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# Show Vs Tell In Writing

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Rebel Nation

Understanding Show, Don't Tell: And Really Getting It

Secrets of the Six-Figure Author

Dreamlander

Cold Mountain

On Writing

Probability Moon

The Emotional Craft of Fiction

Show, Don't Tell

Viral Nation

The Sign of Four

You're Next

J.K. Rowling

Beyond Reach

The Writing Life

Station Eleven

Emotional Beats

Digital Storytelling

The Emotion Thesaurus: A Writer's Guide to Character Expression (2nd Edition)

The Five Love Languages

Steering the Craft

Elements of Fiction Writing - Description

Wired for Story

Writing Fiction

The Craft of Fiction

Showing & Telling  
Get Started in Writing Historical Fiction  
Revelation  
Writing Irresistible Kidlit  
Anatomy of a Premise Line  
DIY MFA  
The Cyborg Tinkerer  
A Story is a Promise  
The Memory String  
This Is How You Lose the Time War  
The Astonishing Maybe  
The Making of a Story  
The Story Grid  
The Measure

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## **GIANCARLO HARRY**

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### **Rebel Nation**

Ten Speed  
Press

Description is most powerful when it's visible, aural, tactile. Make your descriptions fresh and they'll move

your story forward, imbue your work with atmosphere, create that tang of feeling that editors cry for and readers crave. Monica Wood helps you squeeze the greatest flavor from the language. She segments

description like an orange, separating its slices to let you sample each one. You'll learn about: Detail, and how you can use description to awaken the reader's senses of touch, taste, hearing, smell

and sight Plot, from advancing story using only relevant description—and how to edit out sluggish, reader-stopping writing Style, and the use of description to create a mood that matches your story's content Point of view, how selecting omniscient, first person or third person limited narrative influences the descriptive freedom you have Creating original word depictions of people, animals,

places, weather and movement Wood teaches by example, developing stories with characters in various situations, to show you how you can apply description techniques. You'll also see samples of work by such noted writers as Mark Helprin, Anne Tyler and Raymond Carver. And you'll find the dos and don'ts, lists and descriptive alternatives to common verbs and nouns, and tips for

editing your work.

**Understanding Show, Don't Tell: And Really Getting It**

Blue Heron Publishing  
INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER - The Read With Jenna Today Show Book Club Pick! "A story of love and hope as interweaving characters display: how all moments, big and small, can measure a life. If you want joy, love, romance, and hope—read with us."  
—Jenna Bush Hager  
A luminous,

spirit-lifting  
blockbuster  
for readers of  
The Midnight  
Library. Eight  
ordinary  
people. One  
extraordinary  
choice. It  
seems like  
any other day.  
You wake up,  
pour a cup of  
coffee, and  
head out. But  
today, when  
you open your  
front door,  
waiting for  
you is a small  
wooden box.  
This box holds  
your fate  
inside: the  
answer to the  
exact number  
of years you  
will live. From  
suburban  
doorsteps to  
desert tents,  
every person

on every  
continent  
receives the  
same box. In  
an instant, the  
world is thrust  
into a  
collective  
frenzy. Where  
did these  
boxes come  
from? What do  
they mean? Is  
there truth to  
what they  
promise? As  
society comes  
together and  
pulls apart,  
everyone  
faces the  
same  
shocking  
choice: Do  
they wish to  
know how  
long they'll  
live? And, if  
so, what will  
they do with  
that  
knowledge?

The Measure  
charts the  
dawn of this  
new world  
through an  
unforgettable  
cast of  
characters  
whose  
decisions and  
fates  
interweave  
with one  
another: best  
friends whose  
dreams are  
forever  
entwined, pen  
pals finding  
refuge in the  
unknown, a  
couple who  
thought they  
didn't have to  
rush, a doctor  
who cannot  
save himself,  
and a  
politician  
whose box  
becomes the  
powder keg

<p>that ultimately changes everything. Enchanting and deeply uplifting, The Measure is a sweeping, ambitious, and invigorating story about family, friendship, hope, and destiny that encourages us to live life to the fullest.</p> <p><b>Secrets of the Six-Figure Author</b> JADD Publishing</p> <p>"A Story Is a Promise offers a new model for understanding one of the most difficult of all arts:</p>	<p>writing dramatic, engaging stories."</p> <p>"Written in a style reminiscent of a workshop, A Story Is a Promise guides the writer toward a keen understanding of the principle underlying all well-told stories, that a story is both a promise made and a promise kept. Step by step, this book teaches writers how to set out a story's promise in an active voice, which is the voice of the</p>	<p>true storyteller."--</p> <p>BOOK</p> <p>JACKET.Title</p> <p>Summary field provided by Blackwell North America, Inc. All Rights Reserved</p> <p><u>Dreamlander</u></p> <p>The First 50 Pages Seeking writing success? Start at the beginning... Whether you're looking to get published or just hoping to hook your reader, first impressions are vital. Compelling opening scenes are the key to</p>
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catching an agent or editor's attention, and are crucial for keeping your reader engaged. As a writer, what you do in your opening pages, and how you do it, is a matter that cannot be left to chance. *The First 50 Pages* is here to help you craft a strong beginning right from the start. You'll learn how to:

