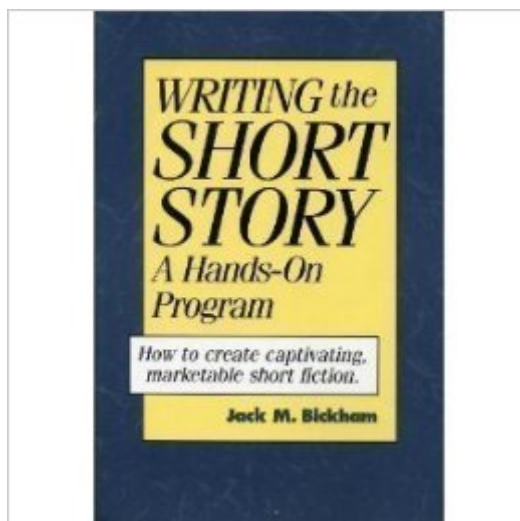


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# Writing The Short Story: A Hands-On Program





## Synopsis

The author here conducts an index card based "workshop on paper" - a programme founded on his successful Writer's Digest magazine Blueprint series. Bickham guides readers through the steps needed to plan, organise, write and revise a short story.' --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (14 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

When Jack Bickham was a student at the University of Oklahoma, his teacher and mentor was Dwight Swain. Swain was one of the finest writing instructors of his generation -- right up there with John Gardner -- and many who were fortunate enough to study with him went on to publication. Bickham went on not only to publish many science fiction and western stories and books but to teach writing, continuing in the fine tradition of his mentor. This is not the only book he has published with Writer's Digest Books, but it's one of the best. In fact, for novice and published pro alike, it's one of the finest books on writing extant. Too many amateur writers reject the notion that stories and books are constructed. They expect to sit down and write for an hour -- an evening at the most -- and produce The Great American Short Story. But writing doesn't work that way and Bickham has done a fine job of organizing the muse and showing the writer just how to pull the most out of his creativity. WRITING THE SHORT STORY is a program geared to lead the writer through inspiration to publication. Acknowledging at the beginning that published works today SEEM to lack form, he proceeds to show just how much form a story must have. By definition the short story has a



"beginning, a middle and an end" and here Bickham provides a story roadmap practically guaranteed to produce a publishable finished work. Writing isn't easy. At least it's not if you want to be published. The writer has to know him/herself and must know the markets and the competition equally well. All that learned, s/he must proceed to understand the structure of the story as well as the importance of characters and characterization. Then there's how setting and mood affect the story. And more...

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