

## Writing Irresistible Kidlit The Ultimate Guide To Crafting Fiction For Young Adult And Middle Grade Readers Mary Kole

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 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.

Some kids refuse to read, others won't stop – not even at the dinner table! Either way, many parents question the best way to support their child's literacy journey. When can you start reading to your child? How do you find that special book to inspire a reluctant reader? What can you do to keep your tween reading into their adolescent years? Award-winning teacher librarian Megan Daley, the passionate voice behind the *Children's Books Daily* blog, has the answers to all these questions and more. She unpacks her twenty years of experience into this personable and accessible guide, enhanced with up-to-date research and firsthand accounts from well-known Australian children's authors. It also contains practical tips, such as suggested reading lists and instructions on how to run book-themed activities. *Raising Readers* is a must-have resource for parents and educators to help the children in their lives fall in love with books.

*Writing Irresistible Kidlit* The Ultimate Guide to Crafting Fiction for Young Adult and Middle Grade Readers Penguin

This anthology of 58 articles, interviews, memoirs, and critical and personal essays gives students convenient and affordable access to a wide variety of important selections that discuss the theory and practice of fiction writing. The readings are accompanied by questions that encourage critical reading, as well as writing activities that invite creative responses. A compact writing workshop included guides students in drafting and revising their stories.

Want to write a novel? This book is the motivation you need! Part writing guide and part memoir, this inspiring book from the author of *Flipped* and *The Running Dream* is like *Bird by Bird* for YA readers and writers. Wendelin Van Draanen didn't grow up wanting to be a writer, but thirty books later, she's convinced that writing saved her life. Or, at least, saved her from a life of bitterness and despair. Writing helped her sort out what she thought and felt and wanted. And digging deep into fictional characters helped her

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understand the real people in her life better as well. Wendelin shares what she's learned--about writing, life, and what it takes to live the writing life. This book is packed with practical advice on the craft: about how to create characters and plot a story that's exciting to read. But maybe even more helpful is the insight she provides into the persistence, and perseverance, it takes to live a productive, creative life. And she answers the age-old question Where do you get your ideas? by revealing how events in her own life became the seeds of her best-loved novels. *Hope in the Mail* is a wildly inspirational read for anyone with a story to share.

Randy and Oliver Melendy awake one fall morning full of gloom. Their brother and sister are away, the house seems forlorn and empty, and even Cuffy, their adored housekeeper, can't pick up their spirits. Will they have to face a long and lonely winter? But a surprise message in the mailbox starts a trail of excitement and adventure that takes them through the cold season. When summer finally comes around again, the children have found fourteen messages in all, and the end of the search brings them a rich reward. Full of unforgettable moments (like finding a secret note tucked under the dog's collar) and delightful twists of language (the more challenging clues, the better), this fourth book in Elizabeth Enright's *Melendy Quartet* makes for a grand finale to an equally grand collection of stories. *Spiderweb for Two* is the fourth and final installment of Enright's *Melendy Quartet*, an engaging and warm series about the close-knit Melendy family and their surprising adventures.

This master class in writing children's and young adult novels will teach you everything you need to know to write and publish a great book. The best children's and young adult novels take readers on wonderful outward adventures and stirring inward journeys. In *The Magic Words*, editor Cheryl B. Klein guides writers on an enjoyable and practical-minded voyage of their own, from developing a saleable premise for a novel to finding a dream agent. She delves deep into the major elements of fiction—intention, character, plot, and voice—while addressing important topics like diversity, world-building, and the differences between middle-grade and YA novels. In addition, the book's exercises, questions, and straightforward rules of thumb help writers apply these insights to their own creative works. With its generous tone and useful tools for story analysis and revision, *The Magic Words* is an essential handbook for writers of children's and young adult fiction.

