

How I Write: Secrets of a Bestselling Author

By Janet Evanovich, Ina Yalof



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How many people would kill to be a bestselling novelist? Especially one like Janet Evanovich. Writers want to know how a bestselling author thinks, writes, plans, and dreams her books. And they are primed for a book from Janet Evanovich that tells, in a witty Q&A format:

- How she comes up with such remarkable characters
- How she nails the perfect name every time
- How she finds out insider details
- Just how she sets up those masterful plots
- What the life of a full-time writer is really like
- What she'd tell an aspiring author about the publishing industry
- And much, much more!

This book details the elements of writing and publishing a novel, and addresses all categories of fiction-from mystery/thriller/action titles to romance; from stand-alone narratives to series. It offers practical and inspiring advice on such subjects as structuring a plot and handling rejection. And it combines one of today's most successful fiction writers with Ina Yalof, a published non-fiction writer who teaches creative fiction. HOW I WRITE is the perfect reference for anyone looking to improve their writing, and for those fans who are hungry to find out more about just how Janet Evanovich ticks.



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Editorial Review

From Booklist

Much of the advice Evanovich offers here can be found in numerous sources. What you can't find in most writers' guides is her inimitable voice and a wealth of examples taken from her wildly popular series starring the intrepid bounty-hunter Stephanie Plum. Cowriter Yalof covers some of the basics, but the draw here, naturally, is Evanovich's commentary, along with answers to questions readers have sent to her Web site. (When asked how to get over the embarrassment inherent in writing sex scenes, Evanovich notes she finds "a couple of glasses of cheap champagne and a bucketful of M&Ms to be helpful, but, hey, that's just me.") Along with substantial advice about point of view, exposition, and dialogue, fans get behind-the-scenes info about the Plum novels (Evanovich blew up a car in her first book because she wanted to sell it to the movies, and she had so much fun that she has been blowing them up ever since). Despite the best-selling author's willingness to share how she does it, readers shouldn't expect the same results. Not many can find the right combination of laugh-out-loud high jinks and ingeniously wrought thrills. *Ilene Cooper Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved*

Review

"No less than her plotting, Evanovich's characterizations are models of screwball artistry. The intricate plot machinery of her comic capers is fueled by inventive twists." *?The New York Times*

"Evanovich's series is as addictive as Fritos--and...not losing any of its salty crunch... Evanovich serves up consistently craveable goodies." *?People*

"Plum is one of fiction's most irresistible heroines." ?Seattle Post Intelligencer

"Evanovich is the crown princess of detective fiction." ?Bookpage

"Evanovich is brilliantly evocative." ?Denver Post

About the Author

Janet Evanovich is the author of the Stephanie Plum books, including *One for the Money* and *Sizzling Sixteen*, and the Diesel & Tucker series, including *Wicked Appetite*. Janet studied painting at Douglass College, but that art form never quite fit, and she soon moved on to writing stories. She didn't have instant success: she collected a big box of rejection letters. As she puts it, "When the box was full I burned the whole damn thing, crammed myself into pantyhose and went to work for a temp agency." But after a few months of secretarial work, she managed to sell her first novel for \$2,000. She immediately quit her job and started working full-time as a writer. After a dozen romance novels, she switched to mystery, and created Stephanie Plum. The rest is history. Janet's favorite exercise is shopping, and her drug of choice is Cheeze Doodles. She and her husband live in New Hampshire, in house with a view of the Connecticut River Valley.

Ina Yalof is a full-time writer with several published books and countless magazine articles. She teaches writing at Dartmouth College's continuing education program.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Janice Arias:

Have you spare time for just a day? What do you do when you have considerably more or little spare time? Sure, you can choose the suitable activity regarding spend your time. Any person spent their very own spare time to take a go walking, shopping, or went to often the Mall. How about open or read a book allowed How I Write: Secrets of a Bestselling Author? Maybe it is being best activity for you. You recognize beside you can spend your time with your favorite's book, you can better than before. Do you agree with its opinion or you have additional opinion?

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Willa Killeen:

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