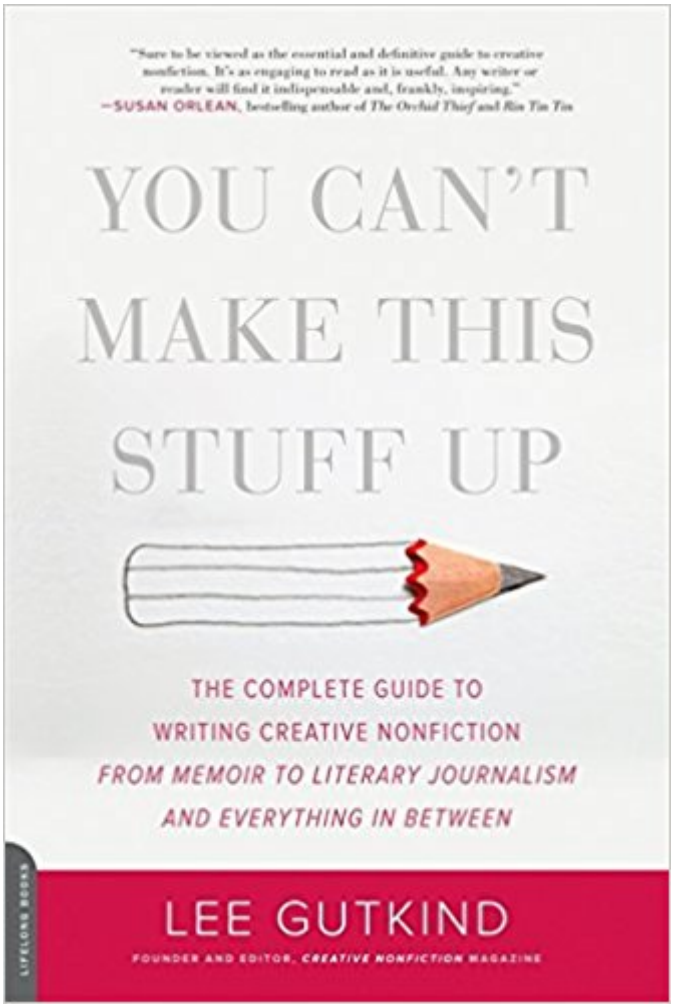
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You Can't Make This Stuff Up: The Complete Guide To Writing Creative Nonfiction--from Memoir To Literary Journalism And Everything In Between




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Synopsis

From rags-to-riches-to-rags tell-alls to personal health sagas to literary journalism everyone seems to want to try their hand at creative nonfiction. Now, Lee Gutkind, the go-to expert for all things creative nonfiction, taps into one of the fastest-growing genres with this new writing guide. Frank and to-the-point, with depth and clarity, Gutkind describes and illustrates each and every aspect of the genre, from defining a concept and establishing a writing process to the final product. Offering new ways of understanding genre and invaluable tools for writers to learn and experiment with, You CanÃ¢â ¬â„¢t Make This Stuff Up allows writers of all skill levels to thoroughly expand and stylize their work.Ã Â

Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Da Capo Lifelong Books; 1 edition (August 14, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0738215546

ISBN-13: 978-0738215549

Product Dimensions: 6.2 x 0.8 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 78 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #26,549 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #32 inÃ Â Books > Textbooks > Communication & Journalism > Journalism #42 inÃ Â Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Publishing & Books > Authorship #64 inÃ Â Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Journalism & Nonfiction

Customer Reviews

Ã¢â ¬Å“Most writers interested in the [creative nonfiction] genre will want this on their shelves.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã Â Internet Review of Books, 10/3/12Ã¢â ¬Å“This book belongs in a writerÃ¢â ¬â„¢s library.Ã¢â ¬Â•Midwest Book Review, October 2012Ã¢â ¬Å“From ethical questions on turning nonfiction into creative writing to handling the fine line between fact and fiction, this covers common pitfalls and provides concrete approaches to success.Ã¢â ¬Â•Milwaukee Shepherd Express, 11/1912Ã¢â ¬Å“Students and teachers of writing will find You CanÃ¢â ¬â„¢t Make This Stuff Up instructive and inspiringÃ¢â ¬Â¦Those leery of yet another writerÃ¢â ¬â„¢s manual will likely find they enjoy reading this engaging book for the way the author weaves together true stories well told.Ã¢â ¬Â•Curled Up with a Good Book, 11/16/12Ã¢â ¬Å“Memoirists and