Her fans—and she has many—love Gayle Forman for her tear-jerking books about teenagers living through life-changing experiences. The free-spirited child of supportive, unconventional parents, Forman spent years traveling the world as a young woman. Though Forman is now a major YA novelist, she started out as a journalist. Her first big success was the novel *If I Stay*, which was subsequently made into a movie starring Chloë Grace Moretz. The novels *Where She Went*, *Just One Day*, *Just One Year*, and *I Was Here* followed. Forman is big believer in the intelligence of teens and the worth of YA literature. Sure to be a hit with Forman's many enthusiastic fans.

"The first critical step in self-publishing your book is finding a great editor. Sarah's book will pay for itself 100 times over." —Mark Levine, CEO of Hillcrest Media Group and author of *The Fine Print of Self-Publishing* Even in self-publishing—perhaps especially in self-publishing—editing remains a critical step toward publishing a high-quality, professional book. But how do new authors go from finishing their first manuscripts to actually working with an editor? For authors new to independent

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publishing, the idea of hiring a professional editor can be daunting. Concerns may include: What does an editor do? Do I really need an editor for my book? How do I know what kind of editing my book needs? Where can I find beta readers? How can I find a great editor when I'm not an editor myself? How to Hire an Editor shows authors new to the publishing process how to make sure their manuscripts receive the editorial attention they deserve, even with a self-publisher's unique production schedule, budget constraints, and publishing goals. Author and editor Sarah Kolb-Williams provides an in-depth look at the editing process squarely from a self-publishing perspective. She breaks the complex world of editing down into manageable pieces, making the entire process a little more accessible and a little less overwhelming for authors who have never worked with a professional editor before. If you know you need editing but you're just not sure where to start, How to Hire an Editor will demystify the process. You'll discover effective ways to self-edit, work with beta readers, avoid scams and unqualified editors, and find the perfect editor for your book.

To celebrate 40 years of culinary creativity and recipe precision, the Canadian Living Test Kitchen have brought together 300+ of their must-have, must-cook recipes. From appetizers to desserts—and everything in between—this is the ultimate Canadian Living cookbook, celebrating the modern, fresh and healthy way Canadians like to eat. In this book, you will find 300+ recipes for dishes of all kinds, from appetizers to desserts; helpful resource section, with lists of substitutions, temperature and doneness charts, and cooking reference information; 100+ colour photographs; helpful cooking, shopping and preparing tips scattered throughout; complete index that groups all recipes into helpful categories, search by type of recipe (such as soup or frittata), ingredient (such as turkey or cherries) or recipe name and full nutrient analysis of each recipe. Chapters include: • Appetizers, Dips and Spreads • Soups • Salads • Side Dishes • Poultry Mains • Beef & Lamb Mains • Pork Mains • Fish & Seafood Mains • Pasta, Noodles and Dumplings • Eggs & Breakfast • Quick Breads • Yeast Breads • Sauces & Preserves • Pies & Tarts • Cakes • Desserts

Provides writing samples and vocabulary appropriate for grades one through six and lists synonyms of various reading levels for hundreds of words

The most trusted guide to the world of children's publishing! If you write or illustrate for young readers with the hope of getting published, the 2014 Children's Writer's & Illustrator's Market is the trusted resource you need. Now in its 26th edition, CWIM is the definitive publishing guide for anyone who seeks to write or illustrate for kids and young adults. Inside you'll find more than 650 listings for children's book markets (publishers, agents, magazines, and more)--including a point of contact, how to properly submit your work, and what categories each market accepts. You'll also find: • Interviews with some of today's hottest authors and illustrators, including author R.L. Stine (the Goosebumps series), author Marie Lu (Legend), author Beth Revis (Across the Universe), and illustrator Debbie Ridpath (I'm Bored, written by Michael Ian Black). • The ever-popular "First Books" article, where debut writers and illustrators explain what they did right and how you can follow in their footsteps to

success. • In-depth articles on picture books, query letters, novel voice, author platform, the status of indie-publishing, literary agents, and more. Includes "New Agent Spotlights"--profiles on literary reps actively seeking new writers of children's books right now. "I buy a copy of Children's Writer's & Illustrator's Market every single year. It's the definitive, must-have resource for children's publishing." --Jesse Klausmeier, author of the picture book *Open This Little Book* "Children's Writer's & Illustrator's Market is a great resource for artists and writers who are ready to share their talent with the world." --Meg Cabot, author of *The Princess Diaries*

