

Hera Lindsay Bird PDF

Hera Lindsay Bird: A Celebrated Voice in Contemporary Poetry

Hera Lindsay Bird has emerged as one of the most distinctive and compelling voices in contemporary poetry. Known for her sharp wit, candid introspection, and inventive language, she has captivated readers and critics alike with her unique poetic style. This article explores her life, literary career, themes, influences, and her impact on modern poetry, offering a comprehensive overview for those interested in her work and its significance in the current literary landscape.

Who Is Hera Lindsay Bird?

Hera Lindsay Bird is a New Zealand-born poet renowned for her dark humor, frank observations, and innovative poetic voice. She gained widespread recognition with her debut poetry collection, *Hera Lindsay Bird*, published in 2016, which quickly became a bestseller and established her as a fresh and provocative voice in the poetry scene.

Born and raised in Wellington, New Zealand, Hera Lindsay Bird's work reflects her cultural background, personal experiences, and keen insights into human nature. Her writing often bridges the gap between traditional poetic forms and contemporary language, making her work accessible yet deeply layered.

Early Life and Background

While detailed biographical information about Hera Lindsay Bird remains relatively private, several aspects of her background have influenced her poetry:

- **New Zealand Heritage:** Growing up in Wellington, Bird's cultural and social environment informs much of her work.
- **Educational Background:** She studied at Victoria University of Wellington, where she engaged deeply with literature and creative writing.
- **Literary Influences:** Her influences include a broad spectrum of poets and writers, from classical to contemporary, which she seamlessly integrates into her own style.

Literary Career and Notable Works

Debut Collection: Hera Lindsay Bird

Published in 2016, her debut collection was an immediate success. The book received praise for its originality, humor, and emotional honesty. It was characterized by:

- Sharp wit and humor: Her poems often contain satirical or humorous elements that challenge traditional poetic seriousness.
- Personal themes: Love, death, identity, and existential angst are recurring motifs.
- Innovative language: She employs colloquial speech, slang, and inventive metaphors.

Subsequent Works and Contributions

Following her debut, Hera Lindsay Bird continued to develop her voice through various poems published in journals and anthologies. Her work has appeared in notable outlets such as The New Yorker, The Paris Review, and Poetry Magazine.

While she has not yet published a second full-length collection as of October 2023, her ongoing contributions to the poetry world keep her at the forefront of contemporary literature.

Themes and Style in Hera Lindsay Bird's Poetry

Hera Lindsay Bird's poetry is marked by its candidness, humor, and emotional depth. Her style combines elements of traditional poetic forms with modern language, creating a voice that feels both fresh and resonant.

Key Themes Explored in Her Work

- **Love and Relationships:** Often exploring the complexities, disappointments, and absurdities of romantic relationships.
- **Mortality and Death:** Confronting mortality with honesty and sometimes dark humor.
- **Identity and Self-Discovery:** Examining personal identity, gender, and sexuality.
- **Existential Angst:** Reflecting on life's meaning, loneliness, and existential questions.
- **Humor and Irony:** Using satire and irony to critique societal norms and personal experiences.

Poetic Style and Techniques

Hera Lindsay Bird's poetic style is characterized by:

- **Conversational Tone:** Her poems often read like intimate conversations, making them accessible and relatable.

- Use of Colloquial Language: Incorporating slang and everyday speech to create authenticity.
- Humor and Satire: Employing wit to explore serious themes, balancing darkness with levity.
- Inventive Metaphors: Crafting unexpected comparisons that provoke thought and evoke emotion.
- Structural Playfulness: Experimenting with line breaks, rhyme schemes, and form to enhance meaning.

Impact and Reception

Hera Lindsay Bird's work has resonated with a diverse audience, especially younger readers drawn to her candidness and humor. Critics have praised her for revitalizing poetry with her fresh voice and for challenging conventional notions of poetic seriousness.

Her debut collection was shortlisted for several awards, including:

- The NZ Book Awards for Poetry
- The New Zealand Book Awards

Additionally, her influence extends beyond her published works, inspiring a new generation of poets to embrace authenticity and experimentation.

