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## Online Writing Critique Groups

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Elements of Critique

The Love Letters of Abelard and Lily

Blood Water Paint

How to Write a Novel

Some Daddies

The Great Caper Caper

Poe Dameron: Free Fall

DIY MFA

The Augmented Man

Shatter Me

Writers' & Artists' Yearbook 2021

Creating Characters

The Snow Child

Highland Games

Writing Irresistible Kidlit

The Freelance Content Marketing Writer

A Good Girl's Guide to Murder

Dozens of Doughnuts

The Anatomy of Story

Don't Hug Doug

The Local News

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Six Thinking Hats

The Writing & Critique Group Survival Guide

A Little Life

My Pet Feet

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Word Weavers

The Big Scream

Handling the Truth

Letters To Leonardo

In the Company of Patriots

Heliconia Summer

The Storytelling Coach

A Swim in a Pond in the Rain

The Artful Edit: On the Practice of Editing Yourself

No Red Pen

The Book Proposal Book

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## **BRENNAN SCHNEIDER**

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Elements of Critique Random House

Every writer needs a critique group for encouragement, feedback, motivation and inspiration. Word Weavers tells you how to form and maintain just such a group.

The Love Letters of Abelard and Lily Beaming Books

"Brilliant, time-tested and clear" advice that will help writers at all stages, in all genres, write their very best book-and then make it better. As a freelance editor for more than a decade, Williams has shepherded books from rough draft to polished manuscripts bought by Big Five houses, university and literary presses, and for independent publishers. Now, she distills everything she's learned from editing hundreds of drafts, coaching writers past creative blocks, and navigating authors through querying and publication, into this useful guide for every step from idea to book. *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. Williams' 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. With plenty of fresh examples, insider wisdom, and snappy footnotes, *Seven Drafts* teaches story, character, elements of writing craft and structure, how to seek and use feedback, and the publication process.

**Blood Water Paint** Union Square Press

Trying to Finish Your Book? There's Strength in Numbers Whether you're trying to revise your novel or polish up an article to pitch to magazines, it pays to have a few sets of eyes look over your work. But, how can you be sure you're getting an unbiased and objective opinion? A writing critique group may be the answer you're looking for, and this book arms you with everything you need to find a group that suits your specific writing needs. Whether you're looking to join an existing group or start one of your own, you'll learn how to:

- Find compatible critique partners
- Develop your "editor's eye" and analyze writing like a professional
- Construct organized and well thought-out critiques
- Give and receive constructive feedback
- Run efficient critique meetings and maintain a good group dynamic
- Apply the feedback you receive to your own writing and make revisions

Complete with worksheets, sample critiques and examples, *The Writing & Critique Group Survival Guide* gives you tools to hone your editing skills and deepen your understanding of how to revise your own work as well as someone else's. With the help of this guide your writing critique group can be a helpful resource for you and your writing partners for years to come.

**How to Write a Novel** *The Love Letters of Abelard and Lily*

In this magical debut, a couple's lives are changed forever by the arrival of a little girl, wild and secretive, on their snowy doorstep. Alaska, 1920: a brutal place to homestead, and especially tough for recent arrivals Jack and Mabel. Childless, they are drifting apart -- he breaking under the weight of the work of the farm; she crumbling from loneliness and despair. In a moment of levity during the season's first snowfall, they build a child out of snow. The next morning the snow child is gone -- but they glimpse a young, blonde-haired girl running through the trees. This little girl, who calls herself

Faina, seems to be a child of the woods. She hunts with a red fox at her side, skims lightly across the snow, and somehow survives alone in the Alaskan wilderness. As Jack and Mabel struggle to understand this child who could have stepped from the pages of a fairy tale, they come to love her as their own daughter. But in this beautiful, violent place things are rarely as they appear, and what they eventually learn about Faina will transform all of them.

**Some Daddies** Princeton University Press

Lily, who has attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, and Abelard, who has Asperger's, meet in detention and discover a mutual affinity for love letters--and, despite their differences, each other.

The Great Caper Caper Delacorte Press

Edward de Bono's *Six Thinking Hats* is the groundbreaking psychology manual that has inspired organisations and individuals all over the world. De Bono's innovative guide divides the process of thinking into six parts, symbolized by the six hats, and shows how the hats can dramatically transform the effectiveness of meetings and discussions. This is a book to open your mind, unleash your creativity and change the way you think about thinking.

**Poe Dameron: Free Fall** Simon and Schuster

The fifth book in the popular picture book series featuring Lady Pancake and Sir French Toast! When Lady Pancake and Sir French Toast awake one morning to near-darkness, they are aghast. Who would steal the fridge light? And what if the fridge is--gasp--dark all the time? Not to worry. Our trusty heroes are on the case. They gather the best of the best to investigate. Miss Brie, Baron von Waffle, and their friends put together blueprints, collect supplies, and, for good measure, take pictures in disguise. Will they be able to bring the fridge back to its bright self, or will they have to live in semi-darkness . . . forever?

