

Plot Perfect How To Build Unforgettable Stories Scene By Scene

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It Ends with Us - Colleen Hoover 2020-07-28

In this "brave and heartbreaking novel that digs its claws into you and doesn't let go, long after you've finished it" (Anna Todd, New York Times bestselling author) from the #1 New York Times bestselling author of All Your Perfects, a workaholic with a too-good-to-be-true romance can't stop thinking about her first love. Lily hasn't always had it easy, but that's never stopped her from working hard for the life she wants. She's come a long way from the small town where she grew up—she graduated from college, moved to Boston, and started her own business. And when she feels a spark with a gorgeous neurosurgeon named Ryle Kincaid, everything in Lily's life seems too good to be true. Ryle is assertive, stubborn, maybe even a little arrogant. He's also sensitive, brilliant, and has a total soft spot for Lily. And the way he looks in scrubs certainly doesn't hurt. Lily can't get him out of her head. But Ryle's complete aversion to relationships is disturbing. Even as Lily finds herself becoming the exception to his "no dating" rule, she can't help but wonder what made him that way in the first place. As questions about her new relationship overwhelm her, so do thoughts of Atlas Corrigan—her first love and a link to the past she left behind. He was her kindred spirit, her protector. When Atlas suddenly reappears, everything Lily has built with Ryle is threatened. An honest, evocative, and tender novel, *It Ends with Us* is "a glorious and touching read, a forever keeper. The kind of book that gets handed down" (USA TODAY).

Before We Were Strangers - Renée Carlino 2015-08-18

From the USA TODAY bestselling author of *Sweet Thing* and *Nowhere But Here* comes a love story about a Craigslist "missed connection" post that gives two people a second chance at love fifteen years after they were separated in New York City. To the Green-eyed Lovebird: We met fifteen years ago, almost to the day, when I moved my stuff into the NYU dorm room next to yours at Senior House. You called us fast friends. I like to think it was more. We lived on nothing but the excitement of finding ourselves through music (you were obsessed with Jeff Buckley), photography (I couldn't stop taking pictures of you), hanging out in Washington Square Park, and all the weird things we did to make money. I learned more about myself that year than any other. Yet, somehow, it all fell apart. We lost touch the summer after graduation when I went to South America to work for National Geographic. When I came back, you were gone. A part of me still wonders if I pushed you too hard after the wedding... I didn't see you again until a month ago. It was a Wednesday. You were rocking back on your heels, balancing on that thick yellow line that runs along the subway platform, waiting for the F train. I didn't know it was you until it was too late, and then you were gone. Again. You said my name; I saw it on your lips. I tried to will the train to stop, just so I could say

hello. After seeing you, all of the youthful feelings and memories came flooding back to me, and now I've spent the better part of a month wondering what your life is like. I might be totally out of my mind, but would you like to get a drink with me and catch up on the last decade and a half? M

The Writer's Guide to Beginnings - Paula Munier 2016-11-15

Give your story its best start! The best beginnings possess a magical quality that grabs readers from the first word and never lets them go. But beginnings aren't just the door into a fictional world. They are the gateway to the realm of publishing--one that could shut as quickly as it opens. In *The Writer's Guide to Beginnings*, author and literary agent Paula Munier shows you how to craft flawless beginnings that impress agents, engage editors, and captivate readers. You'll learn how to develop the big idea of your story and introduce it on page one, structure opening scenes that encompass their own story arc, kickstart your writing with effective brainstorming techniques, and introduce a compelling cast of characters that drive the plot. You'll also examine the best-selling novels from different genres to learn the secrets that experienced writers use to dive straight into a story. With thorough examinations of voice, point of view, setting, dialogue and conflict, *The Writer's Guide to Beginnings* is a must-have tool for luring your readers in with your opening pages--and convincing them to stick around for the ride. "Writing a book? Hard. Writing the beginning of a book? Rocket science! Strap on your spacesuit, because thanks to Munier's nuanced, actionable breakdown of every possible aspect of a gripping opening, authors everywhere can now take their books to the stars." --K.M. Weiland

Make a Scene - Jordan Rosenfeld 2007-11-23

Write Scenes that Move Your Story Forward In *Make a Scene*, author Jordan E. Rosenfeld takes you through the fundamentals of strong scene construction and explains how other essential fiction-writing techniques, such as character, plot, and dramatic tension, must function within the framework of individual scenes in order to provide substance and structure to the overall story. You'll learn how to: Craft an opening scene that hooks readers and foreshadows supporting scenes Develop various scene types - from the suspenseful to the dramatic to the contemplative - that are distinct and layered Tailor character and plot around specific scene types to better convey the nuances of your storyline Create resonating climactic and final scenes that stay with readers long after they've finished your work

Creating Character Arcs - K. M. Weiland 2016-10-28

Explores the techniques of effective character development in the processing of writing novels to take the author's stories from good to great, including how to determine which arc is right for your character, why you should never pit plot

against character, and how to avoid the pitfalls of writing novels without character arcs.

Plot Perfect - Paula Munier 2014-10-17

Build an Exceptional Plot, One Scene at a Time! Think of your favorite story--the one that kept you turning pages late into the night, the one with a plot so compelling, so multilayered, so perfect that you couldn't put it down. How can you make your own plots--in your novels, short stories, memoirs, or screenplays--just as irresistible? Plot Perfect provides the answer. This one-of-a-kind plotting primer reveals the secrets of creating a story structure that works--no matter what your genre. It gives you the strategies you need to build a scene-by-scene blueprint that will help elevate your fiction and earn the attention of agents and editors. Inside, literary agent, editor, and author Paula Munier shows you how to:

- Devise powerful plots and subplots and weave them together seamlessly
- Organize your scenes for the greatest impact
- Develop captivating protagonists, worthy antagonists, and engaging secondary characters
- Use dialogue, setting, tone, and voice to enhance your plot
- Layer, refine, and polish your storyline
- Define your story in terms of its theme

Filled with writing exercises, plotting templates, and expert advice, Plot Perfect helps you dive into the intricacies of plot--and write a compelling story that readers won't be able to resist.

