

## **Books on the Craft of Writing – compiled by Stephanie Bearce**

**Artist's Way** by **Julia Cameron** -guided practice on how to rejuvenate your art over the course of 16 weeks.

**Art of Fiction** by **John Gardner** –If you want to gain a better understanding of the structures of fiction this is the book.

**Bird by Bird** by **Anne Lamott** - A beloved writing book on process, craft, and overcoming stumbling blocks.

**On Writing** by **Stephen King** - hybrid memoir-craft book by a writing master.

**Plot & Structure: Techniques and Exercises for Crafting a Plot that Grips Readers from Start to Finish**

by James Scott Bell -covers the basics like how plot impacts structure, the difference between popular and literary fiction, and how to serve as your own book doctor.

**Reading Like a Writer** by Francine Prose – A core writing book that teaches you how to read with a writer's eye and unlock the ability to recognize and analyze craft for yourself.

**Rock Your Plot** by Cathy Yardley – explains plot so anyone can understand.

**Romancing the Beat** by Gwen Hayes - The romance arc is made up of its own story beats, and the external plot and theme need to be braided to the romance arc—not the other way around.

**Save The Cat Writes a Novel** by Jessica Brody - a comprehensive story-structure guide for novelists that applies the famed *Save the Cat!* screenwriting methodology.

**Steering the Craft** by Ursula K. Le Guin – Many writers consider this to be their bible on craft and storytelling.

**Story Genius** by Lisa Cron -How to Use Brain Science to Go Beyond Outlining and Write a Riveting Novel.

**The Secrets to Creating Character Arcs** by John S. Warner -Learn how your characters can make or break your story – and what you can do to make your characters more compelling.

**The Only World Building Workbook You'll Ever Need** by T.M. Holladay - understanding the world your characters live in is vital to giving readers an immersive experience.

**Writing Down the Bones: Freeing the Writer Within** by Natalie Goldberg –This book takes an almost spiritual approach to the art, craft, and experience of writing.

**The Writing Life: Writers on How They Think and Work** by Marie Arana - More than fifty fiction and nonfiction authors share how they discovered they were writers and how they work.

**Writing the Breakout Novel: Insider Advice for Taking Your Fiction to the Next Level** By Donald Maass