- introduce your main character •
- establish your story world •
- set up the plot's conflict
- begin your

hero's inner journey • write an amazing opening line and terrific first page • and more This helpful guide walks you through the tasks your first 50 pages must accomplish in order to avoid leaving readers disoriented, frustrated, or bored. Don't let your reader put your book down before ever seeing its beauty. Let *The First 50 Pages* show you how to begin your novel with the

skill and intentionality that will land you a book deal, and keep readers' eyes glued to the page. *Cold Mountain* Moody Publishers  
The final book of the Bible, Revelation prophesies the ultimate judgement of mankind in a series of allegorical visions, grisly images and numerological predictions. According to these, empires will fall, the "Beast" will be destroyed and Christ will rule a new

Jerusalem.  
 With an  
 introduction  
 by Will Self.  
**On Writing**  
 Hachette UK  
 An  
 introduction to  
 the  
 fundamentals  
 of creative  
 writing, both  
 fiction and  
 nonfiction,  
 takes aspiring  
 writers  
 through each  
 stage of the  
 creative  
 process, from  
 initial idea to  
 final  
 manuscript,  
 accompanied  
 by examples  
 of short fiction  
 and essays.  
**Probability**  
**Moon** Vintage  
 What if it were  
 possible to  
 live two very

different lives  
 in two  
 separate  
 worlds? What  
 if the dreams  
 we awaken  
 from are the  
 fading  
 memories of  
 that second  
 life? What if  
 one day we  
 woke up in the  
 wrong  
 world?Every  
 night, a  
 woman on a  
 black  
 warhorse  
 gallops  
 through the  
 mist in Chris  
 Redston's  
 dreams. Every  
 night, she  
 begs him not  
 to come to  
 her. Every  
 night, she  
 aims her rifle  
 at his head  
 and fires. The

last thing  
 Chris expects--  
 or wants--is  
 for this  
 nightmare to  
 be real. But  
 when he  
 wakes up in  
 the world of  
 his dreams, he  
 has to choose  
 between the  
 likelihood that  
 he's gone  
 spectacularly  
 bonkers or the  
 possibility that  
 he's just been  
 let in on the  
 secret of the  
 ages.Only one  
 person in a  
 generation  
 may cross the  
 worlds. These  
 chosen few  
 are the Gifted,  
 called from  
 Earth into Lael  
 to shape the  
 epochs of  
 history--and

Chris is one of them. But before he figures that out, he accidentally endangers both worlds by resurrecting a vengeful prince intent on claiming the powers of the Gifted for himself. Together with a suspicious princess and a guilt-ridden Cherazii warrior, Chris must hurl himself into a battle to save a country from war, two worlds from annihilation, and himself from a dream come way too true.

*The Emotional Craft of Fiction*  
Penguin  
Because of the way our brains are wired, readers empathize more strongly if you don't name the emotion you are trying to describe. As soon as you name an emotion, readers go into thinking mode. And when they think about an emotion, they distance themselves from feeling it. A great way to show anger, fear, indifference, and the whole range of

emotions that characterize the human experience, is through beats. These action snippets that pepper dialogue can help describe a wide range of emotions, while avoiding lazy writing. The power of beats lies in their innate ability to create richer, more immediate, deeper writing. This book includes hundreds of examples that you can use for your inspiration, so that you, too, can harness this technique

to easily convert your writing into palpable feelings.

### **Show, Don't Tell**

Grove/Atlantic, Inc.

Do you have a compelling vision for a story set in the past? Are you inspired by novelists such as Alan Furst and Philippa Gregory? Get Started in Writing Historical Fiction is designed for anyone who wants to write in this exciting and wide-ranging genre of fiction, whatever your

favorite style and era. Designed to build your confidence and help fire up creativity, this book is an essential guide to mastering the practicalities of writing historical fiction, showing you where to start with research, developing your plots, and convincingly and imaginatively capturing the voices of the past. Using Snapshots designed to get you writing quickly, Key

Ideas to help crystallize thought, and a wealth of supplementary materials, this indispensable guide will have you telling amazing and rich historical stories in no time. You'll learn to research and plan your story, practice developing characters and settings, perfect your characters' voices, and transport the reader to another era. 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 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.co](http://tyjustwrite.co)

m, for budding authors and successful writers to connect and share.