With over one million copies sold, this series of modern classics about the charming Penderwick family from National Book Award winner and New York Times bestseller Jeanne Birdsall is perfect for fans of Noel Streatfeild and Edward Eager. This summer the Penderwick sisters have a wonderful surprise: a holiday on the grounds of a beautiful estate called Arundel. Soon they are busy discovering the summertime magic of Arundel's sprawling gardens, treasure-filled attic, tame rabbits, and the cook who makes the best gingerbread in Massachusetts. But the best discovery of all is Jeffrey Tifton, son of Arundel's owner, who quickly proves to be the perfect companion for their adventures. The icy-hearted Mrs. Tifton is not as pleased with the Penderwicks as Jeffrey is, though, and warns the new friends to stay out of trouble. Which, of course, they will—won't they? One thing's for sure: it will be a summer the Penderwicks will never forget. Deliciously nostalgic and quaintly witty, this is a story as breezy and carefree as a summer day.

Dorothy Hartley's *FOOD IN ENGLAND* became an instant classic when it was first published in 1954, and has had a deep influence on countless English cooks and food writers since. Hartley's love of the infinite variety of English cooking and her knowledge of British culture and history show why our food should never be considered dull or limited. There are unusual dishes such as the Cornish Onion and Apple Pie, and she describes some delicious puddings, cakes and breads, including an exotic violet flower ice cream, an eighteenth century coconut bread and Yorkshire teacakes. An irresistible window into centuries of culture, and illuminated with Hartley's own lively illustrations, *FOOD IN ENGLAND* is an unforgettable tour through culinary history and a unique insight into England's past.

When eleven-year-old Gregor falls through a grate in the laundry room of his apartment building, he hurtles into the dark Underland, where spiders, rats and giant cockroaches coexist uneasily with humans. This world is on the brink of war, and Gregor's arrival is no accident. Gregor has a vital role to play in the Underland's uncertain future.

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

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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.

For devotees of *Bird by Bird* and *The Artist's Way*, a memoir-driven guide to healing through the craft of writing Francesca Lia Block is the bestselling author of more than twenty-five books, including the award-winning Weetzie Bat series. Her writing has been called "transcendent" by *The New York Times*, and her books have been included in "best of" lists compiled by *Time* magazine and NPR. In this long-anticipated guide to the craft of writing, Block offers an intimate glimpse of an artist at work and a detailed guide to help readers channel their own experiences and creative energy. Sharing visceral insights and powerful exercises, she gently guides us down the write-to-heel path, revealing at each turn the intrinsic value of channeling our experiences onto the page. Named for the painting by Frida Kahlo, who famously transformed her own personal suffering into art, *The Thorn Necklace* offers lessons on life, love, and the creative process.

"The cinema-worthy rom-com of your summer reading dreams." —*Bustle* "A sparkling summer story ideal for teens who are on that bittersweet cusp of change." —*Booklist* "[A] romantic comedy of errors." —*Publishers Weekly* *Father of the Bride* meets *Sixteen Candles* in the latest novel from *New York Times* bestselling author Morgan Matson. Charlie Grant's older sister is getting married this weekend at their family home, and Charlie can't wait—for the first time in years, all four of her older siblings will be under one roof. Charlie is desperate for one last perfect weekend, before the house is sold and everything changes. The house will be filled with jokes and games and laughs again. Making decisions about things like what college to attend and reuniting with longstanding crush Jesse Foster—all that can wait. She wants to focus on making the weekend perfect. The only problem? The weekend is shaping up to be an absolute disaster. There's the unexpected dog with a penchant for howling, house alarm that won't stop going off, and a papergirl with a grudge. There are the relatives who aren't speaking, the (awful) girl her favorite brother brought home unannounced, and a missing tuxedo. Not to mention the neighbor who seems to be bent on sabotage and a storm that is bent on drenching everything. The justice of the peace is missing. The band will only play covers. The guests are all crazy. And the wedding planner's nephew is unexpectedly, distractingly...cute. Over the course of three ridiculously chaotic days, Charlie will learn more than she ever expected about the family she thought she knew by heart. And she'll realize that sometimes, trying to keep everything like it was in the past means missing out on the future.