Her Influence on Contemporary Poetry

Hera Lindsay Bird's impact can be summarized as follows:

- Breaking Genre Boundaries: Her blend of humor, personal narrative, and formal experimentation has expanded the possibilities of poetic expression.
- Encouraging Authenticity: Demonstrating that vulnerability and honesty can be powerful poetic tools.
- Fostering Accessibility: Making poetry more approachable for a broader audience through colloquial language and relatable themes.
- Inspiring Future Poets: Her success has encouraged emerging writers to embrace their unique voices without fear of rejection by traditional poetic standards.

Where to Find Hera Lindsay Bird's Work

Readers interested in exploring Hera Lindsay Bird's poetry can access her work through various avenues:

- **Published Collections:** Her debut collection *Hera Lindsay Bird* (2016) is available in bookstores and online retailers.
- **Literary Magazines and Journals:** Many of her poems are published in prestigious outlets like *The New Yorker*, *The Paris Review*, and *Poetry Magazine*.
- **Online Platforms and Social Media:** She maintains an active presence on social media, sharing her poetry and insights.
- **Poetry Festivals and Readings:** Participating in literary festivals, especially in New Zealand and internationally, where she often performs her work.

Conclusion: Hera Lindsay Bird's Enduring Legacy

Hera Lindsay Bird stands out as a trailblazer in the realm of contemporary poetry. Her fearless exploration of personal and societal themes, combined with her inventive language and humor, has redefined what poetry can be. As she continues to write and inspire, her influence is likely to grow, shaping the future of poetic expression for years to come.

Whether you are a seasoned poetry enthusiast or a newcomer curious about modern literary voices, Hera Lindsay Bird offers a compelling, authentic, and entertaining perspective that challenges and delights in equal measure. Her work reminds us that poetry can be both deeply personal and universally resonant—an essential voice in the ongoing conversation of contemporary literature.

Hera Lindsay Bird: A Poetic Voice for the Modern Age

Markdown

hera lindsay bird is a name that has become synonymous with contemporary poetic innovation. Rising to prominence in the late 2010s, Bird's distinctive voice combines sharp wit, raw emotion, and a keen eye for the absurdities of modern life. Her work, characterized by its accessibility and depth, resonates with a broad audience, bridging the gap between traditional poetic forms and the immediacy of social commentary. As a poet, her influence extends beyond the page, inspiring a new generation of writers to explore the boundaries of poetic expression.

Early Life and Background

Origins and Upbringing

Hera Lindsay Bird was born and raised in New Zealand, a country known for its vibrant arts scene and rich literary heritage. Her early life was marked by an intense engagement with literature, fueled by a childhood that valued creativity and critical thinking. Growing up in Wellington, Bird was exposed to a diverse array of cultural influences that would later inform her poetic voice.

Education and Literary Foundations

Bird pursued studies in literature and creative writing at university, where she cultivated her craft and developed her unique style. Her academic background provided her with a solid grounding in classical poetic forms, which she often subverts or reimagines in her work. The influence of poets such as Sylvia Plath, Frank O'Hara, and contemporary voices from her region can be discerned in her poetry, blending personal narrative with broader societal observations.

Literary Breakthrough and Style

Debut and Rise to Prominence

Hera Lindsay Bird's debut collection, *Hera Lindsay Bird* (2017), marked a significant turning point in her career. The book quickly gained attention for its candid, humorous, and emotionally resonant poems. Critics praised her ability to tackle themes like love, loss, identity, and mortality with a conversational tone that felt both intimate and unflinching.

Signature Style and Themes

Bird's poetry is characterized by several distinctive features:

- **Conversational Tone:** Her work often reads like a personal monologue, making it accessible and engaging.
- **Humor and Irony:** She employs wit and satire to critique societal norms and personal neuroses.
- **Emotional Depth:** Beneath the humor lies a profound exploration of vulnerability, trauma, and longing.
- **Cultural References:** Her poems frequently incorporate references to pop culture, literature, and everyday life, anchoring her work in the contemporary landscape.

Formal Innovation

While many poets adhere to traditional structures, Bird experiments with form, blending free verse with playful use of rhythm and rhyme. Her use of colloquial language and slang further dismantles the barrier between high art and popular culture, making poetry feel relevant and immediate.

Critical Reception and Impact

Reception by Critics and Readers

Hera Lindsay Bird's work has garnered widespread acclaim for its originality and honesty. Literary

critics have lauded her for revitalizing poetry with a fresh voice that defies genre conventions. Readers, particularly younger audiences, find her work relatable and empowering, often citing her poems as a form of catharsis.

