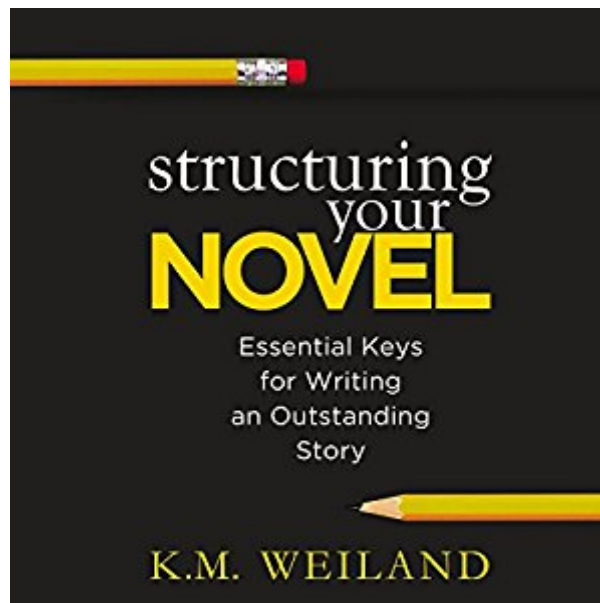




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Structuring Your Novel: Essential Keys For Writing An Outstanding Story



Synopsis

Is Structure the Hidden Foundation of All Successful Stories? Why do some stories work and others don't? The answer is structure. In this IPPY and NIEA Award-winning guide from the author of the bestselling *Outlining Your Novel*, you will discover the universal underpinnings that guarantee powerful plot and character arcs. An understanding of proper story and scene structure will help you to not only perfectly time your story's major events, but will also provide you with an unerring standard to use in evaluating your novel's pacing and progression. *Structuring Your Novel* will show you: How to determine the best methods for unleashing your unique and personal vision for your story. How to identify common structural weaknesses and flip them around into stunning strengths. How to eliminate saggy middles by discovering your "centerpiece." Why you should NEVER include conflict on every page. How to discover the questions you don't want readers asking about your plot-and then how to get them to ask the right questions. Story structure has empowered countless bestselling and classic authors. Now it's your turn!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is about the most overlooked aspect of the writer's craft - the fiction novel structure. Many newbie writers, and I was one of them, just start writing stories without realising how easy it is to fall into multiple traps that would ruin their books. Some of us have an excellent inbuilt sense of the structure, others, like me, not so much, yet every writer needs to learn about the rules of storytelling at least to know why our stories are missing something or simply fail to appeal to the reader. KM

Weiland systematically goes through the macro- and micro-structure of the novel. First, she tells us meticulously about the architecture of the three-act plan stories and all the important elements of it, e.g. first plot point, inciting event, climax, resolution. Then, she writes about the structure and dynamics of the scene and the two types scenes and their variations. Finally, she discusses the micro-structure at the level of sentences and the common signs of the clunky prose. I have started following Katie's blog for writers, Wordplay, years ago and I think I've learned from her most of the techniques described here before I even started reading the book. "Structuring Your Novel" is a distilled and well-organised digest of dozens of Wordplay blogposts and KM Weiland is definitely the right person to give us her expert opinion. She is a successful historical/speculative fiction writer, so a lot of teaching comes from her own experience. I congratulate the author with this new brilliant guide for writers, I'm sure it will help many of us become better writers.

This book was extremely helpful. At first, I thought it would just be about the structure, like the arc of your story. It is so much more! I wanted to know if my first novel needed structure work. It was fine, but the little tips here helped immensely! After reading this, I added a few things to mine as suggested in Structuring your novel and it brought things together that much better. Tightened things up in my book/storyline. It talks about the hook and keeping your readers hooked, where and when to introduce characters by and so much more. It also helped bring my second book together. I was stuck on how to do my second book and I hadn't gotten to far into this book when my second book fell into place. Suddenly I saw my whole second book play out in my head! After that I had it written in no time. I would highly recommend this book to anyone writing a book or series and thank KM Weiland for writing this to help us all! Below is another book I found extremely helpful and influential in bringing my series together. GMC: Goal, Motivation, and Conflict

Excellent book. Right on point. The examples I think help to clarify the understanding the author was trying to communicate, which is great for beginners. I feel the authors strategic layout of her examples makes it easy for the more advanced someone who has more experience with the concept of structuring can/could skip the examples without bogging down their reading. However, the last third of the book regarding scenes left me a bit bewildered. The communication became broken and hard to follow, leaving me as a reader a bit confused and lost. I gave it a 4star rate because of the last third of the book. I do want to note that I did buy the workbook and outlining your novel plus workbook. KM Weiland is a spot on instructor regarding writing and helping a writer establish themselves with confidence to author their books. Even though the last part of her book

was a bit off, I still recommend her books. You WILL walk away with information you did not have before you read her books and it will be of benefit to you in the long run.

"Structuring Your Novel" by K.M. Weiland is actually enjoyable, not like a stiff boring textbook. It is difficult for me to put down and I've read about a quarter of it, which according to Weiland, is where the first plot point of a novel should be. Perhaps that is why I am inspired to write a review for his book. He makes the structural parts of a novel interesting to learn about, like the characters he tells you to write about, that you should care enough about them to describe them well. He obviously cares about the structural parts of the novel because of the powers they hold, such as propelling the reader forward to want to know what happens next to the characters. Foreshadowing is another structural element that Weiland discusses early in the book. Although I want to race through this book because it is so enjoyable, I am reading it slowly, practicing writing using some of the structural elements as I read about them, and taking notes. If the rest of the book is as good as the first part, then I'm sure it will have been, like finding out who the murderer is in a gripping who-dun-it novel, a satisfying use of my time. I use a method of writing called 'free writing' which is really the generation of any ideas and putting it on paper, but I get writer's block. This book by Weiland, plus another method of writing called 'object writing' are helping me to get over the block.

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