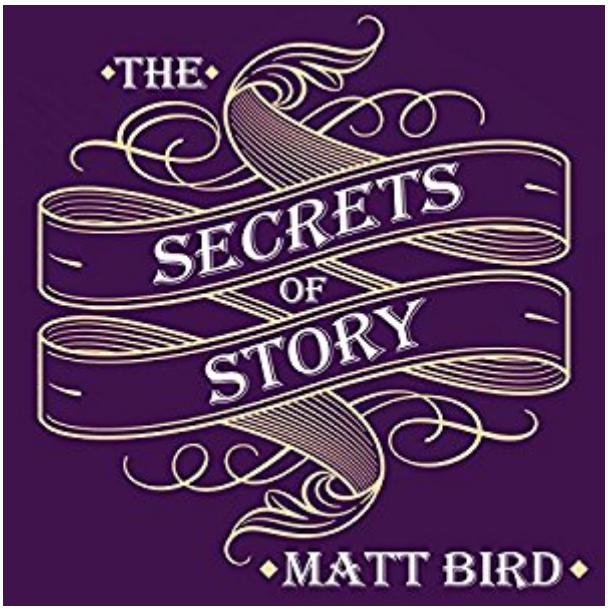
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The Secrets Of Story: Innovative Tools For Perfecting Your Fiction And Captivating Readers



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Synopsis

The Secrets of Story is a revolutionary and comprehensive writing guide for the 21st century, focused on clever ways to get an audience to fully identify with an all-too-human hero. Authors will learn to how to cut through pop culture noise and win over a jaded modern audience by rediscovering the heart of writing: shaping stories that ring true to our shared understanding of human nature. Providing conversational advice that spans multiple disciplines - from fiction to film to creative nonfiction - Matt Bird’s insightful techniques allow characters to come alive and stories to reach a new level of appeal.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I’ve read Matt’s blog, The Cockeyed Caravan, for years. Prior to him releasing this book I have copied the entire thing into Evernote just in case Blogger someday "lost" his posts. Honestly, I can’t live without it. I’ve taken every class on screenwriting from McKee to Truby to UCLA Extension (and tens of others you’ve never heard of) and if I had only one resource the reset of my life, this would be it. It’s a concentrated version of the greatness that is The Cockeyed Caravan blog. I can’t recommend this enough. I purchased it in Audiobook form as well.

Absolutely fantastic. It’s going to make you hate your past writing and feel incredibly ambitious at the same time.Matt Bird is like the character Mike from Breaking Bad. Your manuscript is a hot mess. Read his guidelines and let him fix it.

Excellent book about writing craft! Entertaining, as well as informative.As a new writer, this book helps with lots of difficult decisions about how to design my stories. I planned to read some interesting sections, but his writing pulled me in and I read straight through from the beginning to end.Areas where I feel it especially helps: understanding how to create resonance in your story, writing realistic characters, and the benefit of ironyÃ¢Â Â”which I did not understand its impact until this book.I love his examples from movies, although I am writing novels. They are illustrative and also I had seen almost all of those he referenced so understood his points.Finally, I found his cynical voice, hilarious, yet humble to the last page.I highly recommend.Troy Foster

I have little to add to the headline.Twenty years ago I attended a scientific conference, where one speaker has blown my mind away. His topic was abstract, purely scientific, totally unfamiliar, and of no interest to me. Yet, he pulled me into following him and wondering "what's next." I was astonished, so was most of the audience. I had one disturbing thought since then: "How, the hell, he did it?! I want to learn this skill!"Finally, Matt explains it. He is talking about fiction writing, but everything he explains fully applies to non-fiction as well. Every sentence reveals deep thinking on the subjects and resonates with my inner feeling of truth. Besides, it really helps. Now, as I look back at what I write, whenever I don't have a satisfying feeling that I did it right, I know exactly what's wrong and how to fix it.

I could not recommend this book more! I think that every writer should read this book. I have so many highlights from things that Matt shares that resonate with what I've learned about story over the last 20 years. He really takes a deep look at how to write a strong story and how to write it from a place of depth. He gives so many strong examples that it allows the writer to really grasp the concept. This is definitely on top of my list of favorite writing books now. Reading this book will give you tremendous insight on how to take your story to the next level and beyond.

Great advice for writing stories. I'm a picky reader and at over $10 I was sceptical but the book is well worth its money. There's a great deal to be learned about what works, what doesn't and *why* that happens, especially when it's accompanied by a lot of examples. Most if not all are taken from movies and TV shows, but that does *not* subtract from the lessons' value regarding storytelling, especially in this day and age.As a bonus, a lot of "je n'ais c'est quois" feelings regarding stories have been cleared up brilliantly for me. Love it? Hate it? Well... now I also know why that is. It turned

"this doesn’t feel right" into specific, tangible reasoning.

Writing advice that takes much of what you might have intuited or read but struggled to apply and makes it crystal clear and real.He uses a lot of movies as a common ground of story experience and while film has some distinct advantages (like pulling you forward into the next scene even if it didn’t make sense, and sound etc) the story principals apply. Excellent book on the craft of storytelling!

This is an invaluable resource that will help make you a better writer. It is rare in that it not only goes deeper than most books on writing, but it is also highly approachable. It is profund, but not pompous.Countless writing advice books exist, but very few are as clear and well structured as Matt Bird’s. His first rule is that you write for the audience, not yourself. Unlike many books on writing, he follows his own advice. His book provides advice from a very high level to a very low level, in a manner that is well organized and concise.From higher level plot structure to character creation, this book provides incredibly helpful tools which I have yet to come across in other books (e.g., metaphor families).Is this the only book on writing you should read if you want to master the craft? No, but if you had to only pick one, you would be hard pressed to find a better option.

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