Influence on Contemporary Poetry

Bird's rise signifies a shift in the poetic landscape towards more inclusive, accessible, and emotionally honest writing. Her success has inspired a wave of emerging poets who embrace humor and personal narrative as valid poetic devices. She is often credited with helping to democratize poetry, making it less reserved and more reflective of everyday experiences.

Awards and Recognitions

Although her career is still relatively young, Hera Lindsay Bird has received numerous accolades, including literary awards and nominations in New Zealand and internationally. Her influence continues to grow as her work is incorporated into academic curriculums and literary festivals.

Notable Works and Publications

Hera Lindsay Bird (2017)

Her debut collection established her reputation, featuring poems that range from humorous reflections on everyday life to poignant meditations on mortality. Notable poems include "Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror" and "The Last Time I Saw You," which exemplify her blend of humor and vulnerability.

Subsequent Works and Collaborations

Since her debut, Bird has contributed to various anthologies, literary journals, and collaborated with other artists and writers. Her poetry collections often explore themes like mental health, sexuality, and identity, resonating deeply with diverse audiences.

Online Presence and Social Media

Bird maintains an active presence on social media platforms, where she shares her work, engages with fans, and comments on contemporary issues. Her digital engagement has played a crucial role in expanding her reach and fostering a community around her poetry.

Hera Lindsay Bird's Role in the Broader Literary Scene

Championing Accessibility in Poetry

Bird advocates for making poetry approachable without sacrificing depth. Her work demonstrates that poetry can be both entertaining and profound, challenging stereotypes of the genre as elitist or inaccessible.

Influence on New Writers

Many emerging poets cite Hera Lindsay Bird as an inspiration. Her success story encourages writers to embrace authenticity, humor, and emotional honesty. She often participates in workshops and literary festivals, mentoring young artists and promoting diverse voices.

Bridging Cultures and Generations

While rooted in New Zealand, Bird's work transcends geographic boundaries through its universal themes. Her candidness and modern sensibilities resonate globally, fostering cross-cultural dialogue within the poetic community.

Future Directions and Ongoing Projects

Continuing Literary Exploration

While her initial work focused on personal themes, Hera Lindsay Bird shows interest in expanding her scope. Future projects may include exploring political issues, environmental concerns, and further experimental poetic forms.

Publications and Collaborations

Fans and critics anticipate new collections and collaborations with artists across disciplines, including visual arts and music, to create multimedia poetic experiences.

Advocacy and Public Engagement

Bird is increasingly involved in initiatives promoting mental health awareness and arts education, leveraging her platform to foster social change through poetry.

Conclusion

Hera Lindsay Bird exemplifies a new wave of poets who blend humor, honesty, and innovation to challenge traditional notions of poetry. Her work's accessibility and emotional depth have made her a significant figure in contemporary literature, inspiring audiences and writers alike. As her career continues to evolve, Hera Lindsay Bird is poised to remain a vital voice in shaping the future of poetic expression, reminding us that poetry, at its core, is a reflection of our shared human

experience?raw, funny, painful, and beautiful.

QuestionAnswer Who is Hera Lindsay Bird and what is she known for? Hera Lindsay Bird is a New Zealand poet renowned for her darkly humorous and satirical poetry, often exploring themes of gender, identity, and contemporary life. What are some of Hera Lindsay Bird's most popular poetry collections? Her most notable collection is 'Hera Lindsay Bird' published in 2016, which received widespread acclaim and won the 2017 New Zealand Book Award for Poetry. How has Hera Lindsay Bird influenced modern poetry in New Zealand? Her bold, unconventional style and candid approach have challenged traditional poetic norms, inspiring a new generation of poets and contributing to the contemporary poetry scene in New Zealand. Has Hera Lindsay Bird received any awards for her poetry? Yes, she won the 2017 New Zealand Book Award for Poetry and has been recognized for her impactful and innovative contributions to literature. What themes does Hera Lindsay Bird typically explore in her poetry? She often explores themes of gender, sexuality, mental health, identity, and social critique with a sharp, humorous, and sometimes provocative voice. Is Hera Lindsay Bird active on social media or literary platforms? Yes, she is active on platforms like Twitter and Instagram, where she shares her work, thoughts, and engages with her audience. Have Hera Lindsay Bird's poems been featured in any major literary journals? Yes, her poems have appeared in prominent literary journals and anthologies both in New Zealand and internationally, gaining her a wide readership. Are there any upcoming projects or publications by Hera Lindsay Bird? As of now, she continues to work on new poetry collections and collaborations, with fans eagerly awaiting her next publication, though specific details may not be publicly announced. How can readers access Hera Lindsay Bird's poetry? Her poetry is available in her published collections, literary magazines, and online through various literary websites and her social media profiles.

