



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

John Dufresne

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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, an acclaimed novelist and teacher, 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." The ideal writer's companion, *The Lie That Tells a Truth* shows that while the idea of writing may be overwhelming, the act of writing is simplicity itself.

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