journalists looking for a fresh approach or a change of pace would do well with You Can’t Make This Stuff Up. Everyone else can enjoy a quick and enjoyable trot through an often maligned but compelling and growing literary genre.Ã¢â ¬Â•The Worlds of R.A. Hortz, 12/10/12Ã¢â ¬Å“An informative book that should be on the bookshelf of every writer.Ã¢â ¬Â•East Central Illinois News-Gazette, 4/7/13 Kirkus Reviews, 7/15/12Ã¢â ¬Å“Reminiscent of Stephen KingÃ¢â ¬â„¢s fiction handbook On Writing, the book will be useful to both new writers and seasoned chroniclers seeking a professional refresher course on the basics of content and continuity and on how to expand audience attention for typically esoteric materialÃ¢â ¬Â¦An accessible, indispensable nonfiction guidebook from an authority who knows his subject from cover to cover.Ã¢â ¬Â•Booklist, August 2012Ã¢â ¬Å“Gutkind, at once methodical and anecdotal in his instruction, offers clear and practical guidance on artistic concerns and matters technical, ethical, legal, and moral.Ã¢â ¬Â¦With expertise equaled by enthusiasm, the founder and editor of the magazine Creative Nonfiction advocates for the genre in which writers Ã¢â ¬Ëœcan be poetic and journalistic simultaneously.Ã¢â ¬â„¢ An enlightening call for the highest of literary standards."New York Journal of Books, 8/14/12Ã¢â ¬Å“You will be inspired and encouraged to write your way toward the inherent power of your storyÃ¢â ¬â •becoming a better writer in the process.Ã¢â ¬Â•The Writer, October 2012Ã¢â ¬Å“Anyone seeking to write creative nonfiction will benefit from GutkindÃ¢â ¬â„¢s clear and instructive voiceÃ¢â ¬Â¦The many examples of great creative nonfiction he offers (and carefully analyzes in order to explain their magic) are alone worth the price of the book.Ã¢â ¬Â•Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 9/30/12Ã¢â ¬Å“Mr. GutkindÃ¢â ¬â„¢s latest workÃ¢â ¬Â¦is the kind of book about mastering the writing life weÃ¢â ¬â„¢ve come to expect from him: brash, clearly written, opinion-heavy, personal anecdote-driven, and chock full of practical exercises.Ã¢â ¬Â•Bookviews blog, October 2012Ã¢â ¬Å“This is a grand tour of creative nonfiction, providing challenging writing exercises, analytical reflections on the techniques the best writers use, tips and getting published, and much more. I have been a nonfiction writer my whole life and I can confirm this book will turn you into one as well.Ã¢â ¬Â•Infodad.com, 10/4/12Ã¢â ¬Å“A useful workbook for a specific writing niche, and people wanting to break into the fieldÃ¢â ¬â •especially those parts involving Gutkind himself or influenced by himÃ¢â ¬â •would do well to go through the exercises and recommendations in some detail.Ã¢â ¬Â•Library Journal, October 2012

Lee Gutkind is the award-winning author of ten books, editor of ten anthologies, and founder of the first MFA creative nonfiction program at the University of Pittsburgh. He is currently a writer in residence at Arizona State University.Ã Â

Turning our fourteen-year-old daughterÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s three diaries into a memoir was proving more difficult than the middle grade fiction I loved to write. YOU CANÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢T MAKE THIS STUFF UP by Lee Gutkind was exactly what I needed. Especially what he said about reflectionÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •it hurtÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •but I had to do it.I checked out a copy from the library, but halfway through page six I bought my own copy and highlighted the first words that helped me set my goal. I would write creative nonfictionÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •a well-told true story without any made up stuff. In addition, there was a bonus. This book is helping my fiction. I'll follow the final word and reread it along with STORYCRAFT by Jack Hart.

Considering that I have never written a review on before, and I've read many Kindle books, this must have been a very good read!I have been working as a reporter for a local newspaper in Thailand for four years.A month ago, one of our subeditors sent me an e-mail saying:"Just gave you an ovation in the newsroom for your debt collector feature. The way you told a story at the beginning of the debt collector piece is exactly how we should be drawing readers into longer features."It started with a scene where a debt collector picked up the phone at two in the morning and found out that a client was about to commit suicide.Because I work for the business section, it is easy for readers to read the first paragraph and then move on to another more interesting article.So I decided to get serious about narrative journalism and bought this book, which was not only informative but also entertaining. Lee Gutkind is THE expert who knows how to teach writing creative non-fiction in a fun and memorable way. I would recommend this to everyone writing non-fiction.

Lee Gutkind is one-of-a-kind author. This book is a pleasure to read, do the exercises, and move on. He has been there and done that as the saying says. This is a valuable book in your library. You could read it more than once to obtain more information. Takes some focus to get through some of the stories but worth the effort.kw

Great guidance for anyone who wants to write memoir or any other kind of narrative nonfiction. Lee is the King. If you are drawn to this type of writing, you should also check out the quarterly magazine Creative Nonfiction. It is a high quality literary magazine that is always going a step higher. I eagerly look forward to my copy every few months.

An excellent book about the actual process of writing creative non-fiction. This book is filled with real world examples. I found a take-away on almost every page. A lot of books on this subject are filled with fluff, and avoid the actual content and structure of the writing. This book really shows you the nuts and bolts of writing creative non-fiction. Highly recommended.

A thoughtful and realistic discussion of writing creative non-fiction. The essays examples are helpful and the discussions are enlightening. As an essayist, I find this a must-read. Lee Gutkind's book is a straight-forward, practical guide to writing essay.

As I begin to edit my first creative non-fiction work, this book offered the tools I was looking for. It answers all of my question, is interesting and his style of writing, intermixed with a few humorous examples, kept me reading. This should be required reading for anyone starting out in creative non-fiction.

Quality, helpful book as I dream about becoming a writer! The Exercises come at the right moment in the book and make me think about and guide me through different aspects of the craft.

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