Twenty Years Later - Charlie Donlea 2021-12-28

"Excellent...Donlea tells a propulsive tale." – The New York Times
The New York Times Best Thrillers This Season | E! News
Recommended Books | Overdrive
Biggest Books of the Month
Fans of Verity by Colleen Hoover won't want to miss this thrilling new suspense novel from the #1 internationally bestselling author of *The Girl Who Was Taken!* Hiding her own dark past in plain sight, a TV reporter is determined to uncover the truth behind a gruesome murder decades after the investigation was abandoned. But TWENTY YEARS LATER, to understand the present, you need to listen to the past... Avery Mason, host of *American Events*, knows the subjects that grab a TV audience's attention. Her latest story—a murder mystery laced with kinky sex, tragedy, and betrayal—is guaranteed to be ratings gold. New DNA technology has allowed the New York medical examiner's office to make its first successful identification of a 9/11 victim in years. The twist: the victim, Victoria Ford, had been accused of the gruesome murder of her married lover. In a chilling last phone call to her sister, Victoria begged her to prove her innocence. Emma Kind has waited twenty years to put her sister to rest, but closure won't be complete until she can clear Victoria's name. Alone she's had no luck, but she's convinced that Avery's connections and fame will help. Avery, hoping to negotiate a more lucrative network contract, goes into investigative overdrive. Victoria had been having an affair with a successful novelist, found hanging from the balcony of his Catskills mansion. The rope, the bedroom, and the entire crime scene was covered in Victoria's DNA. But the twisted puzzle of Victoria's private life is just the beginning. And what Avery doesn't realize is that there are other players in the game who are interested in Avery's own secret past—one she has kept hidden from both the network executives and her television audience. A secret she thought was dead and buried . . . Accused of a brutal murder, Victoria Ford made a final chilling call from the North Tower on the morning of 9/11. Twenty years ago, no one listened. Today, you will. "Breathtaking pacing and clever plot twists." –Publishers Weekly
"An entertaining thriller...surprises lurking around every corner." –Kirkus Reviews
"A superb storyteller." –Robert Dugoni, New York Times bestselling author

The Plot Whisperer - Martha Alderson 2011-09-15

Discover how to create stories that build suspense, reveal character, and engage your audience with this ultimate guide to writing. When it comes to writing bestsellers, it's all about the plot. Trouble is, plot is where most writers fall down—but you don't have to be one of them. With this book, you'll learn how to create stories that build suspense, reveal character, and engage readers—one scene at a time. Celebrated writing teacher and author Martha Alderson has devised a plotting system that's as innovative as it is easy to implement. With her foolproof blueprint, you'll learn to devise a successful storyline for any genre. She shows how to:

- Use the power of the Universal Story
- Create plot lines and subplots that work together
- Effectively use a scene tracker for maximum impact
- Insert energetic markers at the right points in your story
- Show character transformation at the book's climax

This is the ultimate guide for you to write page-turners that sell!

The Story Equation - Susan May Warren 2016-08-10

Discover *The Story Equation*! One question can unlock your entire story! Are you struggling to build a riveting plot? Layered characters? How about fortify that saggy middle? Create that powerful ending? You can build an entire book by asking one powerful question, and then plugging it into an "equation" that makes your plot and characters come to life. You'll learn how to build the external and internal journey of your characters, create a theme, build story and scene tension, create the character change journey and even pitch and market your story. All with one amazing question. Learn: The amazing trick to creating unforgettable, compelling characters that epic movies use! How to create riveting tension to keep the story driving from chapter to chapter The easy solution to plotting the middle of your novel The one element every story needs to keep a reader up all night How to craft an ending that makes your reader say to their friends, "Oh, you have to read this book!" Using the powerful technique that has created over fifty RITA, Christy and Carol award-winning, best-selling novels, Susan May Warren will show novelists how to utilize *The Story Equation* to create the best story they've ever written. "The Story Equation is pure genius." - Randy Ingermanson, author of *Writing Fiction for Dummies* "In simple yet powerful terms, Susan May Warren lays down the essential crafting elements that make for a gripping tale. This is the stuff we all need to first learn and then constantly keep in mind as we dive into the process of laying the story we see in our minds down on the page. A great benefit to all writers of fiction." Ted Dekker, New York Times best-selling author "There have been only two must-have craft books on my shelf for years. Now there is a third. If you write fiction, Susan May Warren's *The Story Equation* is a book you need to buy. And devour. I could talk in detail about the book's insight, its power to transform your writing, its brilliance, but suffice it to say I predict this will become a classic in the library of how to write bestselling stories." James L. Rubart- Bestselling author of *The Long Journey to Jake Palmer*. "Susan May Warren loves to help novelists outrageously succeed. She does this in a practical way through her insightful book, *The Story Equation*. I felt like I'd been taken by the hand and mentored by a masterful storyteller!" Mary DeMuth, author of six novels including, *The Muir House* (Zondervan). "Susan May Warren is a terrific teacher and enabler of fiction writers. I wholeheartedly agree with the approach of starting from the character journey and wrapping the plot around it. I think the SEQ can really help lots of authors." Jeff Gerke, national writing instructor and *Writer's Digest* author of *The Irresistible Novel* "Every novelist who wants to up their game should own a copy of *The Story Equation*. Susan May Warren has distilled down years of teaching to an understandable, transferable technique -

the SEQ - that helps them develop stories that will captivate their readers. I've seen Susie teach this method and watched the "before" and "after" affect in writers' lives - including my own." Beth K. Vogt, 2016 Christy Award-winning author of *Crazy Little Thing Called Love*

The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue - V. E. Schwab 2020-10-06

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER USA TODAY BESTSELLER NATIONAL INDIE BESTSELLER THE WASHINGTON POST BESTSELLER Recommended by Entertainment Weekly, Real Simple, NPR, Slate, and Oprah Magazine #1 Library Reads Pick–October 2020 #1 Indie Next Pick–October 2020 BOOK OF THE YEAR (2020) FINALIST–Book of The Month Club A “Best Of” Book From: Oprah Mag * CNN * Amazon * Amazon Editors * NPR * Goodreads * Bustle * PopSugar * BuzzFeed * Barnes & Noble * Kirkus Reviews * Lambda Literary * Nerdette * The Nerd Daily * Polygon * Library Reads * io9 * Smart Bitches Trashy Books * LiteraryHub * Medium * BookBub * The Mary Sue * Chicago Tribune * NY Daily News * SyFy Wire * Powells.com * Bookish * Book Riot * Library Reads Voter Favorite * In the vein of *The Time Traveler’s Wife* and *Life After Life*, *The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue* is New York Times bestselling author V. E. Schwab’s genre-defying tour de force. A Life No One Will Remember. A Story You Will Never Forget. France, 1714: in a moment of desperation, a young woman makes a Faustian bargain to live forever—and is cursed to be forgotten by everyone she meets. Thus begins the extraordinary life of Addie LaRue, and a dazzling adventure that will play out across centuries and continents, across history and art, as a young woman learns how far she will go to leave her mark on the world. But everything changes when, after nearly 300 years, Addie stumbles across a young man in a hidden bookstore and he remembers her name. Also by V. E. Schwab *Shades of Magic* *A Darker Shade of Magic* *A Gathering of Shadows* *A Conjuring of Light* *Villains* *Vicious* *Vengeful* At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

