

Welcome to the Easy Writing Newsletter, a weekly blast of inspiration to help you and your writing - creatively and financially.

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Greetings

I hope this message finds you well and full of creative juices.

Has it ever occurred to you that everything starts with writing?

Every plan, every organisation, every building, every piece of equipment, every movie or new idea starts with somebody sitting down and writing out a few words in a form that can be read and understood by the people who build these things.

Every great religion started with a book.

Every civilisation reaches its peak through its writing.

In effect, everything we create as human beings is made possible by the simple act of writing.

Humbling thought, isn't it?

Especially when that means the world as we know it has been created by writers - by people just like you.

As always, contact me for any reason at:
rob@easywaytowrite.com

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Mythologizing your characters.

Here's a trick I learned from Shakespeare.

The next time you're putting a fictional story together, have a good look at your characters and their relationships.

What are they? Friends? Work colleagues? Strangers?

One of the ways to "raise the stakes" in drama is to "connect" your characters more closely.

For example, sisters and brothers fighting is more interesting than strangers doing the same.

Husbands and wives trying to kill each other
is much more intriguing than psychos stalking
unknown victims.

Always try to up the ante.

Now - see your characters as even bigger!

Not just sister and brother but Queen and Consort.
Not just husband and wife but God and nymph. Not
just employee and boss but janitor and CEO.

It's a theatrical technique as old as Ancient
Greece but it still works.

In order to make your characters "classic", you
create archetypes that are larger than life.

Why have a girl in a dead-end job hating her
boss and eventually winning through when you
could have a successful businesswoman, with
millions to lose, fighting against a
multinational conglomerate?

You see, readers like the big fight, they like
stories where it's do or die.

For instance, you have a story about a
schoolteacher fighting to preserve a gym facility.

Good, but take it further - mythologize it.

Make it a struggle between good and evil - between
the oppression of the authorities and freedom of
speech.

Never be afraid to take on the larger issues in
your work. Try to get to the core of human values.

Shakespeare did it well. On the surface he wrote
about Kings and Queens but beneath, he wrote
about all of us.

Hamlet is a case in point. On one level it's a
play about a King who's not ready to take the
throne. On another, it's a thesis on adolescence.

Think through the opportunities that life and
death issues might offer your writing.

Reality is good. But bigger is better - take it
from Shakespeare!

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Author of the Top Ten Internet bestseller:

"The Easy Way to Write a Novel"

<http://www.easywaytowrite.com>

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Inspiration, Which Rock is That Under?

Look closely at the following words:

LOVE

LOVER

OVER

Think about how incredible it is that just five
letters can evoke three very different emotional
states in a reader - and how miraculous it is
that the combination of just three words can
tell a wonderful story.

Meditate on the significance of the above statement
for any length of time and you'll never look at
words the same way again!

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Thanks for reading,

Keep well and happy,

Yours ever,

Rob@easywaytowrite.com
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<http://easywaytowrite.com>

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