



A Baker's Dozen: Books to Inspire, Encourage, Excite, and Assist in Writing Fiction and Nonfiction for Young Readers

Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life by Anne Lamott

This wonderful book is like having coffee with a friend! Integrating life and work is the writer's gift and Anne Lamott captures this idea perfectly. Her analogy is that writing is like bird watching – each piece accomplishes discovery and learning – bird by bird!

Children's Writers and Illustrators Market by Chuck Sambuchino

An annual comprehensive guide which can be found in many libraries. It includes listings for children's book markets (publishers, agents, magazines, etc.) including point of contact, how to properly submit work, and what categories each market accepts. Also dotted with interviews, essays and practical tips.

Dear Genius: The Letters of Ursula Nordstrom Collected & Edited by Leonard S. Marcus

Ursula Nordstrom was the legendary Director of Harper's Dept. of Books for Boys and Girls from 1940-1973. During that time, she worked with and mentored many of the most celebrated authors in children's literature. Among them were E.B. White, Maurice Sendak, Margaret Wise Brown, Shel Silverstein, and many others. This book inspires by allowing a peek into a rarified world of excellence and purpose that is the foundation of children's literature in the United States. (Plus, it's fun to read "other people's letters.")

How to Write and Sell Historical Fiction by Persia Woolley

Advice, both practical and inspirational, for working in this genre which is important in the children's market. The author discusses all types of historical focus from personal to wide time periods and settings, concentrating on the importance of story, character, and theme as elements along with factual detail.

On Writing Well: The Classic Guide to Writing Nonfiction by William Zinzer

Praised for its sound advice, its clarity and the warmth of its style. This is a book for everybody who wants to learn how to write or who needs to do some writing to get through the day, as almost everybody does in the age of e-mail and the Internet. Whether you want to write about people or places, science and technology, business, sports, the arts or about yourself in the increasingly popular memoir genre, *On Writing Well* offers fundamental principles as well as the insights of a distinguished writer and teacher. This volume has stood the test of time and remains a valuable resource for writers.

One Writer's Beginnings by Eudora Welty

A collection of autobiographical essays by the winner of the 1973 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. The book is based on three lectures she delivered at Harvard University in April 1983, as part of the William E. Massey Sr. lecture series. The three essays are entitled: *Listening*, *Learning to See*, and

Finding A Voice. Well received by both critics and fans alike, this book was on the *New York Times* bestseller list for almost a year. In the essays, Ms. Welty explains the inescapable bond between her childhood in Mississippi and her later career as a writer. She shares details from her childhood and her relationship with her parents. She discusses how these two critical relationships and other relationships from her childhood contributed to her literary voice.

A Sense of Wonder by Katherine Paterson

Insights by Newbery Award-winning and respected author of many fine children's titles, including the landmark, *Bridge to Terabithia*. Each essay included frames the importance of integrity and imagination in the special creative endeavor of writing for children.

A Treasure Trove of Opportunity: How to Write and Sell Articles for Children's Magazines by Melissa Abramovitz

Writing and selling nonfiction magazine articles for children and teenagers can be rewarding and lucrative. The author writes that writing nonfiction for children and teens is an accessible and ideal method of breaking into print. This guide will provide excellent help for working in this exciting area.

The Writer's Journey: Mythic Structure for Writers by Christopher Vogler and Michele Montez

This book is an international bestseller and a true classic which explores the powerful relationship between mythology and storytelling. Its clear, concise style makes it required reading for movie executives, screen writers, playwrights, scholars, and fans of pop culture all over the world. Children's writers will find that it details so well the influence of mythology on stories.

Writing Picture Books: A Hands-on Guide from Story Creation to Publication by Ann Whitford Paul

The field of writing picture books entails many unique traits, from story crafting to page layout and design. The title says it all here and why, when working in this genre, a manual such as this is useful.

Writing With Pictures: How to Write & Illustrate Children's Books by Uri Shulevitz

A useful and detailed guide to the picture book genre, with the additional plus that it is written by a Caldecott winning illustrator and author who gives unique insight through his inspiration and artistry.

You Can Write Children's Books by Tracey E. Dils

Writing for children – whether it's in the form of picture books, beginning readers, chapter books and novels, or nonfiction – requires a unique skill set: the ability to speak to children on their level. This book provides instruction and exercises to shape ideas, develop writing, and sell books.

--- and lastly, READ, READ, READ children's books. There is no substitute for reading works for children – classic or trendy, educational or recreational, fiction or non-fiction – to write in this field, you must read in it. In the words of Stephen King, "If you want to be a writer, you must do two things above all others: read a lot and write a lot."

Reading List provided for Panel Discussion on Writing for Children, WWW