

Writing Resources for MML Writer's Group

Merrill Memorial Library, Yarmouth, ME

Courtney Kleftis, Adult Services Librarian

Last updated, October 31, 2023

NOTE: All book lists are alphabetical by the author's last name AND all lists (books, websites, podcasts, or other) are not comprehensive but rather small but representative samples of their respective categories.

BOOKS: 75 titles

1. Books about Writing (General Guides & Style Guides): 10 titles

| TITLE (Pub. Year) | AUTHOR | CALL #/LOCATION |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <i>The Thorn Necklace: Healing Through Writing and the Creative Process (2018)</i> | BLOCK, FRANCESCA LIA | 5 Minerva copies |
| <i>Write for Life: Creative Tools for Every Writer: A Six-Week Artist's Way Program (2023)</i> | CAMERON, JULIA | 701.15 CAM (New) |
| <i>Murder Your Darlings: And Other Gentle Writing Advice from Aristotle to Zinsser (2020)</i> | CLARK, ROY PETER | 3 Minerva copies |
| <i>5,000 Writing Prompts: A Master List of Plot Ideas, Creative Exercises, and More (2019)</i> | DONOVAN, BRYN | 1 Minerva copy |
| <i>How to Write Like a Writer: A Sharp and Subversive Guide to Ignoring Inhibitions, Inviting Inspiration, and Finding Your True Voice (2022)</i> | FOSTER, THOMAS C. | 1 Minerva copy |
| <i>The Way of the Writer: Reflections on the Art and Craft of Storytelling (2016)</i> | JOHNSON, CHARLES | 10 Minerva copies |
| <i>Letters to a Young Writer: Some Practical and Philosophical Advice (2017)</i> | MCCANN, COLUM | 6 Minerva copies |
| <i>Reading Like a Writer: A Guide for People Who Love Books and for Those Who Want to Write Them</i> | PROSE, FRANCINE | 808.02 PRO |

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| | | |
|--|---|------------------|
| <u>(2006)</u> | | |
| <u>Still Writing: The Pleasures and Perils of a Creative Life (2013)</u> | <u>SHAPIRO, DANI</u> | 2 Minerva copies |
| <u>25 Great Sentences and How They Got That Way (2020)</u> | <u>WOODS, GERALDINE</u> | 3 Minerva copies |

2. Books about Writing (Genre/Style Specific)

- **Fiction (including Short Stories): 10 titles**

| TITLE (Pub. Year) | AUTHOR | CALL #/LOCATION |
|--|--|--|
| <u>Refuse to Be Done: How to Write and Rewrite a Novel in Three Drafts (2022)</u> | <u>BELL, MATT</u> | 5 Minerva copies |
| <u>Writing Fiction: A Guide to Narrative Craft (2019)</u> | <u>BURROWAY, JANET</u> | 1 Minerva copy & 2 additional Minerva copies of an earlier <u>(2015) edition</u> |
| <u>Flash!: Writing the Very Short Story (2018)</u> | <u>DUFRESNE, JOHN</u> | 4 Minerva copies |
| <u>Mastering the Process: From Idea to Novel (2020)</u> | <u>GEORGE, ELIZABETH</u> | 8 Minerva copies |
| <u>Steering the Craft: A Twenty-First-Century Guide to Sailing the Sea of Story (2015)</u> | <u>LE GUIN, URSULA K.</u> | 11 Minerva copies |
| <u>Novelist as a Vocation (2022)</u> | <u>MURAKAMI, HARUKI</u> (in translation) | 895.645 MUR (New) |
| <u>Elements of Fiction (2019)</u> | <u>MOSLEY, WALTER</u> | 808.3 MOS |
| <u>Daemon Voices: On Stories and Storytelling (2018)</u> | <u>PULLMAN, PHILIP</u> | 809 PUL |
| <u>How to Write a Page Turner: Craft a Story Your Readers Can't Put Down (2019)</u> | <u>ROSENFELD, JORDAN</u> | 1 Minerva copy |

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| <u><i>Thirteen Ways of Looking at the Novel (2005)</i></u> | <u>SMILEY, JANE</u> | 814.6 SMI |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------|