Take your first draft from so-so to sold! You've finished the first draft of your

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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 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.

There's a big difference between getting paid for your writing and making a living from it. In this book, award-winning children's author Laura Purdie Salas shares insights and habits gained over 20+ years of writing (and related speaking and teaching) for kids. Her successes and failures are laid bare, in detail. You will learn:

- \* What kind of mindset adjustments must I make to build a career?\*
- \* Besides my book sales, what related writing and speaking can I do to earn money?\*
- \* What habits do many successful working writers have in common?\*
- \* How do I keep my writing business organized?\*
- \* What's the difference between networking and promotion, and do I really have to do either one of them?\*
- \* What conferences should I go to?\*
- \* How do I negotiate better contracts?\*
- \* How do I find some kind of balance between life and work?\*
- \* Why do I always have to handle the family appointments?\*
- \* How can I avoid professional humiliation or deal with it when it does happen?\*

And lots more. With honesty, tough love, and humor, Salas spreads out the business side of writing for a living. You'll gain a realistic view of how to approach and achieve a livable income as a writer. (And you'll know whether this field is for you, or whether you want to stick with your day job and write on the side for pure love!)

NOTE: About 80% of the information in this book applies to writers for adults and also other creatives. But since Salas is a children's writer, the examples come from the children's publishing world, and some information, like school visits, is particular to children's writers.

Laura Purdie Salas is the author of more than 125 books for children, including *Meet My Family!*, *If You Were the Moon*, the *Can Be* series, and *BookSpeak!* Recognition for her books includes starred reviews, the Minnesota Book Award, NCTE Notable Books, Bank Street Best Books, Riverby Award for Nature Books, Scholastic Book Club editions, foreign editions, and more. Salas has taught writers through classes, conferences, and online for many years.

"Making a Living is a practical guide focused on the Children's Literature business, but it is useful for any self-employed human being trying to make a living through creative work of any kind. Reading it affirmed many things I've learned over the years and gave me new ideas to try. It is a good resource to own and refer to over and over as the political climate, business climate, and one's personal life changes."--Georgia A. Greeley, artist, writer, and teacher

"I think most writers would love to sit down with a mentor over a cup of tea. Laura Purdie Salas's personal tone in *Making a Living as a Children's Writer* makes reading it feel like a conversation with her. It is FULL of information for every children's writer, and it's thorough. Not only does Laura share the details of how she makes a living writing for children, she guides the reader to do the same through personal experiences, tips, and next steps to take. Even as an experienced writer, I found nuggets (and heaps) of wisdom in every section. I appreciate how there is enough information in this book that Laura could have prepared a writing conference on the content...instead she makes this comprehensive book affordable and accessible for all of us."--Annette Whipple, children's writer

"If you want to make a living writing for children, or if you already do but want to up your game, don't pass on this book. It's the most thorough and informative book you'll find on this subject."--Avery Elizabeth Hurt, children's author

"Reading this book is like having a nice

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long chat with an experienced author--and learning from her years of experience!" --Buffy Silverman, author of nonfiction books and poetry for kids"Salas is an organizational, motivational whiz. Packed with specific, down-to-earth advice that will help both newbie and experienced writers set and reach career goals."--Michelle Schaub, author of Fresh-Picked Poetry: A Day at the Farmers'

If you want to write a book that's going to sell to both publishers and readers, you need to know how to produce a marketable work and help it become successful. It starts the moment you have an idea. That's when you begin thinking about the first elements of the business plan that will make your project the best it can be. The reality is that you don't want to spend time and energy writing a book that will never get read. The way to avoid that is to create a business plan for your book, and evaluate it (and yourself) through the same lens that an agent or acquisitions editor would. The Author Training Manual will show you how to get more creative and start looking at your work with those high standards in mind. Whether you're writing fiction or non-fiction, or intend to publish traditionally or self-publish, author Nina Amir will teach you how to conduct an effective competitive analysis for your work and do a better job at delivering the goods to readers than similar books that are already on the shelf. Packed with step-by-step instructions, idea evaluations, sample business plans, editor and agent commentaries, and much more, The Author Training Manual provides the information you need to transform from aspiring writer to career author.

