, editing and getting published, but Helen Corner-Bryant and Kathryn Price share their decades of experience nurturing writers in *On Editing*. They know all the problems and how to fix them - including many you might not even think of - and explain it all in a clean, jargon-free, way that demystifies the whole process, with infectious enthusiasm that will have you ready, eager

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and bursting with the confidence to take your writing to the next level." - Writing Magazine

A horse-racing mystery for horse lovers and fans of suspense alike! Jockey Chris Englund has won five Kentucky Derbies, tying the record. But his take-no-prisoners personality and his clashes with the power structures of Thoroughbred racing have stalled his career. There's also his rigorous honesty in a world full of lures to game the system. At 47, Chris is still sure he's the best. He just can't seem to prove it anymore. Out of the blue, he's offered the ride on the odds-on Derby favorite, Knidos, who is owned by billionaire industrialist Simms Mulraven. But his hopes for a triumphant Derby week turn to ashes when he's offered half a million dollars to hold Knidos and set off a betting bonanza for criminal cartels around the world. And that's nothing to the choices he must make when Mulraven's idealistic young daughter Jessica demands he sacrifice what's left of his career, not to mention his life, to save Knidos from people who would ruin the great horse for their own financial gain. As the Derby draws near, the greatest spectacle in sports becomes a testing ground of Chris Englund's courage. When he unravels the secrets behind the fix, he must choose between honesty and his life, between a love he never expected to feel and a truth more fragile than any he ever knew. The race itself becomes a violent clash between defiance and sacrifice as Chris faces

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the brutal costs his honesty demands.

Self-Editing for Fiction Writers, Second Edition
How to Edit Yourself Into Print Harper Collins

Presents a collection of short stories by such authors as Sherwood Anderson, Willa Cather, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and James Joyce, along with analysis of their works.

First published in 1943, *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry has been translated into more than 250 languages, becoming a global phenomenon.

The Sahara desert is the scenery of *Little Prince's* story. The narrator's plane has crashed there and he has scarcely some food and water to survive.

Trying to comprehend what caused the crash, the *Little Prince* appears. The serious blonde little boy asks to draw him a sheep. The narrator consents to the strange fellow's request. They soon become friends and the *Little Prince* informs the pilot that he is from a small planet, the asteroid 325, talks to him about the baobabs, his planet volcanoes and the mysterious rose that grew on his planet. He also talks to him about their friendship and the lie that evoked his journey to other planets. Often puzzled by the grown-ups' behavior, the little traveler becomes a total and eternal symbol of innocence and love, of responsibility and devotion. Through him we get to see how insightful children are and how grown-ups aren't. Children use their heart to feel what's really important, not the eyes. Heart-

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breaking, funny and thought-provoking, it is an enchanting and endlessly wise fable about the human condition and the power of imagination. A book about both childhood and adulthood, it can be read as a parable, a war story, a classic children's fairy-tale, and many more things besides: *The Little Prince* is a book for everyone; after all, all grown-ups were children once.

Using an easy-to-reference format, experienced editor Michael Seidman shows writers how to approach fiction editing from three angles: macro editing, style editing and market editing. Writers will learn to reread their manuscript paying close attention to the continuity of narrative elements, such as point of view, characterization, sequencing and dialogue. After revising and rearranging these elements, writers will edit stylistic aspects, scanning their work with foolproof techniques that ensure proper spelling, grammar and word choice. This guide also teaches how to edit work from a marketing perspective, so writers can keep the expectations of their readership firmly in mind as they title their manuscripts and write their submissions.

Michael Seidman is currently senior mystery editor at Walker. Previously, he was editor-in-chief at Mysterious Press, as well as an editor for several other publishing houses. He has written for a variety of publications, including *Writer's Digest*. Seidman lectures at more than a dozen writing conferences every year and lives in New York City.

Covers characterization, exposition, point of view,

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dialogue, proportion, and voice

"These days, most creative-writing courses teach self-indulgence. Write Tight counsels discipline. It is worth more than a university education. Its advice is gold."

-Dean Koontz Foreword by Lawrence Sanders Not since The Elements of Style has a writing guide had the ability to turn a writer's work around so effectively. Every writer struggles with keeping their prose focused and concise, but surprisingly few books address this essential topic. Write Tight is an informative and utterly readable guide that tackles these issues head-on. William Brohaugh, former editor of Writer's Digest, goes beyond the discussion on redundancy and overwriting to take on evasiveness, affectations, roundabout writing, tangents and "invisible" words. Other topics include: -Outlining the four levels of wordiness -Identifying 16 types of flabby writing -Exercises that help writers avoid wordiness -Streamlining through sidebars and checklists -Tests that show how concise a writer's prose is "Write Tight is a supremely valuable, 'must-have' for aspiring writers in all fields from prose to nonfiction, journalistic copy, screenwriting and so much more." -Midwest Book Review

Take your first draft from so-so to sold! You've finished the first draft of your novel--congratulations! Time to have a drink, sit back...and start revising. But the revision process doesn't have to be intimidating. Revision and Self-Editing for Publication, Second Edition gives you the tools and advice you need to transform your first draft into a finished manuscript that agents and editors will fight for. Inside you'll find:

- Self-editing techniques for

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plot, structure, character, theme, voice, and more that can be applied as you're writing to reduce your revision workload. • Methods for fine-tuning your first draft into a tight, well-developed piece of literature. • The Ultimate Revision Checklist, which seamlessly guides you through the revision process, step by step. • New Chapter! Exercises and techniques for "deepening" your work to engage and excite readers like never before. Whether you're writing a novel currently or have finished the first draft, *Revision and Self-Editing for Publication, Second Edition* will give you the guidance you need to revise your manuscript into a novel ready to be sold.