● **Character Development, Dialogue & World Building: 10 titles**

| TITLE (Pub. Year) | AUTHOR | CALL #/LOCATION |
|---|--|--|
| <u><i>Characters, Emotion & Viewpoint: Techniques and Exercises for Crafting Dynamic Characters and Effective Viewpoints (2005)</i></u> | <u>KRESS, NANCY</u> | 3 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>The Writer's Map: An Atlas of Imaginary Lands (2018)</i></u> | <u>LEWIS-JONES, HUW</u> | 3 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>Bullies, Bastards & Bitches: How to Write the Bad Guys of Fiction (2008)</i></u> | <u>MORRELL, JESSICA PAGE</u> | 1 Minerva copy |
| <u><i>Fantasy World-Building: A Guide to Developing Mythic Worlds and Legendary Creatures (2019)</i></u> | <u>NELSON, MARK</u> | 2 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>The Art of Language Invention: From Horse-Lords to Dark Elves, The Words Behind World-Building (2015)</i></u> | <u>PETERSON, DAVID J.</u> | 2 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>Write Great Fiction: Description & Setting: Techniques and Exercises for Crafting a Believable World of People, Places, and Events (2005)</i></u> | <u>ROZELLE, RON</u> | 2 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>Literary Landscapes: Charting the Worlds of Classic Literature (2018)</i></u> | <u>SUTHERLAND, JOHN (editor)</u> | 3 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>Mastering Point of View (2001)</i></u> | <u>SZEMAN, SHERRI</u> | 2 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>Wonderbook: The Illustrated Guide to Creating Imaginative Fiction (2018)</i></u> | <u>VANDERMEER, JEFF</u> | 3 Minerva copies & 6 additional Minerva copies of an earlier <u>(2013) edition</u> |
| <u><i>Who Says?: Mastering Point of View in Fiction (2021)</i></u> | <u>ZEIDNER, LISA</u> | 2 Minerva copies |

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● **Nonfiction: Essay & Memoir: 10 titles**

| TITLE (Pub. Year) | AUTHOR | CALL #/LOCATION |
|--|--|-------------------|
| <u><i>The Lifespan of a Fact</i> (2012)</u> | <u>D'AGATA, JOHN</u> | 5 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>Body Work: The Radical Power of Personal Narrative</i> (2022)</u> | <u>FEBOS, MELISSA</u> | 808.066 FEB |
| <u><i>You Can't Make This Stuff Up: The Complete Guide to Writing Creative Nonfiction--From Memoir to Literary Journalism and Everything in Between</i> (2012)</u> | <u>GUTKIND, LEE</u> | 4 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>Storycraft: The Complete Guide to Writing Narrative Nonfiction</i> (2011)</u> | <u>HART, JACK</u> | 7 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>The Art of Memoir</i> (2015)</u> | <u>KARR, MARY</u> | 22 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>Handling the Truth: On the Writing of Memoir</i> (2013)</u> | <u>KEPHART, BETH</u> | 10 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>Good Prose: The Art of Nonfiction</i> (2013)</u> | <u>KIDDER, TRACY</u> | 19 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>To Show and to Tell: The Craft of Literary Nonfiction</i> (2013)</u> | <u>LOPATE, PHILLIP</u> | 7 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>Write for Your Life</i> (2022)</u> | <u>QUINDLEN, ANNA</u> | 808.02 QUI |
| <u><i>The Faraway Nearby</i> (2013)</u> | <u>SOLNIT, REBECCA</u> | 6 Minerva copies |

● **Poetry: 10 titles**

| TITLE (Pub. Year) | AUTHOR | CALL #/LOCATION |
|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <u><i>Poetry as Spellcasting: Poems, Essays, and Prompts for Manifesting Liberation and Reclaiming Power</i> (2023)</u> | <u>BEYER, TAMIKO</u> | 1 Minerva copy (New) |
| <u><i>The Ode Less Travelled: Unlocking the Poet Within</i> (2006)</u> | <u>FRY, STEPHEN</u> | 8 Minerva copies |

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|---|---|--|
| <u><i>Catching the Light</i> (2022)</u> | <u>HARJO, JOY</u> | 8 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>A Little Book on Form: An Exploration Into the Formal Imagination of Poetry</i> (2017)</u> | <u>HASS, ROBERT</u> | 4 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>The Art of Voice: Poetic Principles and Practice</i> (2019)</u> | <u>HOAGLAND, TONY</u> | 2 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>In the Palm of Your Hand: The Poet's Portable Workshop</i> (2007)</u> | <u>KOWIT, STEVE</u> | 2 Minerva copies & 6 additional Minerva copies of an earlier <u>(1995) edition</u> |
| <u><i>Rhyme's Rooms: The Architecture of Poetry</i> (2022)</u> | <u>LEITHAUSER, BRAD</u> | 3 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>Fooling with Words: A Celebration of Poets and their Craft</i> (1999)</u> | <u>MOYERS, BILL</u> (editor) | 808.1 MOY |
| <u><i>Poetry in Person: Twenty-five Years of Conversation with American Poets</i> (2010)</u> | <u>NEUBAUER, ALEXANDER</u> (editor) | 811.6 POE |
| <u><i>Singing School: Learning to Write (and Read) Poetry by Studying with the Masters</i> (2013)</u> | <u>PINSKY, ROBERT</u> | 8 Minerva copies |