The Most Trusted Guide to the World of Children's Publishing If you write or illustrate for young readers with the hope of getting published, the 2013 Children's Writer's & Illustrator's Market is the trusted resource you need. Now in its 25th edition, CWIM is the definitive publishing guide for anyone who seeks to write or illustrate for kids and young adults. Inside you'll find more than 650 listings for children's book markets (publishers, agents, magazines and more) - including a point of contact, how to properly submit your work, and what categories they're looking for. You'll also find:

- Profiles of debut authors who succeeded, as well as interviews with acclaimed novelists such as Garth Nix (The Old Kingdom and Seventh Tower series), Tamora Pierce (Song of the Lioness series) and Marissa Meyer (Cinder)
- A special roundup with more than 20 SCBWI advisors worldwide who share their best advice on how to get your children's book published and break out
- In-depth articles on topics such as picture book pacing, illustration, query letters, finding an agent, social media, craft and voice, writers' conferences and more!

PLEASE NOTE: Free subscriptions are NOT included with the e-book edition of this title.

Break into the Bestselling Young Adult Market with this Indispensable Guide! Whether you're just getting started or are on the hunt for an agent or publisher, Writing Great Books for Young Adults is your complete insider source on how to succeed in the flourishing world of YA fiction and nonfiction. In this updated and revised edition, veteran literary agent Regina L. Brooks offers invaluable advice for YA writers on everything from shaping your novel to crafting the perfect pitch for your book. Learn How To:

- Develop an authentic, engaging voice and writing style
- Construct dynamic plots that will resonate with readers
- Avoid common pitfalls related to tone and point of view
- Navigate the emerging genres of YA nonfiction and New Adult
- Create an exceptional query letter and proposal that will grab the attention of agents and publishers

You'll also discover how successful film adaptations like Harry Potter and The Hunger Games have broadened the market for your book. Filled with tips and advice from agents, editors, and popular YA authors, Writing Great Books for Young Adults is your ticket to an incredible YA career! "Brooks offers writers who are serious about attracting teen readers solid guidance through the creation process of writing YA fiction."—Library Journal

Fascinating and disturbing." —Jodi Picoult, #1 New York Times bestselling author of Small Great Things and Leaving Time A timeless exploration of high-stakes romance, self-discovery, and the lengths we go to love and be loved. Sixteen-year-old Zarin Wadia is many things: a

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bright and vivacious student, an orphan, a risk taker. She's also the kind of girl that parents warn their kids to stay away from: a troublemaker whose many romances are the subject of endless gossip at school. You don't want to get involved with a girl like that, they say. So how is it that eighteen-year-old Porus Dumasia has only ever had eyes for her? And how did Zarin and Porus end up dead in a car together, crashed on the side of a highway in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia? When the religious police arrive on the scene, everything everyone thought they knew about Zarin is questioned. And as her story is pieced together, told through multiple perspectives, it becomes clear that she was far more than just a girl like that. This beautifully written debut novel from Tanaz Bhathena reveals a rich and wonderful new world to readers; tackles complicated issues of race, identity, class, and religion; and paints a portrait of teenage ambition, angst, and alienation that feels both inventive and universal.

Get schooled in the art of writing fiction for teens Writing & Selling the YA Novel offers a complete lesson plan for writing and publishing fiction for teens. Structured like a day of high school, award-winning young adult novelist K.L. Going takes her students through every stage of YA writing. Learn how the YA genre has developed in History class. Toss around ideas during Gym. Create authentic teen characters in "English class". Craft convincing plots during Lunch. Add it all up in Math as you learn about agents and contracts. Along the way you'll find plenty of "homework" exercises to help you hone your skills - as well as input from actual teen readers. At the end of your school day, you'll have all the knowledge a young adult author needs to write a book that speaks to teen readers - and get it published.