Related keywords: Hera Lindsay Bird, poetry, Australian poet, contemporary poetry, feminist poetry, lyric poetry, modern poetry, poetic voice, literary awards, poetry collections

bird by bird anne lamott pdf download

Bird by Bird Anne Lamott PDF Download

Introduction to Bird by Bird and Its Significance

Bird by Bird Anne Lamott PDF download has become a sought-after resource for aspiring writers and seasoned authors alike. Anne Lamott's Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life is widely appreciated for its candid, humorous, and insightful approach to the craft of writing. Since its publication, the book has helped countless individuals navigate the often turbulent waters of creativity, self-doubt, and discipline. For those eager to delve into the wisdom of Lamott, accessing a

PDF version can be an attractive option, offering convenience and immediacy. However, it's essential to understand the legal and ethical considerations surrounding digital downloads, as well as the value of engaging with the book in a manner that respects intellectual property.

Overview of Bird by Bird by Anne Lamott

The Core Themes and Messages

Bird by Bird is more than just a guide to writing; it is a philosophical treatise on life, perseverance, and authenticity. Some core themes include:

- Taking Small Steps: The title itself emphasizes the importance of tackling projects—whether writing or life—in manageable pieces, much like "bird by bird."
- Embracing Imperfection: Lamott advocates for embracing flaws and mistakes as integral to the creative process.
- The Role of Fear and Self-Doubt: Recognizing these emotions as normal, and learning to work through them.
- The Importance of Community and Support: Encouraging writers to seek out mentors, friends, and fellow creators.
- Writing as a Practice of Self-Discovery: Viewing writing not just as a craft, but as a path to understanding oneself.

The Structure of the Book

Bird by Bird is organized into digestible chapters, each offering practical advice, personal anecdotes, and humor. Some notable chapters include:

- "Getting Started" ? How to overcome initial inertia.
- "Short Assignments" ? The power of small, achievable goals.
- "Perfectionism" ? Overcoming the paralyzing fear of not being good enough.
- "Publishing" ? Navigating the world of editors, agents, and readers.
- "The Last Chapter" ? Reflection on the ongoing nature of the creative journey.

How to Legally Access the PDF Version

Official Ways to Obtain Bird by Bird PDF

If you are interested in obtaining a Bird by Bird PDF, consider these legal avenues:

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- Ethical Considerations: Supporting authors and publishers by purchasing or borrowing legally helps sustain the creation of valuable literary works.

Exploring the Content and Impact of Bird by Bird

Personal Stories and Anecdotes

Anne Lamott's candid storytelling makes *Bird by Bird* relatable and engaging. She shares her struggles with writing, parenting, and personal growth, illustrating that imperfection is part of the human experience.

Practical Advice for Writers

Some practical tips from the book include:

- Set Small Goals: Break projects into manageable chunks.
- Write Every Day: Establish a routine, even if it's just a few sentences.
- Embrace the First Draft: Accept that the first version is rarely perfect; revision comes later.
- Trust the Process: Patience and perseverance are essential.
- Find Your Voice: Be authentic, and don't imitate others.

Influence and Reception

Bird by Bird has received praise for its honesty, humor, and practical wisdom. It is often recommended in writing courses, workshops, and by literary communities. Many readers cite it as a life-changing book that redefines their approach to creativity and resilience.

How to Maximize Your Reading Experience

Tips for Engaging with Bird by Bird

- Take Notes: Highlight passages that resonate with you.
- Implement Small Exercises: Practice the suggested writing exercises.
- Reflect on Personal Experiences: Connect Lamott's advice to your own life.
- Join a Writing Group: Share insights and gain feedback.
- Revisit Chapters: Return to sections as needed for motivation and guidance.

