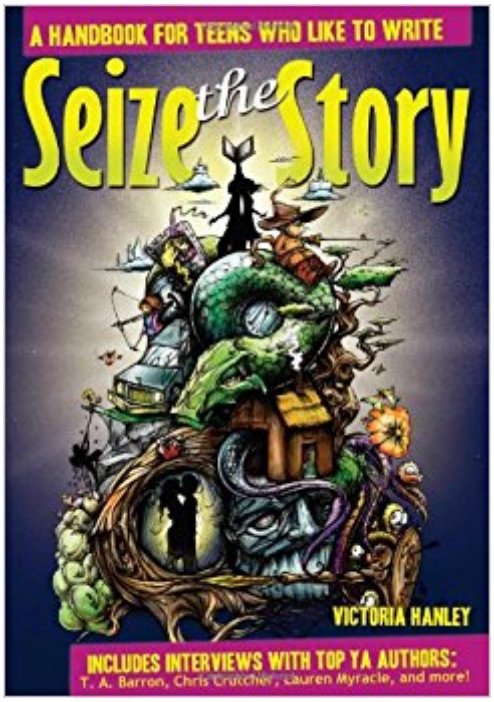
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Seize The Story: A Handbook For Teens Who Like To Write



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Synopsis

Do you wish you had a published writer’s secrets at your fingertips, ready to help you achieve your goals of publication, success, and the chance to be the next great teen writer? In Seize the Story: A Handbook for Teens Who Like to Write, Victoria Hanley, award-winning author of young adult fiction, spills the secrets for bringing action, adventure, humor, and drama to stories. All of the elements of fiction, from creating believable dialogue to exciting plots, are laid out clearly and illustrated with examples taken straight from story excerpts by excellent writers. The book is packed with writing exercises designed to encourage teens to tell the stories that are theirs alone.In addition, other published authors of young adult literature share their insights about the writing life. Teens can gain firsthand advice from accomplished writers T. A. Barron, Joan Bauer, Hilari Bell, Chris Crutcher, David Lubar, Lauren Myracle, Todd Mitchell, Nancy Garden, and many more.

Book Information

Paperback: 208 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 37 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #313,342 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #70 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Education & Reference > Language Arts > Composition & Creative Writing #188 inÃ Â Books > Children’s Books > Education & Reference > Reading & Writing > Composition & Creative Writing

Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Customer Reviews

Grade 7 UpÃ¢â ¬â •Capturing readers’ attention from the very first page, this book is an excellent resource for both teenagers and their teachers. From the development of characters, setting, voice, style, and plot, to the end with rewriting and polishing, readers are able to hone their writing skills. By using the "building your story" activities at the end of each chapter, they have opportunity to apply the techniques presented and experience the whole process. Hanley uses examples from familiar novels and authors such as "Harry Potter" and Stephenie Meyer’s Twilight (Little, Brown,

2005) to illustrate elements of writing. The book concludes with interviews with young adult authors, in which they include advice to aspiring young writers. This book is an excellent resource for creative writing classes as well as individuals.Ã¢â ¬â •Denise Moore, O'Gorman Junior High School, Sioux Falls, SD Copyright Ã Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Winner of the Colorado Authors' League 2009 "Top Hand" award for young adult nonfictionWinner of the Silver Award in the 2009 PUBWest Book Design Awards competition (children's/young adult book non-illustrated category)Finalist for the Colorado Book Award."Capturing readers' attention from the very first page, this book is an excellent resource for both teenagers and their teachers."Ã¢â ¬â •School Library Journal"Filled to the brim with inspiration and information . . . a valuable resource for aspiring writers of all ages." Ã¢â ¬â •Children's Literature"Worthy investment for writing instruction collections." Ã¢â ¬â •VOYA"An amazing book about creative writing for teenagers and young adults who are developing voices and visions . . . an invaluable resource not only for young writers but for all writers." --National Association of Gifted Children NewsletterWritten by an award-winning young adult author, Seize the Story is an excellent, comprehensive guide to writing fiction for teens...While Seize the Story is written with teens in mind, adults interested in improving their writing skills will also benefit from Hanley's helpful prompts and exercises. This is a solid handbook for the aspiring author that can also be utilized by teachers in their creative writing classes. --Ohio Journal of English Language Arts, Volume 51.1Written by an award-winning young adult author, Seize the Story is an excellent, comprehensive guide to writing fiction for teens...While Seize the Story is written with teens in mind, adults interested in improving their writing skills will also benefit from Hanley's helpful prompts and exercises. This is a solid handbook for the aspiring author that can also be utilized by teachers in their creative writing classes. --Ohio Journal of English Language Arts, Volume 51.1Seize the Story is a really easy book to read, warm, sweet, and funny. It gives you a lot of tips to improve your stories, like for example, creating characters, the name of the characters, what to do when you have a writer's block, the difference between Showing and Telling, and the different points of view that you can choose to write your story, and much more . . . But the best thing, is that when I started reading this book, with all those exercises and those tips, I just wanted to sit at the computer and start writing again. I felt that the door which was keeping my imagination-creativity closed, it opened again. And the best thing is that I feel it will help me to understand better the books I read, and it will improve the reviews I write. Highly recommended. --Idris Sandelis, Throwing Books Blog

My 15 year old daughter loves to write, but had a bit of a block for a while. Since reading this book and applying the material, she has started writing again and is loving it! Highly recommend.

"Seize the Story" is an amazing book. It reads like a novel; with a "can't put it down" style. While geared for young adults, it is for anyone who has ever written, wanted to write or thought about writing. It breaks writing down into steps that build on one another like a recipe. The simplicity is ingenious. Victoria Hanley captures all the elements of writing, and isolates them one by one, with an incredibly engaging style making writing accessible in a way I never would have dreamed. I recommend this book to any writer, or aspiring writer, of any age.

Grand Daughter Love it, she is 12

My Son didn't get 10 pages into this without stopping and applying what he read to a short story he wrote. He wrote the story without knowing much about his characters, they didn't even yet have a name, after applying what Seize The Story suggested about characters he not only had names for them but he did individual character sketches! He drew them, described them, and gave them each a background. It was amazing! That's only ten pages in, it's already worthwhile. Amazing

I have read a number of writing books. Most are quite helpful about one aspect of writing or another. This book, Seize the Story, is helpful from start to finish. From working with characters to really explaining what goes into a plot, from juicy details about setting to interesting perspectives on how to get over writers' block, it was all enthralling. The best thing about it was the way it pulled everything together. I am not a teen writer. I got this book because I want to write YA. I got what I needed most, because Seize the Story communicates encouragement along with writing tips. I plan to do every one of the writing exercises as I go over my own manuscript. This book was even a good read, full of story examples I enjoyed. The interviews at the end with other authors made it obviosu what the author was saying all along, that every writer is different and there's not only one way to go about it.

I bought for my 13 yr old niece who loves to write stories and also likes to draw illustrations for the stories.

I like every aspect of this book. Well written and interesting to read with examples that are not boring. Of the many related books I have read, this one gave me ideas and explanations I had not seen elsewhere - important and helpful explanations. I would purchase it again.

The great thing about this book is the way in which it motivates the young writer. It is a good starting point for teens as well as adults. A teacher asked me if they could borrow a copy for a lesson plan they were putting together. Excellent resource.

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