Rocket loves books and he wants to make his own, but he can't think of a story. Encouraged by the little yellow bird to look closely at the world around him for inspiration, Rocket sets out on a journey. Along the way he discovers small details that he has never noticed before, a timid baby owl who becomes his friend, and an idea for a story. This irresistible sequel to the New York Times bestseller How Rocket Learned to Read—complete with audio narration—is sure to appeal to kids, parents, teachers, and librarians. This ebook includes Read & Listen audio narration.

The "story of a family, a ... portrait of a town, and one boy's quest to save both"--Amazon.com. Write 10K in a Day is an author must have! Award winning and bestselling author, Lydia Michaels, approaches author success in three parts: Health & Wellness, Business, and Craft. Write 10K in a Day mingles technique, knowledge, and humor in a helpful, easy-to-follow text that teaches everything, from reversing the effects of burnout, to running an author business, to the powerful art of characterization and plot building. Michaels's experience in the book industry provides keen perspective on important subjects such as writing an irresistible hook, pitching to publishers, building an audience, and surviving an oversaturated market. In this surprisingly touching and honest appraisal of the challenges faced by authors today, Michaels proves high word count and happiness can coexist. She offers a complete curriculum for writers at any level and teaches concise strategies through manageable, pragmatic lessons that educate, inspire, and address the reality of surviving and thriving as an authorpreneur. Start living your best author life, and return a sense of joy to the job.

This practical, student-centered text for advanced composition courses helps students develop a distinctive voice—the quality that distinguishes excellent writing from competent writing. It invokes both traditional rhetoric and exploratory individual and collaborative settings in a workshop—rather than rulebook—approach.

"Milanes has created authentic characters with family issues that reflect the world we live in...Refreshing." —The New York Times Book Review "Heartfelt and smart." —Lilliam Rivera, author of The Education of Margot Sanchez "Funny and affecting, well-balanced, and simply fun." —Kirkus Reviews "An entertaining novel for all teen collections." —School Library Journal A Cuban-American teen navigates social anxiety, her father's remarriage, and being torn between two very cute boys in this "genuine and humorous" (Booklist) contemporary



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novel—perfect for fans of Morgan Matson and Kasie West. Ever since her mom died three years ago, Analee Echevarria has had trouble saying out loud the weird thoughts that sit in her head. With a best friend who hates her and a dad who's marrying a yogi she can't stand, Analee spends most of her time avoiding reality and role-playing as Kiri, the night elf hunter at the center of her favorite online game. Through Kiri, Analee is able to express everything real-life Analee cannot: her bravery, her strength, her inner warrior. The one thing both Kiri and Analee can't do, though, is work up the nerve to confess her romantic feelings for Kiri's partner-in-crime, Xolkar—a.k.a. a teen boy named Harris whom Analee has never actually met in person. So when high school heartthrob Seb Matias asks Analee to pose as his girlfriend in an attempt to make his ex jealous, Analee agrees. Sure, Seb seems kind of obnoxious, but Analee could use some practice connecting with people in real life. In fact, it'd maybe even help her with Harris. But the more Seb tries to coax Analee out of her comfort zone, the more she starts to wonder if her anxious, invisible self is even ready for the real world. Can Analee figure it all out without losing herself in the process?

A 31st-century boy and a 21st-century girl team up to save the universe, evade an evil race of bog mutants, and make a quick pit stop to visit the moon in Dimension Why. John Cusick's middle grade debut will transport you to a vast fantasy world full of absurd humor that will keep you gasping all the way to the twist ending .Lola Ray was a normal 21st-century girl until a poorly timed sneeze in an X-ray machine flung her a thousand years into the future. To get back home, she'll have to team up with Phineas T. Fogg, a 31st-century boy whose only friend up until now has been his talking teddy bear and whose overprotective parents have never let him leave his high-tech apartment. Together, Lola and Phin will have to cross the galaxy, brave a mysterious invitation to tea, and escape a race of all-powerful interdimensional beings who are convinced that Lola knows the answer to the universe's biggest question . . . the question of The End.