Additional Resources

- Author Interviews and Talks: Enhance your understanding by exploring Anne Lamott's interviews and lectures.
- Related Books: Explore other works on writing and personal growth, such as Stephen King's *On Writing* or Natalie Goldberg's *Writing Down the Bones*.
- Workshops and Courses: Consider attending writing classes inspired by the principles outlined in *Bird by Bird*.

Final Thoughts

Obtaining a Bird by Bird PDF download can be a convenient way to access Anne Lamott's wisdom, but it is essential to do so ethically. Supporting the author through legal channels ensures that creative work continues to flourish, benefitting readers and writers alike. Whether you choose to purchase, borrow, or read a physical copy, the lessons from Bird by Bird are timeless and universally applicable—encouraging us all to take life “bird by bird,” one step at a time. Embrace the imperfections, trust the process, and remember that every small effort counts in the journey of

writing and living fully.

Bird by Bird Anne Lamott PDF Download: A Comprehensive Guide for Aspiring Writers and Readers

In the world of creative writing and personal development, few books have resonated as profoundly as *Bird by Bird* by Anne Lamott. For those eager to explore this beloved guide in digital format, the phrase "bird by bird anne lamott pdf download" has become a common search term among aspiring writers, students, and literary enthusiasts. This article aims to delve into the essence of Lamott's work, discuss the significance of accessing it in PDF form, and provide insights on how to approach the book, whether through legal means or thoughtful engagement with its content.

Understanding Bird by Bird: An Overview

Who Is Anne Lamott?

Anne Lamott is an acclaimed American author known for her candid, humorous, and heartfelt writing style. Her works often blend personal memoir with practical advice, especially on topics like writing, faith, and life struggles. *Bird by Bird* was published in 1994 and quickly became a cornerstone for writers seeking both inspiration and pragmatic guidance.

The Core Themes of Bird by Bird

At its heart, *Bird by Bird* offers a compassionate approach to writing and living. The title itself stems from a family story where Lamott's father advises her brother to tackle big projects—like a massive school report—by taking it "bird by bird," or step by step. This metaphor encapsulates Lamott's philosophy: progress is made through manageable, consistent efforts.

The book covers several key themes:

- The craft of writing
- Overcoming self-doubt and perfectionism
- Embracing vulnerability
- Developing a sustainable writing practice
- Finding joy and purpose in the creative process

Why Is Bird by Bird Still Relevant Today?

Despite being published nearly three decades ago, Lamott's insights remain remarkably current. Her candid discussion of writer's block, fear of failure, and the importance of perseverance resonate with modern audiences facing similar struggles in the digital age. The book's approachable tone

makes it accessible for beginners, while its depth offers valuable lessons for seasoned writers.

The Significance of the PDF Download: Accessibility and Considerations

The Appeal of PDF Format

Many readers prefer digital formats like PDF because of their portability, searchability, and ease of access. PDFs can be read on various devices—computers, tablets, smartphones—and allow users to highlight, annotate, and organize their notes effectively.

The Search for Bird by Bird PDF

Searching for "bird by bird anne lamott pdf download" is common among those who want immediate access to the book without purchasing a physical copy. While digital copies can enhance convenience, it's crucial to understand the legal and ethical considerations involved.

Legal and Ethical Aspects

Copyright Laws: Bird by Bird is a copyrighted work. Downloading it from unauthorized sources infringes on intellectual property rights, potentially exposing individuals to legal repercussions and depriving authors of their rightful earnings.

Official Access Options:

- Purchasing the PDF from authorized platforms like Amazon Kindle, Apple Books, or the publisher's website
- Borrowing a digital copy from a library through services like OverDrive or Libby
- Buying a physical copy and scanning it for personal use (though this still raises copyright questions)

Respecting authors' rights ensures that writers like Anne Lamott can continue producing meaningful work.

How to Access Bird by Bird Legally and Effectively

Purchasing the PDF or E-Book

Most major online retailers offer Bird by Bird in digital formats. Purchasing an e-book guarantees:

- Immediate access
- Enhanced readability features
- Supporting the author's work

Borrowing from Libraries

Many public libraries partner with digital services to lend e-books and PDFs. Checking your local library's catalog or digital lending platforms can be an excellent, cost-free way to read Bird by Bird.

Audiobook Options

For those who prefer listening, audiobooks are available through platforms like Audible. While not a PDF, audiobooks provide another accessible way to engage with Lamott's insights.