Writing With Quiet Hands - Paula Munier 2015-10-19

Commit to Your Writing Craft! To write with quiet hands is to embrace the journey all writers must take: from seeking inspiration and shaping raw material to cultivating a personal support network, navigating the various pathways to publication, and committing to a lifelong practice. In *Writing with Quiet Hands*, author and literary agent Paula Munier helps you hone your words into well-crafted stories and balance this satisfying work with the realities and challenges of the publishing world. You'll learn how to tame your muse, manage your time wisely, and treat your practice with the seriousness it deserves. You'll develop a distinct voice, write with style and substance, employ the tenets of strong structure, and engage your readers by injecting narrative thrust into your stories. You'll explore the finer aspects of craft, refine your work, and boldly bridge the gap between published and unpublished. From drafting and revising to querying agents, you'll discover the secrets to writing artfully, and publishing bravely.

Fulfilling and rewarding writing careers are forged from the successful marriage of craft and business know-how. Are you ready to embark on your journey, armed with both grace and grit? Are you ready to write with quiet hands? "Writing with Quiet Hands is loaded tips and tools, firsthand experience, and down-to-earth advice from a writer, editor, and agent who's seen it from all sides. Paula Munier gives it to you straight as she dissects the inspiration, perspiration, and dogged determination it takes to set and meet your writing goals. This book will keep you sane." --Hallie Ephron, New York Times best-selling author of *Night Night*, *Sleep Tight*

These Impossible Things - Salma El-Wardany 2022-06-07

A *Read With Jenna Today Show Book Club pick* and razor-sharp debut novel of three best friends navigating love, sex, faith, and the one night that changes it all. It's always been Malak, Kees, and Jenna against the world. Since childhood, under the watchful eyes of their parents, aunties and uncles, they've learned to live their own lives alongside the expectations of being good Muslim women. Staying over at a boyfriend's place is disguised as a best friend's sleepover, and tiredness can be blamed on studying instead of partying. They know they're existing in a perfect moment. With growing older and the stakes of love and life growing higher, the delicate balancing act between rebellion and religion is becoming increasingly difficult to navigate. Malak wants the dream: for her partner, community, and faith to coexist happily, and she wants this so much she's willing to break her own heart to get it. Kees is in love with Harry, a white Catholic man who her parents can never know about. When he proposes, she must decide between her future happiness and the life she knows and family she loves. Jenna is the life of the party, always ready for new pleasures, even though she's plagued by a loneliness she can't shake. Through it all, they have always had each other. But as their college years come to a close, one night changes everything when harsh truths are revealed. As their lives begin to take different paths, Malak, Kees, and Jenna—now on the precipice of true adulthood—must find a way back to each other as they reconcile faith, family, and tradition with their own needs and desires. *These Impossible Things* is a paean to youth and female friendship—and to all the joy and messiness love holds. A Marie Claire Book Club Pick for June 2022 and a Most Anticipated Book by: Bustle, theSkimm, Fortune, Apartment Therapy, and BookRiot

Blind Search - Paula Munier 2019-11-05

Former Army MP Mercy Carr and her retired bomb-sniffing dog Elvis are back in *Blind Search*, the sequel to the page-turning, critically acclaimed *A Borrowing of Bones* It's October, hunting season in the Green Mountains—and the Vermont wilderness has never been more beautiful or more dangerous. Especially for nine-year-old Henry, who's lost in the woods. Again. Only this time he sees something terrible. When a young woman is found shot through the heart with a fatal arrow, Mercy thinks that something is murder. But Henry, a math genius whose autism often silences him when he should speak up most, is not talking. Now there's a murderer hiding among the hunters in the forest—and Mercy and Elvis must team up with their crime-solving friends, game warden Troy Warner and search-and-rescue dog Susie Bear, to find the killer—before the killer finds Henry. When an early season blizzard hits the mountains, cutting them off from the rest of the world, the race is on to solve the crime, apprehend the murderer, and keep the boy safe until the snowplows get through. Inspired by the true search-and-rescue case of an autistic boy who got lost in the Vermont wilderness, Paula Munier's mystery is a compelling roller coaster ride through the worst of winter—and human nature.

Argolicus Series Books 1-4 - Zara Altair 2021-08-21

Italy, 512 CE. After the Romans before the Middle Ages, one patrician sets out to right wrongs. This digital box set contains the first four *Argolicus* mysteries: *The Roman Heir*: *Argolicus* begins a journey home to retire from politics. As a personal favor he delivers a book to a young scholar. But the young man's father is murdered hours before and *Argolicus* is tasked to find the killer among the patricians in an unfamiliar town where he knows no one. *The Used Virgin*: The governor holds a family friend prisoner. When *Argolicus* visits to investigate, he unearths a greedy plot to tarnish a good man's name. To expose the plot, he must challenge the governor's venal power to reveal a scheme. *The Vellum Scribe*: When

Argolicus' uncle finds a dead body, it starts a chain of treacherous alliances based on greed and envy based on old friendships. But then an ambush attack produces a clue. The Peach Widow: A simple request from his mother, sends Argolicus to settle a legal question in a family at odds. Perplexed by subterfuge and greed motivating each family member, he finds no clues until the farm dog starts to play. What readers are saying: ★★★★★ 'A story well told. A 'world' worth settling into!' ★★★★★ 'Transport you to that ancient time, so you can meet their people and see their lives.' ★★★★★ 'Absolutely wonderful.' ★★★★★ 'A rich tapestry of interactions that serve to draw the reader deeper in..' ★★★★★ 'Highlights some of the most basic of emotions: anger, possession, hurt, sympathy, loss and guilt and, of course, greed..' ★★★★★ 'No telephones, no computers, no scientific method as we understand it, no mysterious villains with international organizations - and it works. .' ★★★★★ 'If I had to put stars for this book, I have had to put 6 stars!' ★★★★★ 'A thoughtful atmospheric pierce with wonderful characters.' ★★★★★ 'For mystery lovers with a love of history.' ★★★★★ 'Packs not only a great mystery but also a lot of truly interesting information about the era.' ★★★★★ 'A world with very different rules for dealing with murder.'