**DIY MFA** Penguin

The Grand Master of Science Fiction's "monumental" epic continues as Helliconia nears its larger star—and a strange visitor joins its civilization (The Times, London). A handful of centuries on, Helliconia is close to the larger star in its binary system, and the Phagors have been driven into exile, but conflicting religions and hostility to science keep human civilization fragmented and constantly fighting wars over petty power and fertile land as a plague devastates populations. However, everything changes when a secret visitor from the observer satellite from Earth accepts a slow death in order to visit the planet and spend his time in the sunlight and open air. More than thirty years after the original publication of *Helliconia Spring*, the first volume of the *Helliconia Trilogy*, the series is newly available, now with a map, an afterword, and an introduction by the author.

The Augmented Man August House Publishers

"Everyone's a critic," or so they say. But in the era of self-publishing, it turns out everyone's a writer instead. And given the state of some self-pub texts, maybe a little prior healthy criticism would have helped. Where can writers go to build each other's skills? How can a reader provide solid advice and constructive feedback? What should one look for--and not worry about--when critiquing another's writing? Based on David's experience in a healthy and helpful critique group, this A-to-Z handbook

reminds writers of pitfalls to avoid and guides 'critters' new and old through the critique process. Three bonus chapters cover how to organize an ideal writing exchange or improve an existing critique group.

### **Shatter Me** Avery

Create characters that leap off the page--and into readers' hearts! Populating your fiction with authentic, vivid characters is a surefire way to captivate your readers from the first sentence to the last. Whether you're writing a series, novel, short story, or flash fiction, *Creating Characters* is an invaluable guide to bringing your fictional cast to life. This book is a comprehensive reference to every stage of character development. You'll find timely advice and helpful instruction from best-selling authors like Nancy Kress, Elizabeth Sims, Orson Scott Card, Chuck Wendig, Hallie Ephron, Donald Maass, and James Scott Bell. They'll show you how to:

- Effectively introduce your characters
- Build a believable protagonist
- Develop strong anti-heroes and compelling villains
- Juggle multiple points of view without missing a beat
- Craft authentic dialogue that propels the story forward
- Motivate your characters with powerful objectives and a believable conflict
- Show dynamic character development over the course of a story

No matter what your genre, *Creating Characters* gives you the tools necessary to create realistic, fascinating characters that your readers will root for and remember long after they've finished the story.

### **Writers' & Artists' Yearbook 2021** Penguin

Author and former literary agent Nathan Bransford shares his secrets for creating killer plots, fleshing out your first ideas, crafting compelling characters, and staying sane in the process. Read the guide that New York Times bestselling author Ransom Riggs called "The best how-to-write-a-novel book I've read."

### **Creating Characters** Nathan Bransford

THE MUST-READ MULTIMILLION BESTSELLING MYSTERY SERIES • Everyone is talking about *A Good Girl's Guide to Murder*! With shades of *Serial* and *Making a Murderer* this is the story about an investigation turned obsession, full of twists and turns and with an ending you'll never expect. Everyone in Fairview knows the story. Pretty and popular high school senior Andie Bell was murdered by her boyfriend, Sal Singh, who then killed himself. It was all anyone could talk about. And five years later, Pip sees how the tragedy still haunts her town. But she can't shake the feeling that there was more to what happened that day. She knew Sal when she was a child, and he was always so kind to her. How could he possibly have been a killer? Now a senior herself, Pip decides to reexamine the closed case for her final project, at first just to cast doubt on the original investigation. But soon she discovers a trail of dark secrets that might actually prove Sal innocent . . . and the line between past and present begins to blur. Someone in Fairview doesn't want Pip digging around for answers, and now her own life might be in danger. And don't miss the sequel, *Good Girl, Bad Blood*! "The perfect nail-biting mystery." --Natasha Preston, #1 New York Times bestselling author

### **The Snow Child** Emlin Press

Every daddy is different--and that makes them even more special! "Some daddies teach you about the world. Others attend tea parties. Some help turn blankets into forts. Others hold you steady while you pedal." This rollicking showcase of daddies celebrates the incredible diversity of modern

fathers. The inclusive cast of characters--including a two-dad family, a single dad, and a stay-at-home dad--highlights the bond between daddy and child as they play, learn, comfort, and laugh their way through everyday life. This open-hearted ode to fatherhood will give readers new appreciation for how their own fathers and father-figures shine in their own unique ways. *Some Daddies* is the perfect gift for a new dad, Father's Day, or any occasion for parents and educators to read with their kids. Carol Gordon Ekster's playful text is illustrated with the quirky, colorful artwork of Javiera Maclean Alvarez, making this picture book a wonderful read-aloud.

