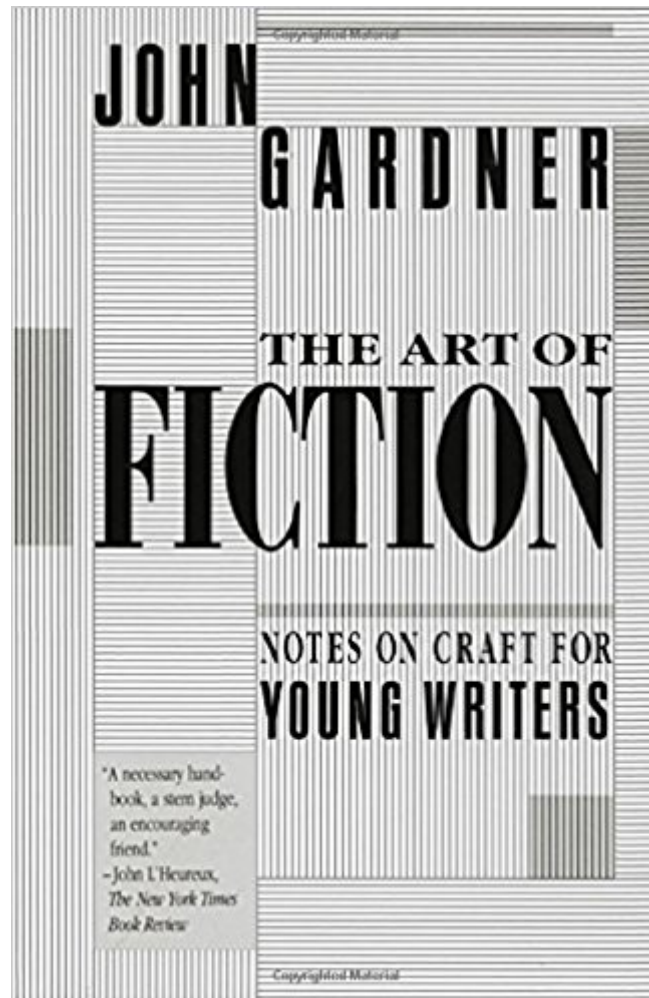


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The Art Of Fiction: Notes On Craft For Young Writers



Synopsis

This classic guide, from the renowned novelist and professor, has helped transform generations of aspiring writers into masterful writers—and will continue to do so for many years to come. John Gardner was almost as famous as a teacher of creative writing as he was for his own works. In this practical, instructive handbook, based on the courses and seminars that he gave, he explains, simply and cogently, the principles and techniques of good writing. Gardner's lessons, exemplified with detailed excerpts from classic works of literature, sweep across a complete range of topics—from the nature of aesthetics to the shape of a refined sentence. Written with passion, precision, and a deep respect for the art of writing, Gardner's book serves by turns as a critic, mentor, and friend. Anyone who has ever thought of taking the step from reader to writer should begin here.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"It will fascinate anyone interested in how fiction gets put together. For the young writer it will become a necessary handbook, a stern judge, an encouraging friend... In the first half of the book, Gardner investigated just what fiction is. In the second half, he treats specific technical matters. The Art of Fiction is filled with lecture counsel, wise encouragement." -John L'Heureux, The New York Times Book Review
"A densely packed book of advice to all writers, not just young ones... It is serious, provocative, and funny, and I recommend it to anyone who cares about literature." -Margaret Manning, The Boston Globe
"He lays out virtually everything a person might want to know [about] how to say it, with good and bad examples and judgments falling like autumn leaves in a

November storm." -William McPherson, The Washington Post

"The next best thing to graduate workshop in fiction writing. Drawing on examples from Homer to Kafka to Joyce Carol Oates, Gardner unravels the mysteries of plot, sentence structure, diction, and point of view." - Book-of-the-Month Club News

"John Gardner was famous for his generosity to young writers, and (this book) is his . . . gift to them. The Art of Fiction will fascinate anyone interested in how fiction gets put together. For the young writer, it will become a necessary handbook, a stern judge, an encouraging friend."--The New York Times Book Review.

The Art of Fiction by John Gardner is an Invaluable source for the writer. I wish I'd had him for a teacher.

This is the the "go to" book on fiction writing. I have referred to it for years, and it has indelibly shaped my writing. In how I have developed my plots, especially.

Excellent book... While he promotes a formal university learning for the exposure to history's greatest minds, he doesn't harp on it... Meanwhile, he knows what he's talking about...

Of all the craft books I have read, and believe me, I have read a lot, this one is the most understanding, compassionate, encouraging and inspiring. It is clear, with lovely examples and details that help a beginning writer start their journey on the right pen stroke. A must have in their toolbox of learning material.

Wow, Mr. Gardner. Just wow. What a writer. I found myself writing down quote after quote from this book. Mr. Gardner writes what we've thought about on the subject of writing but could never quite put into words.

This is an old favorite from my university days that, at the time, was helpful and new. It's still useful and current, and I plan on using some of Gardner's gems for my creative writing class next semester.

A classic, a joy

Classic manual for the writer of non-fiction. Fun to read also

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