The Shipping News - Annie Proulx 2008-01-01

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize, Annie Proulx's *The Shipping News* is a vigorous, darkly comic, and at times magical portrait of the contemporary North American family. Quoyle, a third-rate newspaper hack, with a "head shaped like a crenshaw, no neck, reddish hair...features as bunched as kissed fingertips," is wrenched violently out of his workaday life when his two-timing wife meets her just desserts. An aunt convinces Quoyle and his two emotionally disturbed daughters to return with her to the starkly beautiful coastal landscape of their ancestral home in Newfoundland. Here, on desolate Quoyle's Point, in a house empty except for a few mementos of the family's unsavory past, the battered members of three generations try to cobble up new lives. Newfoundland is a country of coast and cove where the mercury rarely rises above seventy degrees, the local culinary delicacy is cod cheeks, and it's easier to travel by boat and snowmobile than on anything with wheels. In this harsh place of cruel storms, a collapsing fishery, and chronic unemployment, the aunt sets up as a yacht upholsterer in nearby Killick-Claw, and Quoyle finds a job reporting the shipping news for the local weekly, the *Gammy Bird* (a paper that specializes in sexual-abuse stories and grisly photos of car accidents). As the long winter closes its jaws of ice, each of the Quoyles confronts private demons, reels from catastrophe to minor triumph—in the company of the obsequious Mavis Bangs; Diddy Shovel the strongman; drowned Herald Prowse; cane-twirling Beety; Nutbeem, who steals foreign news from the radio; a demented cousin the aunt refuses to recognize; the much-zippered Alvin Yark; silent Wavey; and old Billy Pretty, with his bag of secrets. By the time of the spring storms Quoyle has learned how to gut cod, to escape from a pickle jar, and to tie a true lover's knot.

The Way I Used to Be - Amber Smith 2017-03-07

"After fourteen-year-old Eden is raped by her brother's best friend, she knows she'll never be the way she used to be"--

Plot Perfect - Paula Munier 2014-11-14

Build an Exceptional Plot, One Scene at a Time! Think of your favorite story--the one that kept you turning pages late into the night, the one with a plot so compelling, so multilayered, so perfect that you couldn't put it down. How can you make your own plots--in your novels, short stories, memoirs, or screenplays--just as irresistible? *Plot Perfect* provides the answer. This one-of-a-kind plotting

primer reveals the secrets of creating a story structure that works--no matter what your genre. It gives you the strategies you need to build a scene-by-scene blueprint that will help elevate your fiction and earn the attention of agents and editors. Inside, literary agent, editor, and author Paula Munier shows you how to:

- Devise powerful plots and subplots and weave them together seamlessly
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- Use dialogue, setting, tone, and voice to enhance your plot
- Layer, refine, and polish your storyline
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Filled with writing exercises, plotting templates, and expert advice, *Plot Perfect* helps you dive into the intricacies of plot--and write a compelling story that readers won't be able to resist.

XOXO - Axie Oh 2021-07-13

Jenny's never had much time for boys, K-pop, or really anything besides her dream of being a professional cellist. But when she finds herself falling for a K-pop idol, she has to decide whether their love is worth the risk. A modern forbidden romance wrapped in the glamorous and exclusive world of K-pop, *XOXO* is perfect for fans of Jenny Han and Maurene Goo. Jenny didn't get to be an award-winning, classically trained cellist without choosing practice over fun. That is, until the night she meets Jaewoo. Mysterious, handsome, and just a little bit tormented, Jaewoo is exactly the kind of distraction Jenny would normally avoid. And yet, she finds herself pulled into spending an unforgettable evening wandering Los Angeles with him on the night before his flight home to South Korea. With Jaewoo an ocean away, there's no use in dreaming of what could have been. But when Jenny and her mother move to Seoul to take care of her ailing grandmother, who does she meet at the elite arts academy she's just been accepted to? Jaewoo. Finding the dreamy stranger who swept you off your feet in your homeroom is one thing, but Jaewoo isn't just any student. Turns out, Jaewoo is a member of one of the biggest K-pop bands in the world. And like most K-pop idols, Jaewoo is strictly forbidden from dating anyone. When a relationship means not only jeopardizing her place at her dream music school but also endangering everything Jaewoo's worked for, Jenny has to decide once and for all just how much she's willing to risk for love. *XOXO* is a new romance that proves chasing your dreams doesn't have to mean sacrificing your heart, from acclaimed author Axie Oh. Indigo Best Teen Books of 2021

The Hiding Place - Paula Munier 2021-03-30

Mercy and Elvis are back in *The Hiding Place*, the most enthralling entry yet in USA Today bestselling Paula Munier's award-winning Mercy Carr mystery series. When the man who killed her grandfather breaks out of prison and comes after her grandmother, Mercy must unearth the long-buried scandals that threaten to tear her family apart. And she may have to do it without her beloved canine partner Elvis, if his former handler has his way.... Some people take their secrets with them to the grave. Others leave them behind on their deathbeds, riddles for the survivors to solve. When her late grandfather's dying deputy calls Mercy to his side, she and Elvis inherit the cold case that haunted him--and may have killed him. But finding Beth Kilgore 20 years after she disappeared is more than a lost cause. It's a Pandora's box releasing a rain of evil on the very people Mercy and Elvis hold most dear. The timing couldn't be worse when the man who murdered her grandfather escapes from prison and a fellow Army vet turns up claiming that Elvis is his dog, not hers. With her grandmother Patience gone missing, and Elvis's future uncertain, Mercy faces the prospect of losing her most treasured allies, the only ones she believes truly love and understand her. She needs help, and that means forgiving Vermont Game Warden Troy Warner long enough to enlist his aid.

With time running out for Patience, Mercy and Elvis must team up with Troy and his search-and-rescue dog Susie Bear to unravel the secrets of the past and save her grandmother—before it's too late. Once again, Paula Munier crafts a terrific mystery thriller filled with intrigue, action, resilient characters, the mountains of Vermont, and two amazing dogs.

A Borrowing of Bones - Paula Munier 2018-09-11

The instant USA Today bestseller! The first in a gripping new series by Paula Munier, *A Borrowing of Bones* is full of complex twists, introducing a wonderful new voice for mystery readers and dog lovers. Grief and guilt are the ghosts that haunt you when you survive what others do not.... After their last deployment, when she got shot, her fiancé Martinez got killed and his bomb-sniffing dog Elvis got depressed, soldier Mercy Carr and Elvis were both sent home, her late lover's last words ringing in her ears: "Take care of my partner." Together the two former military police—one twenty-nine-year-old two-legged female with wounds deeper than skin and one handsome five-year-old four-legged Malinois with canine PTSD—march off their grief mile after mile in the beautiful remote Vermont wilderness. Even on the Fourth of July weekend, when all of Northshire celebrates with fun and frolic and fireworks, it's just another walk in the woods for Mercy and Elvis—until the dog alerts to explosives and they find a squalling baby abandoned near a shallow grave filled with what appear to be human bones. U.S. Game Warden Troy Warner and his search and rescue Newfoundland Susie Bear respond to Mercy's 911 call, and the four must work together to track down a missing mother, solve a cold-case murder, and keep the citizens of Northshire safe on potentially the most incendiary Independence Day since the American Revolution. It's a call to action Mercy and Elvis cannot ignore, no matter what the cost.