Congratulations! You've finished a novel. What an accomplishment! Now what? Now, you need a innovative, in-depth guide to revision. Why Revise? Before revision: Nice Story After revision: Richer, deeper-the novel of your dreams. Novice or Seasoned: For aspiring novelists, mid-list novelists who want to break out, novelists who want to self-publish-successfully, writers who have completed NaNoWriMo but don't know what to do next, and writing critique groups looking for a way to help each other to the next level. Revising has never been easier Systematically inventory and diagnose your manuscript Visually manipulate your manuscript to identify problems Transform dull characters into fascinating, memorable people Strengthen the narrative and emotional arcs Sharpen dialogue Morph dull settings into backdrops that set the mood Enliven narrated events by selecting the right details Use language with confidence Add depth with narrative patterning In-depth professional development Plan your novel's metamorphosis The Results A stronger, richer, deeper story, a story that makes readers weep and cry and turn the next page. Novel Metamorphosis, unlike most books on revision, turns theory into radical new tools which are practical, tangible, concrete. Cut straight to the heart of your manuscript's problem Develop your writing and editing skills Understand the critical underlying structure of your story Learn theory as you work Spark in-depth discussions in your critique group

Fifteen-year-old Laurel Goodwin wakes up to find her older sister Ivy missing from their Airstream trailer in the Oregon redwoods. A recurring nightmare convinces her that Ivy was abducted, but no one takes her dream seriously, including her mom. Laurel, a loner, has to learn to ask for help, and Jasper Blake, a mysterious new kid who shares her love of old books, quickly becomes her ally. Together they find their quiet town holds a deep secret and is the epicenter of a dark prophecy. Laurel soon learns that her worst enemies, mean girls Peyton Andersen and Mei Rosen, are developing powers that she needs to find and save Ivy. With time running out, Laurel realizes that power doesn't always take the form that you expect.

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And once she learns to look beyond her snap judgments, she develops an unexpected gift of her own.

Learn how to write young adult fiction with imagination and verve. This is an authoritative and engaging introduction to writing young adult fiction for the complete beginner. It will help you understand how the genre works, the big do's and don't's - as well as giving you the inspiration and motivation you actually need to write. Written by a leading literary agent who knows what it takes to make it in this market, this book will give you the advice and tips you need to stand out. An essential book for anyone hoping to emulate the success and addictive qualities that characterize books like *The Hunger Games*, *Twilight*, *Divergent* and *The Fault in Our Stars*. ABOUT THE SERIES The Teach Yourself Creative Writing series helps aspiring authors tell their story. Covering a range of genres from science fiction and romantic novels, to illustrated children's books and comedy, this series is 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 at [tyjustwrite](http://tyjustwrite.com), for budding authors and successful writers to connect and share.

Ghost stories from Texas's capitol have never been so creepy, fun, and full of mystery! The haunted history of Austin comes to life--even when the main players are dead. Chat with the ghosts who roam the hallways of the capitol building downtown. Or visit Mount Bonnell and learn about Antonia, who threw herself from the cliffs after her fiancé perished trying to rescue her. Learn the history of the great flood of 1900 and then witness the ghostly orbs at Lake McDonald. Are they the spirits of the dead? Dive into this spooky chapter book for suspenseful tales of bumps in the night, paranormal investigations, and the unexplained; just be sure to keep the light on.

Wickedly ingenious and surreal ideas for all the little fluffy rabbits in this world who just don't want to live anymore, with bonus material from Andy Riley's sketchbook.