### **Viral Nation**

Feiwei & Friends Engage Your Readers with Emotion While writers might disagree over showing versus telling or plotting versus pantsing, none would argue this: If you want to write strong fiction, you must make your readers feel. The reader's experience must be an emotional journey of its

own, one as involving as your characters' struggles, discoveries, and triumphs are for you. That's where *The Emotional Craft of Fiction* comes in. Veteran literary agent and expert fiction instructor Donald Maass shows you how to use story to provoke a visceral and emotional experience in readers. Topics covered include: • emotional modes of writing •

<p>beyond showing versus telling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• your story's emotional world</li> <li>• moral stakes</li> <li>• connecting the inner and outer journeys</li> <li>• plot as emotional opportunities</li> <li>• invoking higher emotions, symbols, and emotional language</li> <li>• cascading change</li> <li>• story as emotional mirror</li> <li>• positive spirit and magnanimous writing</li> <li>• the hidden current that makes stories move</li> </ul> <p>Readers can simply read a</p>	<p>novel...or they can experience it.</p> <p>The Emotional Craft of Fiction shows you how to make that happen.</p> <p><i>The Sign of Four</i> Penguin UK</p> <p>NATIONAL BESTSELLER • NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FINALIST • A PEN/FAULKNER AWARD FINALIST • Set in the eerie days of civilization's collapse—the spellbinding story of a Hollywood star, his would-be savior, and a nomadic group of actors</p>	<p>roaming the scattered outposts of the Great Lakes region, risking everything for art and humanity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Now an original series on HBO Max.</li> <li>• Over one million copies sold! Kirsten Raymonde will never forget the night Arthur Leander, the famous Hollywood actor, had a heart attack on stage during a production of King Lear.</li> </ul> <p>That was the night when a devastating flu pandemic</p>
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arrived in the city, and within weeks, civilization as we know it came to an end. Twenty years later, Kirsten moves between the settlements of the altered world with a small troupe of actors and musicians. They call themselves The Traveling Symphony, and they have dedicated themselves to keeping the remnants of art and humanity alive. But when they arrive in St. Deborah by the Water,

they encounter a violent prophet who will threaten the tiny band's existence. And as the story takes off, moving back and forth in time, and vividly depicting life before and after the pandemic, the strange twist of fate that connects them all will be revealed. Look for Emily St. John Mandel's bestselling new novel, *Sea of Tranquility!* **You're Next** Black Irish Entertainment

LLC  
The most widely used and respected book on writing fiction, *Writing Fiction* guides the writer from first inspiration to final revision. Supported by an abundance of exercises, this guide/anthology explores and integrates the elements of fiction while offering practical techniques and concrete examples. A focus on the writing process in its entirety provides a comprehensive guide to

writing fiction, approaching distinct elements in separate chapters while building on what has been covered earlier. Topics include free-writing to revision, plot, style, characterization, dialogue, atmosphere, imagery, and point of view. An anthology of diverse and contemporary short stories followed by suggestions for discussion and writing exercises, illustrates concepts while offering variety in

pacing and exposure to this increasingly popular form. The book also discusses key issues including writing workshops, using autobiography as a basis for fiction, using action in stories, using dialogue, and maintaining point of view. The sixth edition also features more short short stories than any previous edition and includes quotation boxes that offer advice and

inspirational words from established writers on a wide range of topics--such as writing from experience, story structure, openings and endings, and revision. For those interested in developing their creative writing skills. J.K. Rowling Simon and Schuster Sixteen years ago, a plague wiped out nearly all of humanity. The Company's vaccine stopped the virus's spread, but society

was irrevocably changed. Those remaining live behind impenetrable city walls, taking daily doses of virus suppressant and relying on The Company for continued protection. They don't realize that everything they've been told is a lie... Clover Donovan didn't set out to start a revolution—quiet, autistic, and brilliant, she's always followed the rules. But that was before they forced

her into service for the Time Mariners. Before they condemned her brother to death, compelling him to flee the city to survive. Before she discovered terrifying secrets about The Company. Freaks, her ragtag resistance group, are doing their best to spread the rebellion and stay under The Company's radar. But when their hideout is discovered, they are

forced, once again, to run. Only this time, The Company has special plans for Clover, plans that could risk her life and stop the uprising in its tracks... Penguin Whether you're a self-published author, traditionally published or just starting out writing your first book, there are dozens of obstacles standing between you and six-figure success as an author. Wouldn't it be helpful if you

knew ahead of time what those obstacles will be and how to overcome them quickly and easily? In *Secrets of the Six-Figure Author* you will learn the 12 key obstacles every author must face and how to blast through them without breaking a sweat. [Beyond Reach](#) Michael O'Mara Books Write vibrant scenes and essential summaries "Show—don't tell." How many times have you

