



The Cambridge Introduction to Creative Writing

David Morley

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This pioneering book introduces students to the practice and art of creative writing and creative reading. It offers a fresh, distinctive and beautifully written synthesis of the discipline. David Morley discusses where creative writing comes from, the various forms and camouflages it has taken, and why we teach and learn the arts of fiction, poetry and creative nonfiction. He looks at creative writing in performance; as public art, as visual art, as e-literature and as an act of community. As a leading poet, critic and award-winning teacher of the subject, Morley finds new engagements for creative writing in the creative academy and within science. Accessible, entertaining and groundbreaking, *The Cambridge Introduction to Creative Writing* is not only a useful textbook for students and teachers of writing, but also an inspiring read in its own right. Aspiring authors and teachers of writing will find much to discover and enjoy.

The Cambridge Introduction to Creative Writing Details

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From Reader Review The Cambridge Introduction to Creative Writing for online ebook

A.D. Labuschagne says

Absolutely loved the games and prompts in this book! It was fun actually working through it! I would recommend this to any and all aspiring wordsmiths!

Sarja says

It might be worth reading to someone, but it is hardly necessary to spend any effort in reading it. What advice and recommendations it can provide can easily be extracted in the course of a few hours thorough skimming.

Eren Bu?lal?lar says

Teknik bilgi sunmaktan ziyade ilham vermeye odaklı? bir çal??mayd?. Ö?retici yerleri var ama yazarl?k konusunda okudu?um en iyi kitap de?il. Her ?eyden biraz var.

Jude Brigley says

What an interesting and stimulating book! As a teacher and would-be writer I found this book both challenging and delightful. The exercises are practical and thought-provoking. The ideas expressed made me think about my own practices with renewed vigour. It is thorough and lively but unlike some guides to writing, it also provides academic frameworks for writing which give the endeavour depth and intellectual rigour. I really enjoyed the book which made me re-enter the classroom with more creative heart and mind. I also loved Peter Blegvad's illustrations. The title makes the book sound too routine when really it is a labour of love by one of our most esteemed writers and teachers.

Miranda says

This textbook was required for my first Creative Writing class.

I quickly found that an "introduction" is not the proper word for this compact, dense book. Morley comes across as pretentious most of the time. He uses three dollar words and his sentences bounce like he's trying to be poetic and sharp. He talks up writing, making it sound so complex that only the most gifted students may excel in the craft.

Morley expresses a strong personal voice and his own opinion more than a textbook should. Throughout, I found that the author developed a narrow definition of what a great writer should be. This book does the opposite of what it should. Instead of making writing an accessible study, it intimidates its readers into

constantly wondering, "Am I even worthy?"

Allison says

Not what I expected.

Hella says

een standaardwerk! Alle mogelijke technische aspecten van creatief schrijven (fictie en poëzie) behandeld, met veel mooie opdrachten, en ook veel theorie over het onderwijzen van creatief schrijven. Aanrader!

Mariana Garcia says

Muito bom e estimulante. Embora tenha deixado todos os jogos criativos de lado para os reunir mais tarde quando estiver verdadeiramente inspirada. No entanto requer mais atenção do que estava à espera. Não é tão fácil de chegar onde nos querem mesmo levar quanto isso. Não é de todo preto no branco se é isso que se espera de um livro de Introdução.

Krisztina says

I must admit, that I am not reading the book itself because I didn't like the language and I did not feel it was giving anything to me, but I like the exercises (Writing Games). They really make your brain work and help you to grow.

Somesuchlike says

This book is full of useful information, but I found it quite dry and difficult to read; it took me a long time to get through it. This is very much an introduction to creative writing as an academic discipline, which I did find interesting as I am about to take a creative writing course - but it's not going to be everyone's thing.

Additionally, given the personal nature of writing I'm not sure it's a subject that's well-suited to the kind of general study you get from a Cambridge Introduction. No matter what kind of writer you are, the chances are there'll be at least one chapter here that's not helpful to you; I skimmed the poetry and creative nonfiction chapters. I really enjoyed the history of creative writing sections but 'creative writing in the academy and community' bored me to tears. Whatever your interests are, this is going to be a patchy read.

I do have to agree with other reviewers that the writing games/exercises are excellent. They don't all look like my cup of tea, but they're all interesting and challenging, not to mention extremely varied. The 'further reading' sections are also very helpful and in-depth. However, if you're not interested in the academic side of creative writing it's not worth buying this book just for the exercises and reading lists; there's other writing

books that will be much more interesting and helpful.

A.J. says

I thought this was an interesting approach to a subject which is probably written to death. Morley is a scientist who thinks that all writing is creative and that good writing should be taught in all disciplines. The book is peppered with practical writing tasks (which all look frankly terrifying) and with sensible advice.

Danièle says

Reading a guide to creative writing without actually doing any creative writing at the time is an odd, empty exercise. This book may be better than I have currently rated it, but I will not know until I actually use the book and complete the exercises - something that, one day, when there is no longer a degree to completely, I do intend to do.

The book seems rich in guidance on processes, ways to get started and keep going, ways to receive and use feedback, which all seems very useful. On the other hand, it seems light in guidance on what actually makes writing good. I suppose to an extent it is a matter of taste, but still there are technicalities that writers should be aware of, and this was little touched on. What I did find refreshing was that Morley's definition of creative writing was not limited to the somewhat contrived brand of literary fiction that seems to dominate the 3 for 2 tables at Waterstone's these days, but rather is a wide, inclusive field that includes genre and non-fiction. I suppose I shouldn't be surprised that a guide to creative writing is creatively written, with phrases such as 'the double helix of reading and writing' and sentences like 'If - and this is the Mount everest of ifs - you ever impress yourself as a writer, you are probably suffering a kind of artistic altitude sickness.' This type of language has its place, but in a guide such as this I found it a bit too flowery, jarring at times, and distracting from the main points.

Lesley Botez says

A well-written and well-explained handbook for creative writers. Interesting exercises. In one I discovered from my writing that a writer's dog has to have a good vocabulary. Quite right, I am working on teaching my dog a few more words.

Apoorva says

Three reasons why this book stands out: the Uh-MAZING word games, the generally engaging prose, and the awesome recommended readings at the end of every chapter.

There were a few typos here & there (something you don't really expect in a Cambridge book), but they don't detract from the content & how well it is written.

Sohail says

What a disorganized and chaotic mess.