The fastest way to succeed as an author is to write more books. How do you do that with a day job, family, school or all your other time commitments? The secret is efficiency. 5K WPH will help you maximize your writing time by building effective habits that both measure and increase your writing speed. - Create an effective writing habit- Track and improve your Words Per Hour- Stop the endless editing and tinkering so you can finish your draft- Use voice dictation software to dramatically increase words per hour. It's time to shift your writing into high gear.

Each year thousands of fiction writers, from beginners to bestselling author, benefit from Sol Stein's sold-out workshops, featured appearances at writers' conferences, software for writers, on-line columns, and his popular first book for writers, *Stein on Writing*. Stein practices what he teaches: He is the author of nine novels, including the million-copy bestseller *The Magician*, as well as editor of such major writers as

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James Baldwin, Jack Higgins, Elia Kazan, Budd Schulberg, W. H. Auden, and Jacques Barzun, and the teacher and editor of several current bestselling authors. What sets Stein apart is his practical approach. He provides specific techniques that speed writers to successful publication. *How to Grow a Novel* is not just a book, but an invaluable workshop in print. It includes details and examples from Stein's editorial work with a #1 bestselling novelist as well as talented newcomers. Stein takes the reader backstage in the development of memorable characters and fascinating plots. The chapter on dialogue overflows with solutions for short-story writers, novelists, screenwriters, and playwrights. Stein shows what readers are looking for-- and what they avoid-- in the experience of reading fiction. The book offers guidelines-- and warnings-- of special value for nonfiction writers who want to move into fiction. Stein points to the little, often overlooked things that damage the writer's authority without the writer knowing it. And this book, like no other writing book, takes the reader behind the scenes of the publishing business as it affects writers of every level of experience, revealing the hard truths that are kept behind shut doors.

A LIST OF 1,000 VERBS Are you searching for stronger verbs for your works of fiction? Aren't we all? This booklet contains a list of 1,000 strong verbs to help you replace the weaker verbs in your fiction writing as you self-edit your work. Ready to weed out the weak verbs and not-so-helpful adverbs in your writing and replace them with strong verbs? Let's get started! Indie Author Resources Book 2

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The fast and easy way to write your memoir Memoir writing is a growing phenomenon, and not just by celebrities and politicians. Everyone has a story to tell, and Memoir Writing For Dummies provides hopeful writers with the tools they need to share their life stories with the world and become published authors. With easy-to-follow, step-by-step instructions—along with helpful tips and advice on how to get published—Memoir Writing For Dummies shows you how to put pen to paper and hone the craft of writing a truly compelling memoir. You'll get advice on how to explore your memories, map out your story, perfect your plot, setting, character, and dialogue, and so much more. Includes tips on getting over writer's block Guides you through every step of the writing and editing processes Covers the best ways to market a finished memoir Packed with proven tips and writing tricks of the trade, Memoir Writing For Dummies gives you everything you need to ensure your life story is never forgotten.

Craft an Engaging Plot How does plot influence story structure? What's the difference between plotting for commercial and literary fiction? How do you revise a plot or structure that's gone off course? With Write Great Fiction: Plot & Structure, you'll discover the answers to these questions and more. Award-winning author James Scott Bell offers clear, concise information that will help you create a believable and memorable plot, including:

- Techniques for crafting strong beginnings, middles, and ends
- Easy-to-understand plotting diagrams and charts
- Brainstorming techniques for original plot ideas
- Thought-provoking exercises at the end of each chapter
- Story structure models and methods for all genres
- Tips and tools for correcting

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common plot problems Filled with plot examples from popular novels, comprehensive checklists, and practical hands-on guidance, *Write Great Fiction: Plot & Structure* gives you the skills you need to approach plot and structure like an experienced pro.

The revolutionary literary vision that sowed the seeds of Objectivism, Ayn Rand's groundbreaking philosophy, and brought her immediate worldwide acclaim. This modern classic is the story of intransigent young architect Howard Roark, whose integrity was as unyielding as granite...of Dominique Francon, the exquisitely beautiful woman who loved Roark passionately, but married his worst enemy...and of the fanatic denunciation unleashed by an enraged society against a great creator. As fresh today as it was then, Rand's provocative novel presents one of the most challenging ideas in all of fiction—that man's ego is the fountainhead of human progress... "A writer of great power. She has a subtle and ingenious mind and the capacity of writing brilliantly, beautifully, bitterly...This is the only novel of ideas written by an American woman that I can recall."—The New York Times

Editing is a tricky business. It requires analytical flair and creative panache, the patience of a saint and the vision of a writer. Transforming a manuscript into a book that edifies, inspires, and sells? That's the job of the developmental editor, whose desk is the first stop for many manuscripts on the road to bookdom—a route ably mapped out in the pages of *Developmental Editing*. Author Scott Norton has worked with a diverse range of authors, editors, and publishers, and his handbook provides an approach to developmental editing that is logical, collaborative, humorous, and realistic. He starts with the core tasks of shaping the proposal, finding the hook, and building the narrative or argument, and then turns to the hard work of executing the plan and establishing a style. *Developmental Editing* includes detailed case studies

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featuring a variety of nonfiction books—election-year polemic, popular science, memoir, travel guide—and authors ranging from first-timer to veteran, journalist to scholar. Handy sidebars offer advice on how to become a developmental editor, create effective illustration programs, and adapt sophisticated fiction techniques (such as point of view, suspense, plotting, character, and setting) to nonfiction writing. Norton's book also provides freelance copyeditors with a way to earn higher fees while introducing more creativity into their work lives. It gives acquisitions, marketing, and production staff a vocabulary for diagnosing a manuscript's flaws and techniques for transforming it into a bestseller. And perhaps most importantly, *Developmental Editing* equips authors with the concrete tools they need to reach their audiences.

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

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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.

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