One Day in December - Josie Silver 2020-11-10

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • "Get ready to be swept up in a whirlwind romance. It absolutely charmed me."—Reese Witherspoon (A Reese Witherspoon Book Club Pick) "The perfect book to get lost in . . . Josie Silver's characters sneak their way into your heart and stay."—Jill Santopolo, author of *The Light We Lost* Two people. Ten chances. One unforgettable love story. Laurie is pretty sure love at first sight doesn't exist anywhere but the movies. But then, through a misted-up bus window one snowy December day, she sees a man who she knows instantly is the one. Their eyes meet, there's a moment of pure magic...and then her bus drives away. Certain they're fated to find each other again, Laurie spends a year scanning every bus stop and cafe in London for him. But she doesn't find him, not when it matters anyway. Instead they "reunite" at a Christmas party, when her best friend Sarah giddily introduces her new boyfriend to Laurie. It's Jack, the man from the bus. It would be. What follows for Laurie, Sarah and Jack is ten years of friendship, heartbreak, missed opportunities, roads not taken, and destinies reconsidered. *One Day in December* is a joyous, heartwarming and immensely moving love story to escape into and a reminder that fate takes inexplicable turns along the route to happiness.

Structuring Your Novel - K. M. Weiland 2013

Acclaim for *Structuring Your Novel* "I have long wished for a book like this. *Structuring Your Novel* is so much more than a writing craft book—it's a recipe to help writers structure a deep, meaningful journey for their hero that will captivate readers from beginning to end."—Angela Ackerman, Author of *The Emotion Thesaurus* "There is absolute gold in this book—and I am grateful that the author has a real talent for distilling some of the somewhat clunky information found elsewhere, into really simple-to-understand and easy-to-follow techniques."—Robert

Scanlon "This book shows a writer how to structure their novel from beginning to end in a no-nonsense manner. It's fast and easy reading, and MAKES SENSE"—Carrie C. Spencer About the Book *Is Structure the Hidden Foundation of All Successful Stories? Why do some stories work and others don't? The answer is structure. In this IPPY and NIEA-Award winning guide from the author of the bestselling *Outlining Your Novel*, you will learn the universal underpinnings that guarantee powerful plot and character arcs. An understanding of proper story and scene structure will show you how to perfectly time your story's major events and will provide you with an unerring standard against which to evaluate your novel's pacing and progression. *Structuring Your Novel* will show you: How to determine the best techniques for empowering your unique and personal vision for your story. How to identify common structural weaknesses and flip them around into stunning strengths. How to eliminate saggy middles by discovering your "centerpiece." Why you should NEVER include conflict in every scene. How to discover the questions you don't want readers asking about your plot—and then how to get them to ask the right questions. Story structure has enabled countless bestselling and classic authors. Now it's your turn More Praise for *Structuring Your Novel* "K.M. Weiland delivers another exceptional resource for writers—offering practical guidance on everything from crafting a book's hook to its resolution."—Elizabeth Spann Craig, Author of the *Myrtle Clover Mysteries* "Structuring Your Novel will give you the blueprint for making your story more powerful. I'm taking this one with me to my desert island"—Jennifer Ibarra "After finishing the book, I reviewed my own writing and was easily able to see where the story wasn't working, understand why it wasn't, and figure out what I needed to do to fix it."—Abby Geiger More storytelling assistance from K.M. Weiland: *Outlining Your Novel: Map Your Way to Success*—Can outlining help you write a better story?*

What Comes After - JoAnne Tompkins 2022-04-05

Finalist for the Dayton Literary Peace Prize Named a top beach read of summer by Oprah Daily, Good Housekeeping, The Wall Street Journal, and more "Nail-biting wallop of a debut . . . a thoughtful, unexpectedly optimistic tale."—The New York Times "If you enjoyed *The Searcher* by Tana French, read *What Comes After* by JoAnne Tompkins. . . . a mystery—and a gritty meditation on loss and redemption, drenched in stillness and grief."—The Washington Post After the shocking death of two teenage boys tears apart a community in the Pacific Northwest, a mysterious pregnant girl emerges out of the woods and into the lives of those same boys' families—a moving and hopeful novel about forgiveness and human connection. In misty, coastal Washington State, Isaac lives alone with his dog, grieving the recent death of his teenage son, Daniel. Next door, Lorrie, a working single mother, struggles with a heinous act committed by her own teenage son. Separated by only a silvery stretch of trees, the two parents are emotionally stranded, isolated by their great losses—until an unfamiliar sixteen-year-old girl shows up, bridges the gap, and changes everything. Evangeline's arrival at first feels like a blessing, but she is also clearly hiding something. When Isaac, who has retreated into his Quaker faith, isn't equipped to handle her alone, Lorrie forges her own relationship with the girl. Soon all three characters are forced to examine what really happened in their overlapping pasts, and what it all possibly means for a shared future. With a propulsive mystery at its core, *What Comes After* offers an unforgettable story of loss and anger, but also of kindness and hope, courage and forgiveness. It is a deeply moving account of strangers and friends not only helping each other forward after tragedy but inspiring a new kind of family.

The Keep - Jennifer Egan 2007-07-10

NATIONAL BESTSELLER • "Part horror tale, part mystery, part romance ... utterly fantastic."—O, The Oprah Magazine • The bestselling, award-winning author of *A Visit from the Goon Squad* brilliantly conjures a world from which escape is impossible and where the keep—the tower, the last stand—is both everything worth protecting and the very thing that must be surrendered in order to survive. Two cousins, irreversibly damaged by a childhood prank, reunite twenty years later to renovate a medieval castle in Eastern Europe. In an environment of extreme paranoia, cut off from the outside world, the men reenact the signal event of their youth, with even more catastrophic results. And as the full horror of their predicament unfolds, a prisoner, in jail for an unnamed crime, recounts an unforgettable story that seamlessly brings the crimes of the past and present into piercing relation.