### **Highland Games** Simon and Schuster

"Haunting ... teems with raw emotion, and McCullough deftly captures the experience of learning to behave in a male-driven society and then breaking outside of it."—The New Yorker "I will be haunted and empowered by Artemisia Gentileschi's story for the rest of my life."—Amanda Lovelace, bestselling author of *The Princess Saves Herself in This One* A William C. Morris Debut Award Finalist 2018 National Book Award Longlist Her mother died when she was twelve, and suddenly Artemisia Gentileschi had a stark choice: a life as a nun in a convent or a life grinding pigment for her father's paint. She chose paint. By the time she was seventeen, Artemisia did more than grind pigment. She was one of Rome's most talented painters, even if no one knew her name. But Rome in 1610 was a city where men took what they wanted from women, and in the aftermath of rape Artemisia faced another terrible choice: a life of silence or a life of truth, no matter the cost. He will not consume my every thought. I am a painter. I will paint. Joy McCullough's bold novel in verse is a portrait of an artist as a young woman, filled with the soaring highs of creative inspiration and the devastating setbacks of a system built to break her. McCullough weaves Artemisia's heartbreaking story with the stories of the ancient heroines, Susanna and Judith, who become not only the subjects of two of Artemisia's most famous paintings but sources of strength as she battles to paint a woman's timeless truth in the face of unspeakable and all-too-familiar violence. I will show you what a woman can do. ★"A captivating and impressive."—Booklist, starred review ★"Belongs on every YA shelf."—SLJ, starred review ★"Haunting."—Publishers Weekly, starred review ★"Luminous."—Shelf Awareness, starred review

### **Writing Irresistible Kidlit** Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

Virginia Brackett seeks the truth about patriotism and loss as embodied by her father, WWII and Korean Conflict veteran Captain Edmund C. Roberts, from many historic sources - journalism, history texts, and military communique, as well as personal documents. Her memoir details her journey to come to know a father lost to an ideal of service. Over ten years of research, she learns about her family's slave-owning history and attempts to escape personal tragedy by moving from Kentucky to Missouri and into Illinois, of her parents' romance through aging scrapbooks, discovers a letter written by her father among a rare documents collection, and hears her mother's words read on a national broadcast. However, she discovers the real truth exists in the personal stories of those on the front, including her father, their lives permanently changed through service. Their voices educate her about Captain Roberts, an inspiration to troops, a war prisoner and an escapee, a decorated hero who met with General Patton, a ferocious infantryman. Killed by a sniper in the Korean Conflict, he would come to symbolize the shared values of his military community that became lifelong bonds for those who survived. As Brackett will learn, memories of her father run

deep, and the extraordinary loyalty and devotion of those who remember Captain Roberts move her beyond feelings of betrayal that haunted her for decades. The crucial truth she discovers is that we must keep alive those lost by telling their stories. That is because their stories belong to everyone.

[The Freelance Content Marketing Writer](#) Penguin

After awakening to find that her pet ferret is now pet feet, a young girl discovers that the letter "R" has disappeared and its absence is causing chaos throughout her town.

Reagan Arthur Books

Meet the three (ahem--four!) little pigs as they convince the narrator to tell a slightly different version of their fairy tale: First, there's Alan, the one pig in the bunch who is actually a builder. He's got a BIG problem with building a home out of flimsy straw. Next, there's Alfred, who wants to be an actor and wouldn't dream of getting his hands dirty. Then we have Alvin, whose dream is to be...a pumpkin. Last but not least is Alison, the fourth pig, who is ready to bring some flair to this story--if only she can get the narrator to agree to a few changes...And what about that wolf? Grab your jetpacks and get ready for this rollicking retelling of the popular tale.

[A Good Girl's Guide to Murder](#) Bloomsbury Publishing

The Love Letters of Abelard and Lily Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

[Dozens of Doughnuts](#) Harper Collins

A step-by-step guide to crafting a compelling scholarly book proposal—and seeing your book through to successful publication The scholarly book proposal may be academia's most mysterious

genre. You have to write one to get published, but most scholars receive no training on how to do so—and you may have never even seen a proposal before you're expected to produce your own. The Book Proposal Book cuts through the mystery and guides prospective authors step by step through the process of crafting a compelling proposal and pitching it to university presses and other academic publishers. Laura Portwood-Stacer, an experienced developmental editor and publishing consultant for academic authors, shows how to select the right presses to target, identify audiences and competing titles, and write a project description that will grab the attention of editors—breaking the entire process into discrete, manageable tasks. The book features over fifty time-tested tips to make your proposal stand out; sample prospectuses, a letter of inquiry, and a response to reader reports from real authors; optional worksheets and checklists; answers to dozens of the most common questions about the scholarly publishing process; and much, much more. Whether you're hoping to publish your first book or you're a seasoned author with an unfinished proposal languishing on your hard drive, The Book Proposal Book provides honest, empathetic, and invaluable advice on how to overcome common sticking points and get your book published. It also shows why, far from being merely a hurdle to clear, a well-conceived proposal can help lead to an outstanding book.

[The Anatomy of Story](#) Two Lions

Provides a toolbox of issues for consideration and recommendations for how to conduct a writers' workshop and offer critique that fundamentally respects the writer and the work.

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