- **Screenwriting & Film Adaptations of Fiction: 10 titles**

| TITLE (Pub. Year) | AUTHOR | CALL #/LOCATION |
|--|--|------------------|
| <u><i>101 Best Scenes Ever Written: A Romp Through Literature for Writers and Readers</i> (2006)</u> | <u>CONRAD, BARNABY</u> | 2 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>Screenplay: The Foundations of Screenwriting</i> (2005)</u> | <u>FIELD, SYD</u> | 2 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>Naked Screenwriting: Twenty-Two Oscar-Winning Screenwriters Bare Their Secrets to Writing</i> (2021)</u> | <u>HUNTER, LEW</u> | 2 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>Make Your Story a Movie: Adapting Your Book or Idea for Hollywood</i> (2012)</u> | <u>MARLOW, JOHN ROBERT</u> | 2 Minerva copies |

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|---|--|--|
| <u><i>Writing in Pictures: Screenwriting Made (Mostly) Painless (2012)</i></u> | <u>MCBRIDE, JOSEPH</u> | 2 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>Dialogue: The Art of Verbal Action for Page, Stage, Screen (2016)</i></u> | <u>MCKEE, ROBERT</u> | 6 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>On Story: Screenwriters and Their Craft (2013)</i></u> | <u>MORGAN, BARBARA</u> (editor) | 2 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>The Complete Book of Scriptwriting (1996)</i></u> | <u>STRACZYNSKI, J. MICHAEL</u> | 808.202 STR & 1 additional Minerva copy of a later <u>(2002) edition</u> |
| <u><i>Cut to the Chase: Writing Feature Films with the Pros at UCLA Extension Writers' Program (2013)</i></u> | <u>VENIS, LINDA</u> (editor) | 2 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>Essentials of Screenwriting: The Art, Craft, and Business of Film and Television Writing (2010)</i></u> | <u>WALTER, RICHARD</u> | 1 Minerva copy |

3. Guides to Editing & Publishing (Including Self-Publishing): 15 titles

| TITLE (Pub. Year) | AUTHOR | CALL #/LOCATION |
|--|--|-----------------------------|
| <u><i>Self-Editing for Fiction Writers: How to Edit Yourself into Print (2004)</i></u> | <u>BROWNE, RENNI</u> | 2 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>The Art of Revision: The Last Word (2021)</i></u> | <u>DAVIES, PETER HO</u> | 2 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>The Essential Guide to Getting Your Book Published: How to Write It, Sell It, and Market It--Successfully! (2010)</i></u> | <u>ECKSTUT, ARIELLE</u> | 3 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>What Editors Do: The Art, Craft, and Business of Book Editing (2017)</i></u> | <u>GINNA, PETER</u> (editor) | 3 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>Jeff Herman's Guide to Book Publishers, Editors & Literary Agents: Who They Are, What They Want, How to Win Them Over (2022)</i></u> | <u>HERMAN, JEFF</u> | 1 Minerva copy (New) |
| <u><i>Self-Publishing Books 101: A Step-By-Step Guide to Publishing Your</i></u> | <u>HITZ, SHELLEY</u> | 4 Minerva copies |

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|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| <u><i>Book in Multiple Formats (2014)</i></u> | | |
| <u><i>Behind the Book: Eleven Authors on Their Path to Publication (2018)</i></u> | <u>JONES, CHRIS MACKENZIE</u> | 1 Minerva copy |
| <u><i>The Poets & Writers Complete Guide to Being a Writer: Everything You Need to Know About Craft, Inspiration, Agents, Editors, Publishing and the Business of Building a Sustainable Writing Career (2020)</i></u> | <u>LARIMER, KEVIN</u> | 5 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>The Forest for the Trees: An Editor's Advice to Writers (2000)</i></u> | <u>LERNER, BETSY</u> | 6 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>The Fine Print of Self-Publishing: A Primer on Contracts, Printing Costs, Royalties, Distribution, E-books, and Marketing (2014)</i></u> | <u>LEVINE, MARK L.</u> | 2 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>Before and After the Book Deal: A Writer's Guide to Finishing, Publishing, Promoting and Surviving Your First Book (2020)</i></u> | <u>MAUM, COURTNEY</u> | 19 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>The Last Draft: A Novelist's Guide to Revision (2017)</i></u> | <u>SCOFIELD, SANDRA JEAN</u> | 3 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>Self-Publisher's Legal Handbook: The Step-By-Step Guide to the Legal Issues of Self-Publishing (2014)</i></u> | <u>SEDGWICK, HELEN</u> | 1 Minerva copy |
| <u><i>The Book Bible: How to Sell Your Manuscript - No Matter What Genre - Without Going Broke or Insane (2022)</i></u> | <u>SHAPIRO, SUSAN</u> | 11 Minerva copies |
| <u><i>How to Self Publish Your Book: A Complete Guide to Writing, Editing, Marketing & Selling Your Own Book (2019)</i></u> | <u>YAGER, JAN</u> | 8 Minerva copies |