heard this standard bit of writing advice? It's so common in writing courses and critiques that it has become a cliché. Writers are often told to write scenes, dramatize, cut exposition, cut summary—but it's misguided advice. The truth is good writing almost always requires both showing and telling. The trick is finding the right balance of scene and summary—the two basic components of creative

prose. Showing and Telling shows you how to employ each of these essential techniques in the appropriate places within a narrative. You'll learn how to: Write scenes and cut exposition Compress time and summarize background information Create graceful transitions Effectively inject interpretation And more! Complete with examples from bestsellers

and interactive exercises, this comprehensive guide offers an in-depth look at scene development, the role of reflection in storytelling, the art of summarizing, and how to bring it all together. *The Writing Life* Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Award-winning novelist Ursula K. Le Guin has turned a successful workshop into a self-guided voyage of discovery for a writer working alone, a writing group

or a class. Station Eleven Harper Collins \* HUGO AWARD WINNER: BEST NOVELLA \* NEBULA AND LOCUS AWARDS WINNER: BEST NOVELLA \* “[An] exquisitely crafted tale...Part epistolary romance, part mind-blowing science fiction adventure, this dazzling story unfolds bit by bit, revealing layers of meaning as it plays with cause and effect, wildly imaginative technologies,

and increasingly intricate wordplay...This short novel warrants multiple readings to fully unlock its complexities.” —Publishers Weekly (starred review) From award-winning authors Amal El-Mohtar and Max Gladstone comes an enthralling, romantic novel spanning time and space about two time-traveling rivals who fall in love and must change the past to ensure their

future. Among the ashes of a dying world, an agent of the Commandment finds a letter. It reads: Burn before reading. Thus begins an unlikely correspondence between two rival agents hellbent on securing the best possible future for their warring factions. Now, what began as a taunt, a battlefield boast, becomes something more. Something epic. Something romantic.

Something that could change the past and the future. Except the discovery of their bond would mean the death of each of them. There's still a war going on, after all. And someone has to win. That's how war works, right? Cowritten by two beloved and award-winning sci-fi writers, *This Is How You Lose the Time War* is an epic love story spanning time and space. *Emotional Beats* Simon and Schuster Captivate the

hearts and minds of young adult readers! Writing for young adult (YA) and middle grade (MG) audiences isn't just "kid's stuff" anymore--it's kidlit! The YA and MG book markets are healthier and more robust than ever, and that means the competition is fiercer, too. In *Writing Irresistible Kidlit*, literary agent Mary Kole shares her expertise on writing novels for young adult

and middle grade readers and teaches you how to:

- Recognize the differences between middle grade and young adult audiences and how it impacts your writing.
- Tailor your manuscript's tone, length, and content to your readership.
- Avoid common mistakes and clichés that are prevalent in YA and MG fiction, in respect to characters, story ideas, plot structure and more.
- Develop

themes and ideas in your novel that will strike emotional chords. Mary Kole's candid commentary and insightful observations, as well as a collection of book excerpts and personal insights from bestselling authors and editors who specialize in the children's book market, are invaluable tools for your kidlit career. If you want the skills, techniques, and know-how you need to craft memorable stories for

teens and tweens, Writing Irresistible Kidlit can give them to you. Digital Storytelling Little Brown "Powerful and complex . . . [Karin] Slaughter gradually unspools her fascinating story, all the way up to its shocking conclusion."—Chicago Sun-Times In a small Georgia town, Detective Lena Adams is accused of a vicious murder. A hundred miles away, Police Chief Jeffrey

Tolliver learns that his young detective has been arrested. And Jeffrey's wife, pediatrician and medical examiner Sara Linton, fighting a heartbreaking malpractice suit, is thrust into the center of a bizarre and murderous case. For Lena has fled to the place where she grew up, careening back through the shadows of her past. Now only Jeffrey and Sara can free Lena from the web of lies that has

trapped her—as this powerful novel races toward its shattering climax and a final, unforgettable twist. Praise for Karin Slaughter and *Beyond Reach* “Will leave you breathless.”—USA Today “Slaughter writes with a razor.”—The Plain Dealer “Slaughter will have you on the edge of your seat.”—Seattle Post-Intelligencer  
**BONUS:** This edition includes an excerpt from

Karin Slaughter's *Unseen*.  
**The Emotion Thesaurus: A Writer's Guide to Character Expression (2nd Edition)**  
 Penguin  
 This book looks at what affects told prose and when telling is the right thing to do. It also explores aspects of writing that aren't technically telling, but are connected to told prose and can make prose feel told, such as infodumps, description, and backstory.

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