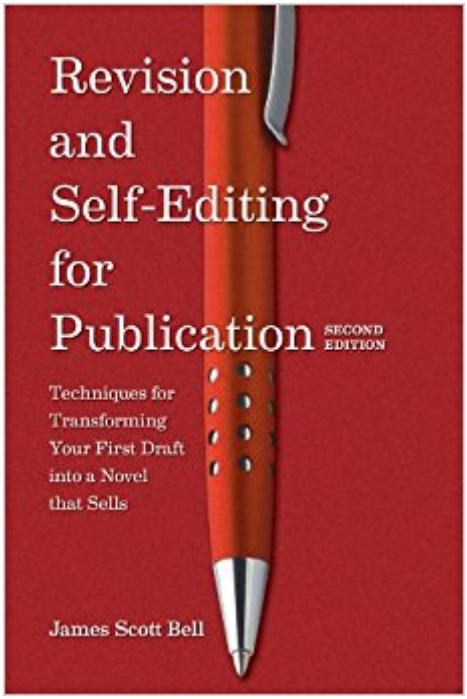
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Revision And Self Editing For Publication: Techniques For Transforming Your First Draft Into A Novel That Sells



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Synopsis

Take your first draft from so-so to sold!You've finished the first draft of your novel--congratulations! Time to have a drink, sit back...and start revising. But the revision process doesn't have to be intimidating. Revision and Self-Editing for Publication, Second Edition gives you the tools and advice you need to transform your first draft into a finished manuscript that agents and editors will fight for.Inside you'll find:Self-editing techniques for plot, structure, character, theme, voice, and more that can be applied as you're writing to reduce your revision workload.Methods for fine-tuning your first draft into a tight, well-developed piece of literature.The Ultimate Revision Checklist, which seamlessly guides you through the revision process, step by step.New Chapter! Exercises and techniques for "deepening" your work to engage and excite readers like never before.Whether you're writing a novel currently or have finished the first draft, Revision and Self-Editing for Publication, Second Edition will give you the guidance you need to revise your manuscript into a novel ready to be sold.

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Customer Reviews

I bought this edition on the strength of the glowing reviews I'd read on the 1st edition (not to mention, the book cover of this edition was a whole lot more appealing).Let me start with what this book does not do. It doesn't address the issues of grammatical errors and typos thus the "Self-Editing" in the title `Revision and Self-Editing for Publication' might be seen as a tad bit skewed. I say this because we tend to clump the issues that pertain to grammatical flaws + proofreading under that umbrella.That said, what then does work?Everything else.JSB's book is divided into two parts: Part 1: Self-Editing & Part 2: Revision.In part one JSB takes you through the rudiments of a great novel ... Exposition, Setting & Description, Dialogue, Characters, Beginnings, Middles, & Endings, POV ... et al. But this time he's "liposuctioned" the fat, giving you only the lean, most important prime parts.In part two, the Revision process, which is covered in the final third of the book, he gives you pre-revision advice - including health tips (yeah, that too!). Let's face it, writing can be as fun as it can be stressful. He follows through on the what-to & how-to of the 1st read through of your finished (1st) draft. Then it's followed by tips on deepening your prose. He rounds this up with the Ultimate check list, taking each core element of fiction and guiding you on what (for each element) you're supposed to do/look out for, right up to the final polish.JSB does all of the above in a simple (not dumbed-down, but neither is it highfaluting) manner. And his tone, an easy follow-along-rhythm, will keep you head nodding as you read.I was tempted to knock off 1 star, because on the back cover there's a so-called Bonus online exclusive: A downloadable printable version of the Ultimate Revision Checklist, which, on going online (WritersDigest.com/revision-self-editing-publication) found a message that said the material had been "relocated" elsewhere on the site. Further investigation proved futile. But, hey, it's in the book, right? So I can pardon that.And so I do. A definite 5 star recommendation.

If you've written a manuscript and don't know what to do now, this is a must read. The tips in this book will help you take that great piece of writing and make it the best it can be. The book is easy to read with helpful, bullet-pointed tips that you can copy and hang on the wall of your office, to help you remember how to keep things interesting and keep the flow on track. It's probably the best book of it's kind I've found.

I met Jim Bell at a writers' conference and enjoyed his irreverent humor, his cut-to-the-chase teaching style, and his passion for a productive, effective, prosperous writing life-- not only for himself, but for everyone in the room. I'll never forget his last bullet point for "How to Succeed as an Author" (a subset of one of his talks, you won't find it under that name on his site): after succinctly

summarizing the management, creation, production, and marketing process again, he ended with "Repeat, over and over and over until you die. Honestly, why wouldn't you?! My vision of a happy death is to keep doing this over and over, getting better at it all the time, till I'm a hundred years old--type THE END on my latest manuscript, hopefully my best work yet, and keel over and die."Okay, a paraphrase, but I'll bet I have his words close to verbatim, and it made a huge impression on me. So I started buying his books about the craft and business of writing FOR A LIVING.I'll get around to reviewing the others later, but I must say that so far, this one (Revision and Self-Editing for Publication) has been the single best most helpful, most practical, most fun book I've ever read, on becoming (and remaining!) a successful published author. I recommend it to my clients, even though it may put me out of business...

I wished it had more information, It is a condensed version of his other book "Plot & Structure: Techniques and Exercises for Crafting a Plot That Grips Readers from Start to Finish" which is great. Like other reviewers said. about 20 percent of it is new. I bought it only for the additional content.

Very useful bookI had a completed manuscript when I bought this book and I made substantial modifications to it because of this book. The sections on introductions, character sketching, and point of view issues proved particularly useful. The author has an accessible and compelling style and furnishes plenty of useful examples of his ideas. Highly recommended whether you are just starting a work or already have one completed.

Revision and Self Editing for Publication is written in a way that doesn't sound condescending. It's warm, open, encouraging, and opened my eyes to ways I can improve my writing techniques. It is great to read on the kindle, but I think I might actually purchase it again in paperback for easy page navigation and marking important and frequented resources. Examples of writing techniques are given in each chapter that are easy to related to and understand. I purchased this for a college continuing education course and was glad it was recommended.

This book has many wonderful tips on novel writing and revising. Sprinkled throughout are exercises to help the novelist take writing to another level. The lay out is straight forward and organized to make it easy for reference during the writing process, especially with the writing checklist at the end. The checklist itself is well worth the purchase price, particularly for the writer

without much formal training. Just reading that chapter is daunting, but encouraging as well because it takes the mystery out the self-editing process and also helps a newbie to understand that writing a first draft is the easy part, but polishing it can be accomplished with hard work and dedication. I look forward to using this checklist to make my revisions more thorough, more organized, and more effective. Highly recommended!

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