

# Recommended Reading for Aspiring Authors

## *Compiled by Kathy Ide*

### **GENERAL**

*On Writing Well* by William Zinsser  
*Techniques of the Selling Writer* by Dwight Swain  
*On Writing* by Stephen King  
*Bird by Bird* Anne Lamott  
*The Making of a Christian Best-Seller*, by Ann Byle

### **NONFICTION TECHNIQUES**

*Writing Successful Self-Help & How-to Books* by Jean Marie Stine  
*How to Get Your Book Published* by Robert W. Bly  
*How to Publish Your Articles* by Shirley Kawa-Jump  
*Writing Creative Nonfiction*, edited by Carolyn Forché

### **FICTION TECHNIQUES**

*Story* by Robert McKee  
*Writing the Breakout Novel* by Donald Maas  
*The Fire in Fiction* by Donald Maas  
*Creating Fiction*, edited by Julie Checkoway  
*Getting into Character* by Brandilyn Collins  
*Creating Characters* by Dwight Swain  
*Plot and Structure* by James Scott Bell  
*The Art & Craft of Novel Writing* by Oakley Hall  
*Practical Tips for Writing Popular Fiction* by Robyn Carr  
*Writing the Blockbuster Novel* by Albert Zuckerman  
*Self-editing for Fiction Writers* by Renni Browne and Dave King

### **SPECIALIZING**

*Writing for Children & Teenagers* by Lee Wyndham  
*Writing Mysteries*, edited by Sue Grafton  
*How To Write Science Fiction and Fantasy* by Orson Scott Card  
*The Art & Craft of Playwriting* by Jeffrey Hatcher  
*Christian Drama Publishing* by Kathy Ide

### **REFERENCE BOOKS**

*Polishing the PUGS: Punctuation, Usage, Grammar, and Spelling* by Kathy Ide  
*The Chicago Manual of Style*, 16th Edition (for books and popular-style magazines)  
*The Associated Press Stylebook* (for newspapers and journalistic-style magazines)  
*Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, 11th Edition (for books and popular magazines)  
*Webster's New World College Dictionary*, 4th Edition (for journalistic-style articles)  
*The Christian Writer's Manual of Style* (for specifically Christian issues)  
*Writer's Market* (general or Children's, Christian, Novel & Short Story, Songwriters, Poets, etc.)