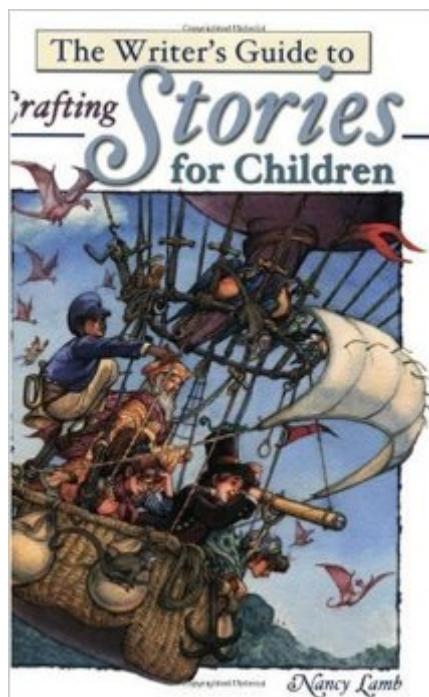


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# The Writer's Guide To Crafting Stories For Children (Write For Kids Library)



## **Synopsis**

The Writer's Guide to Crafting Stories for Children offers detailed information and an in-depth examination of storytelling and story structure. Books on writing for children sell exceedingly well, so it's surprising that no other book focuses on this important aspect of the craft. Using examples from classic and contemporary sources, Nancy Lamb explores all the key elements of children's storytelling, from point of view to structure to plotting and pacing. Taking a hands-on approach, Lamb uses worksheets, exercises, and checklists to show writers how to capture and keep a young reader's attention, whether the topic is fact or fiction.

## **Book Information**

Series: Write for Kids Library

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Shipping Weight: 12 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (64 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #3,639,238 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #37 in Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Children's Literature #2060 in Books > Textbooks > Reference > Writing Skills #7326 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Literature > Creative Writing & Composition

## **Customer Reviews**

Some months back I received unbidden a copy of The Writer's Guide to Crafting Stories for Children. Looking at the "for Children" part of the title, I briefly considered it for possible use as a reference for any of my students who might be interested in writing children's books. I put the book on the shelf and forgot about it. Finding myself recently in search of something that might deal intelligently with plot, I picked the book up and gave it the consideration I should have when it first fell into my hands. I found in it not a book for the writing of children's literature, but perhaps the most lucid, accessible, well organized, relevant, complete and credible work on fiction writing in my entire collection of texts on writing. I found my own ideas said better than I can say them myself. What is said in this book resonates with so much validity and clarity that I am sorry that I have wasted so

much of my time and my students' time trying to teach without this text. I have corrected that situation by reorganizing the reading materials for my workshops, making The Writer's Guide to Crafting Stories for Children a required reading and a central part of our discussion. Charles Connor, Director, Harriette Austin Writing Program, The University of Georgia

I write for a weekly deadline and have thought more about book writing in recent years. Having grandchildren located 1000 miles away moved me to think about writing for children. These reviews convinced me to make this book a part of my library. It is so much more than I expected. This book is for all beginning writers, not just writers of children's books. Ms. Lamb remembers her questions as a beginning and experienced writer. She knows the process and teaches it in an engaging manner. This is a book that I intend to read over and over to ensure that it becomes a part of my writing life. Thank you Ms. Lamb.

As a college English instructor, I've read a number of books on writing. None of them compare to Crafting Stories, and none of them have affected me so personally. I read Crafting Stories cover-to-cover twice, and both times something magical happened. The first time through, Nancy Lamb's no-nonsense approach to writing forced me to rethink and reshape my first novel into something that was immediately accepted by a renowned literary agent. Several months later, I was at wit's end trying to figure-out how to tie up some loose ends before my agent would send the final draft out to editors. I decided to revisit Crafting Stories, and the answers became apparent at once. My rewrite was accepted without a single change, and it's currently being considered by five of the largest publishers in the United States. There's no way I could have gotten this far -- that fast -- without Lamb's uncanny ability to succinctly describe the intangible.

If you think writing for children is 'child's play' - think again! Just as adults want good content, settings and characters, so do children. Ms. Lamb's expert advice, based on her many years of successfully writing children's stories, is invaluable whether you're a seasoned children's writer, or a novice. Learn how to turn your children's story into the one you've dreamed of. Create plots that will hold a child's interest, and characters they'll believe in and want to read about. I highly recommend this wonderful, insightful and clearly written book.

I absolutely HAVE to tell you--this book is the best thing that ever happened to me! I've never taken a class in creative writing, hadn't even a clue that there were rules to be followed. After bombing

everywhere with my first book (I didn't know why), I had a slam-dunk idea for a children's book. I found Crafting Stories for Children, and read it on a Saturday. No fooling--blinders and scales fell from my eyes. At long last--a book that explained the rules of writing! Although the slant is definitely for children, there is rich fodder for the fiction writer of any genre. Applying the ideas presented in Ms. Lamb's book have definitely made the difference between another rejection letter, and the possibility of future publication. Rush out and order it--now!

Reading this book is not only instructive but pleasurable. Lamb's voice is that of personal tutor, mentor and friend, giving good solid instruction in storytelling and instilling courage into the writer who falters along the way. Nancy Lamb has experienced the angst and the ecstasy of creativity, and every page is chock full of her humor, knowledge and sensitivity. I wish I had owned this book before writing my first young adult novel! I highly recommend it to beginning as well as accomplished authors. There is something here for every weaver of stories.

As a writer I have read a ton of books on all aspects of fiction and nonfiction writing. I have a complete outline for a line of children's book, so I purchased this book for insight particularly into the children's genre. However, this book is a must read for all fiction writers. It certainly is geared toward children's books, but discusses all the fundamentals from structure to scenes to voice. It was one of the most comprehensive books on fiction that I have read. And it was a delight to read. It has a nice, easy flow with examples and touches on all aspects of fiction writing. Whether you are writing fiction for children or adults, all writers could greatly benefit from this book. Again, great read and very informative!!!

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