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WEBSITES & E-RESOURCES

4. Websites & Webinars (including [NANOWRIMO](#)): 20 total

Websites: 9

- [The Character Therapist](#)
- [Hippocampus Magazine](#) (for creative nonfiction)
- [Literary Hub](#)
- [Maine Writers & Publishers Alliance](#) *local*
- [NANOWRIMO](#)
- [Poets & Writers](#) (online blog and magazine)
- [Reedsy](#)
- [Writers' Digest](#)
- [Writers Helping Writers](#)

Webinars: 11

- [Advanced World Building course](#) (see [accompanying website](#) with links to multi-volume book series) [\$49.00 - one time payment]
- [The Book Incubator](#) (launched and taught by [Mary Adkins](#), novelist) [individualized program, fees determined based on project - sample it with [this free training](#)]
- [Coursera's *Memoir and Personal Essay: Write About Yourself Specialization: 4-Course Series*](#) (taught by 4 Wesleyan University writing professors) [free with Coursera Plus]
- [Coursera's *Write Your First Novel*](#) (taught by Michigan State University's David Wheeler) [free with Coursera Plus]
- [Coursera's *Creative Writing Specialization: 5-Course Series*](#) (taught by 4 Wesleyan University writing professors) [free with Coursera Plus]
- [Maine Writers' Workshops & Conferences](#) *local*
- [Amanda Gorman Teaches Writing and Performing Poetry \(*MasterClass*\)](#)
- [James Patterson Teaches Writing \(*MasterClass*\)](#)
- [Margaret Atwood Teaches Creative Writing \(*MasterClass*\)](#)
- [Neil Gaiman Teaches the Art of Storytelling \(*MasterClass*\)](#)
- [Shonda Rhimes Teaches Writing for Television \(*MasterClass*\)](#)

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5. Local Writers & Writing Teachers/Coaches: 7 total

- [Julia Bouwsma](#) (lives off-grid in the Western mountains of Maine) - Maine's current [Poet Laureate](#) & teacher of creative writing and poetry
- [Jessica Berger Gross](#) (Maine - no city/town listed in her bio.) - teaches creative nonfiction and memoir writing
- [Andrea Lepcio](#) (Bar Harbor, ME) - teaches a wide range of genres including her own area of expertise (playwriting)
- [Mira Ptacin](#) (Peaks Island, ME) - teaches creative nonfiction at [MECA](#)
- [Cynthia Underwood Thayer](#) (Gouldsboro, ME) - teaches writing workshops (especially for short stories)
- [Tanya Whiton](#) (Portland, ME) - teaches writing workshops for fiction writers

6. Publishers, Publishing & Guides to Literary Agents, etc.: 10 total

Literary Agents: 5

- [Literary Agent Alert](#) (from [NY Book Editors](#))
 - See also [NY Book Editors'](#) [blog post](#) about literary agents (what they do, etc.)
- [Manuscript Wishlist](#)
- [Poets & Writers List of Literary Agents](#)
- [Publishers Marketplace](#) (fee-based/subscription)
- [Reedsy - List of Literary Agents \(in 2023\)](#)

Publishers: 5

- [Writers' Digest article](#) about finding indie publishers (no literary agent needed)
- [Independent Book Publishers Association \(IBPA\)](#)
- [NY Book Editors' - List of 9 Best Indie Publishers](#)
- [Reedsy - List of Best Independent Publishers](#)
- [50 Indie Publishers Who Are Accepting Unsolicited Manuscripts](#) (June '23 blog post)

7. Writing Programs & Tools: 6 total

- NOTE: Most, if not all, of these are fee/subscription based programs.

- [Fictionary](#)
- [Helping Writers Become Authors](#) (website, blog, and podcast)

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- [The Novel Factory](#)
- [ProWritingAid](#)
- [Scrivener](#)
- [Storyteller's Roadmap](#)

8. Podcasts: 9 total

- [The Creative Penn Podcast for Writers](#)
- [The Creative Writer's Toolbelt Podcast](#)
- [First Draft with Sarah Enni Podcast](#)
- [Helping Writers Become Authors Podcast](#)
- [Imaginary Worlds Podcast](#) (especially for authors of speculative fiction: fantasy, scifi, etc.)
- [The Self Publishing Show Podcast](#)
- [The Shit No One Tells You About Writing Podcast](#)
- [Write-Minded: Weekly Inspiration for Writers Podcast](#)
- [Writer's Routine Podcast](#)