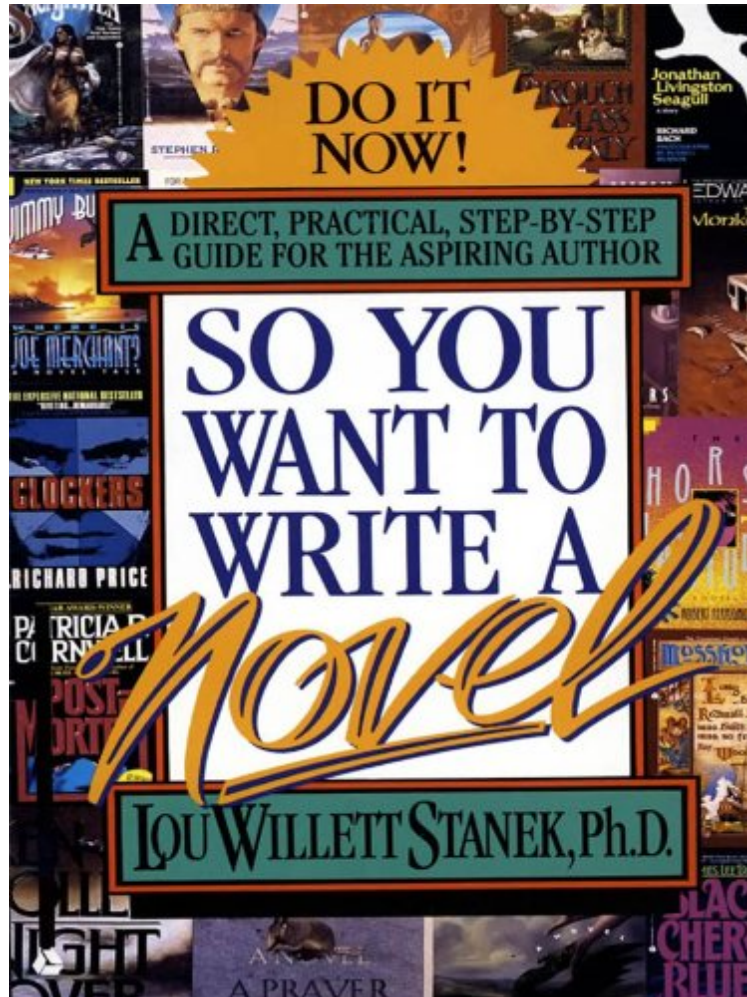


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## So You Want to Write a Novel

Lou W., PhD Stanek

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**Lou W., PhD Stanek : So You Want to Write a Novel** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised So You Want to Write a Novel:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Very helpful for getting into the writer's mindset By Dawn-Marie I have read a few books on writing a novel, and this is probably my favorite. It offers less technical advice, but plenty of tips for getting into the right mindset to accomplish your goals. For example, one of the most helpful suggestions is to get a notebook for writing down ideas and to take it everywhere you go. I have almost filled my notebook, and it has been very helpful for me to develop the arch of my story before I actually write the scenes that constitute it. Author Lou W. Stanek also focuses a lot on character development; particularly your protagonist. It is a little weak on technical advice (i.e. how to tighten up your dialogue, how to punctuate tricky sentences, etc.) so it isn't the only book you'll need to help you craft your literary masterpiece, but it is a valuable resource. SO YOU WANT TO WRITE A NOVEL isn't really a reference book that you'll want to keep on your desk, but more of a book you sit and read to get you into the right mindset for writing. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Not bad By Aaron Newlands

have seen books on writing that are worse, but after reading it I felt that it was lacking something. Much like a novel without a good ending. However it does have its plus sides. There is some very good sound advice in there, some things that beginners may not have thought of. But the book is very much a beginning guide, of much more use to someone who has never done a writing course or done a lot of research into writing. Is this book useless? absolutely not. But if you have done a writing course or have already started writing a novel then it may not be of much use. But if you have not written a word yet, then it could be worth a read. 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. It helped me in my downtime

By Stephanie Storey

So, you want to write a novel was a good book. I won't say great because it could use a little something extra, but it was good. It helped me when I was suffering from what they call writer's block or laziness. The exercises were helpful and helped me get back into the swing of the writing process. I keep my answers in a notebook and often go back to them to create characters. I did a lot of exercises in one sitting and they kept me writing. That is what I like most about the book, it kept me writing and that is very important to a beginning writer. So you want to write a novel, is definitely for beginning writers, because it doesn't offer enough ideas for the experienced writer, they would just lose interest (but then again, you never know). I of course finished the whole book and will use my answers later on in my writing life. I give Lou, a big round of applause for writing this book. It was one of the first books I bought when I began considering writing a novel. I plan on keeping the book and using some of the exercises in a writer's group, (whenever I find the time to start one). Continuing to write is very important, if you want to be successful, so if you're stuck with writer's block or laziness, pick up "So you want to write a novel" and try some of the exercises you might learn something you never knew.

You know there is a novel locked inside of you—chock-full of conflict, humor, irony, enthralling events and fascinating characters. What you don't know is how to set it free.

Practical Advice, Hands-On Help

Respected author and professional writing instructor Lou Willett Stanek's New York workshops have enabled scores of aspiring novelists to realize their dreams of completing credible and compelling manuscripts. Here, in a positive, "user-friendly" format, she offers not only encouragement and motivation, but

Clear, Step-By-Step Instructions To Accomplish Your Goal—

from original conception through final draft.

Learn How To: Set up and stick to a writing schedule Create unforgettable characters Follow strong plotting and solid structure guidelines Choose a viewpoint and develop conflict Handle flashbacks and transitions

Not Just Philosophy Or A Simple Motivational Tool, This Is The Book That Tells You How To Succeed

About the Author

Lou Willett Stanek, a novelist, critic, and teacher, practices what she preaches. She bases her workshops on the theory described in this book. Dr. Stanek earned a Ph.D. at the University of Chicago, an M.A. at Northwestern, and a B.A. from Eastern Illinois University. She also served as a trustee at Millikin University. A Midwesterner, Dr. Stanek now lives in New York and teaches writing at The New School of Social Research.