It's been two months since Travis's family moved to a development so new that it seems totally unreal. His parents are working harder now, to pay for it all, and Travis is left to fend for himself. There's one place, though, where Travis can still connect with his old life: the Salinas library. Travis and his family used to go there together every Saturday, but now he bikes to it alone, re-reading his favorite books. It's only natural that Travis likes the work of author John Steinbeck—after all, Salinas is Steinbeck's hometown. But that can't explain why Travis is suddenly seeing Steinbeck's characters spring to life. There's the homeless man in the alley behind the library, the line of figures at the top of a nearby ridge, the boy who writes by night in an attic bedroom. Travis has met them all before—as a reader. But why are they here now? And how? As Travis struggles to solve this mystery, budget cuts threaten his library. And so, he embarks on a journey through Steinbeck's beautiful California landscape, looking for a way to save his safe haven. It's only then that he begins to sort out fact from fiction, discovering the many ways a story can come alive—and stumbling into a story Steinbeck might have started, and Travis needs to complete. Here is a mystery that delves deeply into the ways that books take us, one at a time, out into the vast world.

Discover the Tricks and Tools of the Pros Successful writers write, rather than just think about writing, talk about writing, or plan what they'll write when they get a cabin in the woods. Yet even accomplished writers sometimes get "blocked," losing access to their in-the-zone writing mind. Steve O'Keefe offers proven techniques and practices for jump-starting stalled ideas, honed during his many years of working in virtually every aspect of publishing. His innovative, often unconventional exercises will get you writing and accessing your own unique voice — a voice the world wants to read! Containing a career's worth of writing and publishing savvy, as well as the advice of expert authors gleaned from hundreds of interviews, *Set the Page on Fire* is the kind of nuts-and-bolts coaching and encouragement invaluable to novice and veteran writers alike.

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"I had everything I needed to run a household: a house, food, and a new family. From now on it would just be me and Sammy—the two of us, and no one else." A tragic accident has turned eleven-year-old Aubrey's world upside down. Starting a new life all alone, Aubrey has everything she thinks she needs: SpaghettiOs and Sammy, her new pet fish. She cannot talk about what happened to her. Writing letters is the only thing that feels right to Aubrey, even if no one ever reads them. With the aid of her loving grandmother and new friends, Aubrey learns that she is not alone, and gradually, she finds the words to express feelings that once seemed impossible to describe. The healing powers of friendship, love, and memory help Aubrey take her first steps toward the future. Readers will care for Aubrey from page one and will watch her grow until the very end, when she has to make one of the biggest decisions of her life. Love, Aubrey is devastating, brave, honest, funny, and hopeful, and it introduces a remarkable new writer, Suzanne LaFleur. No matter how old you are, this book is not to be missed.

Master the Art of Writing Enthralling Tales for the Youngest pre-and emerging readers! Fully updated and thoroughly revised, *Writing Picture Books Revised and Expanded Edition* is the go-to resource for writers crafting stories for children ages two to eight. You'll learn the unique set of skills it takes to bring your story to life by using tightly focused text and leaving room for the illustrator to be creative. Award-winning author Ann Whitford Paul helps you develop the skills you need by walking you through techniques and exercises specifically for picture book writers. You'll find:

- Instruction on generating ideas, creating characters, point-of-view, beginnings and endings, plotting, word count, rhyme, and more
- Unique methods for using poetic techniques to enrich your writing
- Hands-on revision exercises (get out your scissors, tape, and highlighters) to help identify problems and improve your picture book manuscripts
- Updated tips for researching the changing picture book market, approaching publishers, working with an agent, and developing a platform
- All new quizzes and examples from picture books throughout
- New chapters cover issues such as page turns, agents, and self-publishing

Whether you're just starting out as a picture book writer or have tried unsuccessfully to get your work published, *Writing Picture Books Revised and Expanded Edition* is just what you need to craft picture books that will appeal to young children and parents, and agents and editors. Oz and Lily's family have inherited an ancient chocolate shop and they're moving in upstairs. It's the perfect home ... apart from the small fact that it's haunted. And then they discover some solid gold chocolate moulds - with magic powers! Soon the ghosts are joined by some evil villains determined to get their hands on the priceless secrets of the magical chocolate.

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