Story Trumps Structure - Steven James 2014-05-27

Don't limit your fiction - LIBERATE IT All too often, following the "rules" of writing can constrict rather than inspire you. With *Story Trumps Structure*, you can shed those rules - about three-act structure, rising action, outlining, and more - to craft your most powerful, emotional, and gripping stories. Award-winning novelist Steven James explains how to trust the narrative process to make your story believable, compelling, and engaging, and debunks the common myths that hold writers back from creating their best work. • Ditch your outline and learn to write organically. • Set up promises for readers - and deliver on them. • Discover how to craft a satisfying climax. • Master the subtleties of characterization. • Add mind-blowing twists to your fiction. When you focus on what lies at the heart of story - tension, desire, crisis, escalation, struggle, discovery - rather than plot templates and formulas, you'll begin to break out of the box and write fiction that resonates with your readers. *Story Trumps Structure* will transform the way you think about stories and the way you write them, forever.

Sisters of Shadow (Sisters of Shadow, Book 1) - Katherine Livesey 2021-09-30

Anne of Green Gables meets Diana Wynne Jones in this whimsical fantasy adventure perfect for teen readers.

A Little Life - Hanya Yanagihara 2016-01-26

NATIONAL BESTSELLER • A stunning "portrait of the enduring grace of friendship" (NPR) about the families we are born into, and those that we make for ourselves. A masterful depiction of love in the twenty-first century. NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FINALIST • MAN BOOKER PRIZE FINALIST • WINNER OF THE KIRKUS PRIZE *A Little Life* follows four college classmates—broke, adrift, and buoyed only by their friendship and ambition—as they move to New York in search of fame and fortune. While their relationships, which are tinged by addiction, success, and pride, deepen over the decades, the men are held together by their devotion to the brilliant, enigmatic Jude, a man scarred by an unspeakable childhood trauma. A hymn to brotherly bonds and a masterful depiction of love in the twenty-first century, Hanya Yanagihara's stunning novel is about the families we are born into, and those that we make for ourselves. Look for Hanya Yanagihara's bestselling new novel, *To Paradise*, available now.

Fire Up Your Writing Brain - Susan Reynolds 2015-09-21

Ignite Your Writing Brain! Whether you're an experienced writer or just starting out, an endless number of pitfalls can trip up your efforts, from procrastination and writer's block to thin characters and uninspired plots. Luckily, you have access to an extraordinary writing tool that can help overcome all of these problems: your brain. *Fire Up Your Writing Brain* teaches you how to develop your

brain to its fullest potential. Based on proven, easy-to-understand neuroscience, this book details ways to stimulate, nurture, and hone your brain into the ultimate writing tool. Inside, you'll learn how to: • Identify the type of writer you are: Do you think or feel your way through writing a book? Are you a pantsner or a plotter? • Develop writing models that accelerate your learning curve. • Hardwire your brain for endurance and increased productivity. • Brainstorm better character concepts and plot points. • Learn to edit your manuscript on both a macro and micro level. • Recharge a lagging brain to gain an extra burst of creativity. Filled with accessible instruction, practical techniques, and thought-provoking exercises, *Fire Up Your Writing Brain* shows you how to become a more productive, creative, and successful writer--a veritable writing genius! "An excellent resource--the way that neuroscience and the art of writing are jointly explored allows for a new, unique, and practical integration of the two." --Teresa Aubele-Futch, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Neuroscience at Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame and co-author of *Train Your Brain to Get Happy* and *Train Your Brain to Get Rich* "Full of neuroscience facts and tips, this inspiring book will change your brain--and your writing life. I learned techniques that I'll apply to my students and my own writing." --Linda Joy Myers, President of the National Association of Memoir Writers and award-winning author of *Don't Call Me Mother: A Daughter's Journey from Abandonment to Forgiveness*

Fixing Freddie - Paula Munier 2010-07-18

There are bad dogs--and then there are bad beagles. In this hilarious and heartwarming memoir, single mother Paula Munier takes on the world's worst beagle--and loses every time. She tries everything to fix Freddie--but nothing really works. As her youngest son grows up and prepares to leave her soon-to-be empty nest, Paula's worst fear is that after more than thirty years of raising kids, she'll be left all alone--with Freddie.

Creative Writing - Colin Bulman 2007

All writers are familiar with terms like plot, suspense, conflict and character. They may be less familiar with intertextuality, anachrony, and fabula, and they may be even less confident in achieving the effects these terms refer to. This book defines fictional techniques and guides the potential writer in their use. It may spark off ideas for stories and novels and provide first-aid for failing stories. A story's ending may come as a surprise to the reader, suspense may have the reader on the edge of the seat, and conflict may lead to unbearable excitement. It is the job of the writer to create these effects and this book illustrates how it is done. The book is for students doing creative writing in higher education, at "A" level, and it will be essential reading for anyone interested in writing fiction. Contents: Definitions of over 200 terms and techniques to do with fiction writing How to achieve fictional effects Literary examples of the techniques described Characteristics of genre as well as literary fiction Basic but essential techniques such as writing dialogue and using figures of speech Definitions of major terms used in publishing

Great Circle - Maggie Shipstead 2021-05-04

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • A TODAY SHOW #ReadWithJenna BOOK CLUB PICK • WOMEN'S PRIZE FOR FICTION NOMINEE • The unforgettable story of a daredevil female aviator determined to chart her own course in life, at any cost: an "epic trip--through Prohibition and World War II, from Montana to London to present-day Hollywood--and you'll relish every minute" (People). After being rescued as infants from a sinking ocean liner in 1914, Marian and Jamie Graves are raised by their dissolute uncle in Missoula, Montana. There--after encountering a pair of barnstorming

pilots passing through town in beat-up biplanes--Marian commences her lifelong love affair with flight. At fourteen she drops out of school and finds an unexpected and dangerous patron in a wealthy bootlegger who provides a plane and subsidizes her lessons, an arrangement that will haunt her for the rest of her life, even as it allows her to fulfill her destiny: circumnavigating the globe by flying over the North and South Poles. A century later, Hadley Baxter is cast to play Marian in a film that centers on Marian's disappearance in Antarctica. Vibrant, canny, disgusted with the claustrophobia of Hollywood, Hadley is eager to redefine herself after a romantic film franchise has imprisoned her in the grip of cult celebrity. Her immersion into the character of Marian unfolds, thrillingly, alongside Marian's own story, as the two women's fates--and their hunger for self-determination in vastly different geographies and times--collide. Epic and emotional, meticulously researched and gloriously told, *Great Circle* is a monumental work of art, and a tremendous leap forward for the prodigiously gifted Maggie Shipstead.

