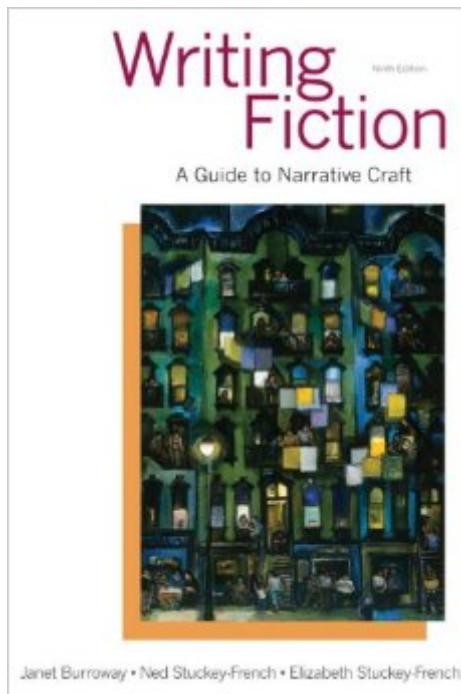


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Writing Fiction: A Guide To Narrative Craft (9th Edition)



Synopsis

The most widely used and respected text in its field, *Writing Fiction*, Ninth Edition guides the novice story writer from first inspiration to final revision. A bestseller through eight editions, *Writing Fiction* explores the elements of fiction, providing practical writing techniques and concrete examples. Written in a tone that is personal and non-prescriptive, the text encourages students to develop proficiency through each step of the writing process, offering an abundance of exercises designed to spur writing and creativity. The text also integrates diverse, contemporary short stories in the belief that the reading of inspiring fiction goes hand-in-hand with the writing of fresh and exciting stories.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (27 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Reviewed by C J Singh (Berkeley, CA). As expected the ninth edition drops some of the stories in the eighth edition and adds stories by contemporary writers such as George Saunders, Stacy Richter, and Sandra Cisneros. The chapter on Revision adds an early draft and the published version of Pia Z Ehrhardt's short-short story "Following the Notes" as well as the annotated revisions that Janet Burroway made in the opening pages of her novel "Indian Dancer." This section will be familiar to readers of Burroway's book *Imaginative Writing: The Elements of Craft* (4th Edition). See my review of the book on .com.) Good decision to include her own work -- only the author can authoritatively know her changing intentions in the re-drafting process. Also new in this edition is the 10-page Appendix entitled "What Next? Professionalism and Literary Citizenship." It

presents suggestions on submitting your work to magazines; applying to graduate programs in creative writing; and building a literary community in the digital age. (Surprisingly there's no mention of MeetUp.com as a platform for starting writing groups -- for example, in the San Francisco Bay Area alone there are more than fifty meetups for writers including one I organized in Berkeley.) For teaching yourself as member of a study group of at least 3 participants, I recommend beginning with Burroway's "Imaginative Writing: The Elements of Craft, ANY edition"; next Burroway's "Writing Fiction: A Guide to Narrative Craft, SIXTH edition" (Why the sixth? Please see rest of this review.

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