



The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction

By John Dufresne



The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction By John Dufresne

"This is the most practical, hard-nosed, generous, direct, and useful guide to writing fiction."?Brad Watson

Finally, a truly creative and hilarious guide to creative writing, full of encouragement and sound advice. Provocative and reassuring, nurturing and wise, *The Lie That Tells a Truth* is essential to writers in general, fiction writers in particular, beginning writers, serious writers, and anyone facing a blank page.

John Dufresne, teacher and the acclaimed author of *Love Warps the Mind a Little* and *Deep in the Shade of Paradise*, demystifies the writing process. Drawing upon the wisdom of literature's great craftsmen, Dufresne's lucid essays and diverse exercises initiate the reader into the tools, processes, and techniques of writing: inventing compelling characters, developing a voice, creating a sense of place, editing your own words. Where do great ideas come from? How do we recognize them? How can language capture them? In his signature comic voice, Dufresne answers these questions and more in chapters such as "Writing Around the Block," "Plottery," and "The Art of Abbreviation." Dufresne demystifies the writing process, showing that while the idea of writing may be overwhelming, the act of writing is simplicity itself.

 [Download The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction ...pdf](#)

The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction

By John Dufresne

The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction By John Dufresne

"This is the most practical, hard-nosed, generous, direct, and useful guide to writing fiction."?Brad Watson

Finally, a truly creative?and hilarious?guide to creative writing, full of encouragement and sound advice. Provocative and reassuring, nurturing and wise, *The Lie That Tells a Truth* is essential to writers in general, fiction writers in particular, beginning writers, serious writers, and anyone facing a blank page.

John Dufresne, teacher and the acclaimed author of *Love Warps the Mind a Little* and *Deep in the Shade of Paradise*, demystifies the writing process. Drawing upon the wisdom of literature's great craftsmen, Dufresne's lucid essays and diverse exercises initiate the reader into the tools, processes, and techniques of writing: inventing compelling characters, developing a voice, creating a sense of place, editing your own words. Where do great ideas come from? How do we recognize them? How can language capture them? In his signature comic voice, Dufresne answers these questions and more in chapters such as "Writing Around the Block," "Plottery," and "The Art of Abbreviation." Dufresne demystifies the writing process, showing that while the idea of writing may be overwhelming, the act of writing is simplicity itself.

The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction By John Dufresne Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #176042 in Books
- Published on: 2004-08-17
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.20" h x .90" w x 6.10" l, 1.03 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 320 pages

 [Download The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fic ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing F ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online *The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction* By John Dufresne

Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

A novelist and teacher, Dufresne (*Deep in the Shade of Paradise*) shares his blunt views on writing in this instruction book, which draws heavily on the tenets of realist fiction and method acting. Divided into two main sections—"The Process" focuses on habits and emotions; "The Product" emphasizes narrative mechanics—Dufresne's manual often adopts the tone of a fiery professor advising a group of wide-eyed young freshmen. "Fiction writing is arrested development," he declares. "Just know that you should quit right now if you can." Readers may sometimes feel lectured by his many stern instructions—"Thou Shalt Not Be Obscure," "Thou Shalt Show and Not Tell," "Thou Shalt Steal"—but the author hits his stride when he covers the mechanics of story. Particularly valuable is his advice on choosing character names, occupations, and points of view. A principle of acting teachers Konstantin Stanislavsky and Michael Chekhov—that exterior movement leads to interior feeling—forms the basis of one of Dufresne's two chapters on characterization. Elsewhere, he skillfully analyzes the work of his favorite writers Anton Chekhov, Frank O'Connor and Eudora Welty. (Dufresne also mines his own work for examples of process and technique.) Each chapter closes with a set of writing exercises. Although this volume is unlikely to displace classic fiction guides like E.M. Forster's *Aspects of the Novel*, many readers may respond to the author's encouraging, exhorting tone. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From [Booklist](#)

Like so many writers' guides, this one talks about creating a character, finding an idea, constructing a plot, and the rest of it. It does all of that quite well, too, but what makes it stand out in this popular genre is its tone and approach. Novelist Dufresne, the author of *Deep in the Shade of Paradise* (2002), lays out the storytelling process clearly and simply. "Fiction is telling the truth, not telling the facts." His tone is light, amiable, conversational: a professional storyteller talking to someone who wants to be a professional storyteller. Writing, he tells us, is about trusting our feelings, about describing the essence of a scene without getting bogged down in irrelevant details. Peppering his text with inspirational and instructional quotes from a variety of writers (Joseph Heller: "Every writer I know has trouble writing"), Dufresne delivers a book that is both a tremendous inspiration to novice writers struggling with their craft and a useful guide to the technical aspects of turning words into stories. *David Pitt*
Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Review

"Dufresne makes it all good fun, from first to last, from guggle to zatch. See for yourself." (George Garrett)

"An engaging covers-all-the-bases guide?sometimes moving, often funny, full of goodwill and good sense." (Janet Burroway)

"Frank and friendly talk about the approach to and the craft of fiction....a welcome companion." (Ron Carlson)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Pearlie Henry:

Here thing why this particular The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction are different and reputable to be yours. First of all examining a book is good but it really depends in the content from it which is the content is as yummy as food or not. The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction giving you information deeper since different ways, you can find any e-book out there but there is no book that similar with The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction. It gives you thrill studying journey, its open up your current eyes about the thing in which happened in the world which is possibly can be happened around you. It is easy to bring everywhere like in area, café, or even in your technique home by train. If you are having difficulties in bringing the imprinted book maybe the form of The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction in e-book can be your alternative.

Ruth Barr:

Typically the book The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction will bring someone to the new experience of reading some sort of book. The author style to clarify the idea is very unique. Should you try to find new book to see, this book very acceptable to you. The book The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction is much recommended to you you just read. You can also get the e-book from your official web site, so you can quicker to read the book.

Laura Burke:

Is it you actually who having spare time and then spend it whole day by watching television programs or just laying on the bed? Do you need something totally new? This The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction can be the solution, oh how comes? It's a book you know. You are therefore out of date, spending your spare time by reading in this completely new era is common not a nerd activity. So what these publications have than the others?

Paul Jackson:

Publication is one of source of expertise. We can add our knowledge from it. Not only for students but native or citizen want book to know the change information of year to year. As we know those books have many advantages. Beside many of us add our knowledge, can also bring us to around the world. Through the book The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction we can consider more advantage. Don't one to be creative people? To be creative person must want to read a book. Just simply choose the best book that ideal with your aim. Don't always be doubt to change your life by this book The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction. You can more attractive than now.

Download and Read Online The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction By John Dufresne #9OHKTMJ6S8F

Read The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction By John Dufresne for online ebook

The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction By John Dufresne Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction By John Dufresne books to read online.

Online The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction By John Dufresne ebook PDF download

The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction By John Dufresne Doc

The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction By John Dufresne Mobipocket

The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction By John Dufresne EPub

90HKT MJ6S8F: The Lie That Tells a Truth: A Guide to Writing Fiction By John Dufresne