How To Write a Page Turner - Jordan Rosenfeld 2019-02-11

Infuse Your Fiction with the Powerful Tug of Tension! Tension is the heart of conflict, the backbone of uncertainty, the hallmark of danger. It keeps readers guessing and characters on their toes. When you've got tension in place, stories leave readers breathless and wanting more. When it's missing, scenes feel inconsequential, plots drag, and characters meander. Learning the craft of writing can sometimes feel like a paint by numbers approach--connect compelling character A to plot event B. To avoid writing that's formulaic, predictable, and slow, *How to Write a Page Turner* will help you sew the threads of tension tight for an unforgettable story. You'll learn how to:

- Recognize the essential tension elements of danger, conflict, uncertainty, and withholding, and add them to your fiction
- Create levels of tension in your characters through flaws, dialogue, power struggles, and more
- Build tension at energetic markers throughout the plot
- Use intimate imagery, strong sentences, and well-chosen words to build tension in exposition

While this book walks you through the key areas that need tension building, from character to plot, it also delves deeper, analyzing exceptional examples from contemporary fiction's most gripping page-turners. So as you dive into the inner conflicts of a character's deepest psyche, to the mechanics of how you reveal information to the reader, you'll also discover how to craft a story your readers can't put down!

In Five Years - Rebecca Serle 2020-03-10

A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER A Good Morning America, FabFitFun, and Marie Claire Book Club Pick "In Five Years is as clever as it is moving, the rare read-in-one-sitting novel you won't forget." --Chloe Benjamin, New York Times bestselling author of *The Immortalists* □Perfect for fans of *Me Before You* and *One Day*--a striking, powerful, and moving love story following an ambitious lawyer who experiences an astonishing vision that could change her life forever. Where do you see yourself in five years? Dannie Kohan lives her life by the numbers. She is nothing like her lifelong best friend--the wild, whimsical, believes-in-fate Bella. Her meticulous planning seems to have paid off after she nails the most important job interview of her career and accepts her boyfriend's marriage proposal in one fell swoop, falling asleep completely content. But when she awakens, she's suddenly in a different apartment, with a different ring on her finger, and beside a very different man. Dannie spends one hour exactly five years in the future before she wakes again in her own home on the brink of midnight--but it is one hour she cannot shake. *In Five Years* is an unforgettable love story, but it is not the

one you're expecting.

Writing the Heart of Your Story - C.S. Lakin 2014-06-26

Learn the secret of how to write the heart of your story! This writing skills book, full of fiction writing technique, is like no other. Some novelists write with the goal of becoming a best seller, hoping for wealth and fame. Some just want to write novels that earn them a steady income so they can feed their families and pay their bills. Some write to express their creativity and don't care if anyone ever reads their books. Then there are the other writers. They want to write an unforgettable novel--the kind of book that gets called a classic, that endures the ravages of time, that stays long in readers' hearts and changes their lives. These writers want to know the secret of how to reach the heart of their readers. If you are one of those writers, *Writing the Heart of Your Story* is the book you've been waiting for. Inside, you'll learn: what the most important key elements are that must be in the very first scene of your novel--and some in the first paragraph. how to tap into the heart of your story, characters, setting, plot, and themes by employing specific writing exercises. ways to brainstorm ideas for plot, themes, motifs, setting, and rich characters through asking a series of questions that will take you deeper below the surface of your story. what the most important question is that must be asked in the opening scene in order to write an unforgettable novel. what three things each character must be asked for them to become truly believable and compelling. the secrets to structuring powerful scenes by focusing on the "high moment." Don't just write a good novel. Write a great one--by mining the heart of your story! Here's what the best writing instructors and bloggers have to say about this essential writing craft book: "A fresh and motivating take on conventional wisdom, but with unconventional heart. This is highly accessible teaching that transcends 'how to' and goes deep into 'why to' in a way that will force you to choose between reading it again and jumping on your own project. Bravo." -Larry Brooks, best-selling author of *Story Engineering* and *Story Physics* "As authors, our job is to make people feel, and to do this we need to connect with our own deepest selves in the hope that we can meet the reader where they are. This book will teach you how to delve into your own heart in order to impact those who read your words." -Joanna Penn, author of *From Idea to Book* "A veritable compendium of sound writing advice and technique. Written in a style that is both accessible and fun, Lakin's book will be a welcome companion on your writing journey." -James Scott Bell, best-selling author of *Conflict and Suspense* and *Plot and Structure* "I read dozens of writing craft books every year. All too many of them are ho-hum, been-there-done-that. This one is absolutely posolutely not. Lakin offers a refreshingly structured--and yet freeing--approach to not just creating a solidly entertaining story but to crafting a tale of emotional resonance and resilience. Her useful writing exercises and spot-on story sense offer epiphany after epiphany. This is one I will read and reread." -K. M. Weiland, author of *Outlining Your Novel* and *Structuring Your Novel* "C. S. Lakin once again shares her generous heart and knowledge and experience with writers in this inspiring and inspired *Writing the Heart of Your Story*. Ready to take your writing to the next level? Lakin offers practical exercises to help you bring heart to your own stories." -Martha Alderson, author of *The Plot Whisperer* series of writing books

The Plot Dot - Derek Murphy 2016-04-13

An Adult Coloring Book for Authors! This book will help you paint powerful visual scenes that stick with readers long after they're finished your book. The techniques described within are simple and easy to use. Think of this as a guided

coloring book adventure. YOUR adventure. There are lots of systems and guides to plotting, but if you're like me you have journals filled with notes, scenes and description... it can get overwhelming. I've based this book on traditional three-act story architecture, but it's greatly simplified. Plotters and pantsers can use the guided exercises to gain greater visual clarity and build more meaningful scenes with resonance. This book will help you get organized and unlock hidden potential in your scenes that you didn't know was there, by going beyond words and focusing on drawing and coloring your scenes until you have a full outline. This book makes an excellent workbook for writing retreats, is simple enough for children to use (it's never too early to write your first novel), and introduces a new, and hopefully useful, way to organize your novel, improve your writing, and create unforgettable scenes that will make a deep and lasting impact.

