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Playwrighting, Brief And Brilliant (Career Development)



Synopsis

My favorite book on writing has always been Strunk and White's Elements of Style. They lay it out for you simply and directly, and they do not go on. You feel confident when you read that book; you don't feel overwhelmed or discouraged. So I've tried to do that same thing for playwriting. I've laid it all out for you without going on. I have just one suggestion before you begin. If you're inclined to write a play, you might want to read this book quickly, write your play, then read it again more carefully. It is definitely not a good idea to make yourself nuts with requirements, then try to make your play fit them. Tell the damn story. Then let this book help you fix it.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Easily the best book on playwriting in the English language. --J.W. Goethelf
there had been a book like this in my day, I would have written earlier, better, and more. --G.B. Shaw
This book indeed is brief, And yet it's also brilliant. --Molière

Succinct and thorough, Playwriting, Brief & Brilliant will, in just one hour of reading, tell you everything you need to know about playwriting. It guides you through the basics of dialogue, character, and plot. It gives tips for getting past writer's block. And finally, it provides practical advice on marketing your play. A perfect way to begin your work. An excellent companion along the way. An invaluable guide to rewriting.

Brief, really brief. But it hits all the basic points, and gives you a series of checklists to keep handy as you work on your writing, editing, and re-writing. Not necessarily the book you want if you're looking for in-depth discussions on the topics, but excellent overviews, to the point.

This succinct and thorough examination of playwriting is organized and explained in a practical manner without unnecessary fluff. The chapter breakdowns assist in the organization of thoughts and is useful for any person who wants to diagnose the construction of plays as either a performer or part of the production team. Easy to read and understood by anyone with even the most basic understanding of theatre.

Love this book!!!

Breifly, it's too simple to be use to improve your writing. It's class required. I purchased Will Dunne's *The Dramatic Writer's Companion: Tools to Develop Characters, Cause Scenes, and Build Stories* (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing). So much better than this one.

EXCELLENT! All the advice you need for playwriting wrapped up in one neat little package! I love this book and will be referring to it over and over again!

book was for class

Book was quick and easy to read, but didn't include as much in the way of specific ideas and help as *The Dramatist's Toolkit*, by Jeffrey Sweet (which I do recommend).

This is my favorite book on playwriting. Ever. It teaches you everything you need to know in a way that is clear, easy to understand, and inspiring (and as an added bonus: it's very funny). Many how-to writing texts spend a lot of time making things more difficult and elusive than they need to be. Julie Jensen lays out everything you need to know in her brilliant and generous work in a way that gives you the basics so you can make it your own. I refer to this book over and over again, especially when I'm feeling blocked on a play, and I always find a key in the text to unlock my imagination. Not only do I read this book, but I give copies of it to anyone I know who truly wants to learn how to write a play. I've also used it in my playwriting courses, and my students loved it. I

can't recommend it highly enough.

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