Deep Dive into the Key Lessons from Bird by Bird

Emphasizing the Process Over Perfection

Lamott advocates for embracing imperfection as an inherent part of the creative journey. She encourages writers to:

- Write "shitty first drafts" without self-criticism
- Let go of the need for perfection upfront
- Trust the process and allow growth to occur naturally

The Power of Small Steps

The titular metaphor emphasizes taking small, manageable actions daily. Practical advice includes:

- Setting aside dedicated writing time
- Breaking projects into chunks
- Celebrating small victories

Overcoming Self-Doubt

Lamott discusses common fears among writers, such as:

- Fear of rejection

- Imposter syndrome
- Comparing oneself to others

She suggests strategies like:

- Developing a supportive writing community
- Maintaining a sense of humor
- Practicing self-compassion

Finding Your Voice

The book champions authenticity, urging writers to:

- Write honestly about their experiences
- Avoid overly polished or pretentious language
- Trust their unique perspective

Practical Tips for Readers and Writers Inspired by Bird by Bird

For Aspiring Writers

- Start small: Write daily, even if just a few sentences
- Embrace failures: View mistakes as learning opportunities
- Read widely: Gain inspiration and understanding of different styles
- Join writing groups: Share work, receive feedback, and stay motivated
- Keep a journal: Capture thoughts, ideas, and observations

For Readers Seeking Personal Growth

- Reflect on Lamott's philosophies and how they apply to your life
- Practice mindfulness in your creative pursuits
- Cultivate patience and perseverance
- Appreciate the journey, not just the destination

Final Thoughts: Navigating the Digital Landscape

While the allure of a quick "bird by bird anne lamott pdf download" is understandable, the most

respectful and sustainable approach is to access the book through legal means. Not only does this honor Anne Lamott's intellectual property, but it also ensures you receive a quality, authentic version that preserves the author's voice and intent.

Whether you choose to purchase a digital copy, borrow from a library, or listen to an audiobook, *Bird by Bird* remains a timeless resource. Its teachings continue to inspire countless individuals to approach writing and life with patience, honesty, and resilience.

Resources for Further Exploration

- Official website of Anne Lamott
- Local and digital library catalogs
- Major e-book retailers
- Writing workshops inspired by *Bird by Bird*
- Online communities and forums for writers

In Summary:

Bird by Bird by Anne Lamott is more than just a guide to writing; it's a compassionate manifesto on navigating life's challenges with grace and humor. While digital access is convenient, prioritizing legal and ethical methods of obtaining the book ensures that the creative ecosystem remains healthy and supportive. Whether you're a novice writer or an experienced author, Lamott's words offer invaluable wisdom—one small step at a time.

Question What is 'Bird by Bird' by Anne Lamott about? 'Bird by Bird' is a memoir and writing guide by Anne Lamott that offers humorous and heartfelt advice on writing, creativity, and life, emphasizing the importance of perseverance and honesty. **Answer** Is it legal to download the 'Bird by Bird' PDF from online sources? Downloading 'Bird by Bird' PDF from unauthorized sources is generally illegal and violates copyright laws. It's recommended to purchase or borrow the book through legitimate channels. Where can I find a legitimate PDF or e-book version of 'Bird by Bird' by Anne Lamott? Legitimate digital versions of 'Bird by Bird' can be purchased or borrowed from authorized retailers like Amazon Kindle, Apple Books, or from libraries via digital lending services such as OverDrive. What are some key themes discussed in 'Bird by Bird'? Key themes include the struggles and joys of writing, the importance of patience and self-compassion, dealing with perfectionism, and embracing the imperfect process of creativity. How has 'Bird by Bird' influenced writers and readers? Many writers and readers have found 'Bird by Bird' inspiring for its candid, humorous, and practical advice, encouraging perseverance and honesty in their creative pursuits. Are there any free or discounted versions of 'Bird by Bird' available legally? Legitimate free or discounted versions may be available through library promotions, special sales, or authorized free excerpts, but full PDFs are typically sold through official channels. What are some alternatives to

'Bird by Bird' for writers seeking advice? Alternatives include 'On Writing' by Stephen King, 'Big Magic' by Elizabeth Gilbert, 'The War of Art' by Steven Pressfield, and 'Writing Down the Bones' by Natalie Goldberg.

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