The Whole Town's Talking - Fannie Flagg 2016-11-29

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • The bestselling author of *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe* is at her superb best in this fun-loving, moving novel about what it means to be truly alive. WINNER OF THE SOUTHERN BOOK PRIZE Elmwood Springs, Missouri, is a small town like any other, but something strange is happening at the cemetery. Still Meadows, as it's called, is anything but still. Original, profound, *The Whole Town's Talking*, a novel in the tradition of Thornton Wilder's *Our Town* and Flagg's own *Can't Wait to Get to Heaven*, tells the story of Lord Nordstrom, his Swedish mail-order bride, Katrina, and their neighbors and descendants as they live, love, die, and carry on in mysterious and surprising ways. Lord Nordstrom created, in his wisdom, not only a lively town and a prosperous legacy for himself but also a beautiful final resting place for his family, friends, and neighbors yet to come. "Resting place" turns out to be a bit of a misnomer, however. Odd things begin to happen, and it starts the whole town talking. With her wild imagination, great storytelling, and deep understanding of folly and the human heart, the beloved Fannie Flagg tells an unforgettable story of life, afterlife, and the remarkable goings-on of ordinary people. In *The Whole Town's Talking*, she reminds us that community is vital, life is a gift, and love never dies. Praise for *The Whole Town's Talking* "A witty multigenerational saga . . . [Fannie] Flagg's down-home wisdom, her affable humor and her long view of life offer a pleasant respite in nerve-jangling times."—People "Fannie Flagg at her best."—The Florida Times-Union "If there's one thing Fannie Flagg can do better than anybody else, it's tell a story, and she outdoes herself in *The Whole Town's Talking*. . . . Brilliant . . . equally on the level as her famous *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe*."—The Newport Plain Talk "Delightful."—The Washington Post "A ringing affirmation of love, community and life itself."—Richmond Times-Dispatch

Plot Perfect - Paula Munier 2014-11-14

Build an Exceptional Plot, One Scene at a Time! Think of your favorite story--the one that kept you turning pages late into the night, the one with a plot so compelling, so multilayered, so perfect that you couldn't put it down. How can you make your own plots--in your novels, short stories, memoirs, or screenplays--just as irresistible? *Plot Perfect* provides the answer. This one-of-a-kind plotting primer reveals the secrets of creating a story structure that works--no matter what your genre. It gives you the strategies you need to build a scene-by-scene blueprint that will help elevate your fiction and earn the attention of agents and editors. Inside, literary agent, editor, and author Paula Munier shows you how to:

- Devise powerful plots and subplots and weave them together seamlessly
- Organize your scenes for the greatest impact
- Develop captivating protagonists, worthy

antagonists, and engaging secondary characters • Use dialogue, setting, tone, and voice to enhance your plot • Layer, refine, and polish your storyline • Define your story in terms of its theme Filled with writing exercises, plotting templates, and expert advice, *Plot Perfect* helps you dive into the intricacies of plot--and write a compelling story that readers won't be able to resist.

9-Nov - Colleen Hoover 2016-10-04

When Fallon and aspiring novelist Ben meet and fall in love the day before Fallon's cross-country move, they vow to meet on the same date every year, until Fallon suspects Ben is fabricating their relationship to create the perfect plot twist.

Love at First - Kate Clayborn 2021-02-23

"The most delightful cast of characters I've met in ages...a modern romance masterpiece." —New York Times bestseller Christina Lauren "Constantly revealing new layers of lyricism...*Love at First* is poetry, then – sometimes an artful sonnet, other times halting free verse. But it's never anything short of miraculous." —Entertainment Weekly, Grade A "At the end I was left with that warm, glowing love for humanity that is always what I'm chasing when I read this genre: the sense of togetherness, of hope, of even unsolvable problems feeling less impossible. Because a good romance lets you forgive the people on the page. A great romance lets you forgive people in general – and feel that maybe they even deserve it."—The New York Times Buzzfeed Books to Add to Your TBR Goodreads Hottest Romances of 2021 Frolic Best Books of Winter 2021 BookRiot Books for Coping with A COVID-19 Winter SmexyBooks Most Anticipated Books A Love So True Books Every Romance Fan Should Read A sparkling and tender novel from the acclaimed author of *Love Lettering*, full of bickering neighbors, surprise reunions, and the mysterious power of love that fans of Christina Lauren, Sarah Hogle, and Emily Henry will adore. Sixteen years ago, a teenaged Will Sterling saw—or rather, heard—the girl of his dreams. Standing beneath an apartment building balcony, he shared a perfect moment with a lovely, warm-voiced stranger. It's a memory that's never faded, though he's put so much of his past behind him. Now an unexpected inheritance has brought Will back to that same address, where he plans to offload his new property and get back to his regular life as an overworked doctor. Instead, he encounters a woman, two balconies above, who's uncannily familiar . . . No matter how surprised Nora Clarke is by her reaction to handsome, curious Will, or the whispered pre-dawn conversations they share, she won't let his plans ruin her quirky, close-knit building. Bound by her loyalty to her adored grandmother, she sets out to foil his efforts with a little light sabotage. But beneath the surface of their feud is an undeniable connection. A balcony, a star-crossed couple, a fateful meeting—maybe it's the kind of story that can't work out in the end. Or maybe, it's the perfect second chance . . . "Gorgeously written." —NPR "A superb cast of characters rounds out this sweet, slow-burn romance." —Booklist "A Mary Balogh-style love story...The comforting rewrite of *Romeo and Juliet* you didn't know you needed." —Kirkus Reviews "Will and Nora's chemistry and the quirky side characters keep the pages turning. Clayborn's fans will be pleased." —Publishers Weekly "Her beautiful prose is full of a softness and depth that lingers—passages beg to be reread and savored. Perfect for fans of Christina Lauren and Emily Henry, *Love at First* feels like a long, warm hug upon returning home." —Shelf Awareness "A beautiful book and worth the painful beginnings..." —Smart Bitches, Trashy Books "A beautifully understated but gloriously romantic love story full of poignancy and tenderness." —All About Romance "Clayborn remains one of my favorite authors, and I can't wait to see what she will write next." —Frolic

Writing Blockbuster Plots - Martha Alderson 2016-03-03

Plotting a story filled with memorable, engaging scenes from beginning to end can feel like an insurmountable challenge. Having the right plan - and the tools to execute it - can make all the difference. *Writing Blockbuster Plots* pulls back the curtain on story structure with step-by-step strategies and visuals that turn plotting and scene writing into a no-stress endeavor. In this completely revised and updated edition, celebrated writing instructor and plot consultant Martha Alderson helps you navigate the intricacies of story with the help of her exclusive Plot Planner and Scene Tracker tools. Using Alderson's effective, accessible techniques, you'll be able to:

- PLOT your story from beginning to end

with a focus on dramatic action, the emotional development of your characters, and thematic significance.

- ENSURE that each scene contributes meaningfully to the narrative by tracking the seven essential elements of scene.
- LINK scenes by cause and effect to create a tight, seamless narrative.
- INJECT tension and conflict to keep readers glued to the page.
- TARGET weak areas in your story and learn how to fix them.

Filled with examples from both classic and contemporary novels, as well as illustrations of the Plot Planner and Scene Tracker in action, *Writing Blockbuster Plots* strips the confusion out of the plotting process, enabling you to write a story that deserves a standing ovation.