

The Right to Write: An Invitation and Initiation into the Writing Life

By Julia Cameron



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The Right to Write: An Invitation and Initiation into the Writing Life By Julia Cameron Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Writing, for Julia Cameron, is neither solely vocation nor avocation: it is a way of life. It comes first thing in the morning, while the horses are waiting to be fed; it happens at the kitchen counter, while the onions are sautéing; it takes place on "dates" at café tables shared with likeminded friends; it unfurls in the mind as the '65 pickup "bucks over the rutted dirt roads like a stiff-legged bronco." The more than 40 brief personal essays that make up *The Right to Write* are an unyielding affirmation of the writing life and a denigration of all that gets in the way: busy schedules, procrastination, insecurity, lack of writing space, a day job--you get the point. Cameron's commonsense advice is liberating to anyone who has felt hampered by making a big deal out of writing (this "tends to make writing difficult. Keeping writing casual tends to keep it possible"), by not having the time to write ("Get aggressive. Steal time"), or the like. If you find a spirit that compares writing to revelation, prayer, and Zen pursuits, that might just attribute misguided communication to Mercury retrograde simpatico, then you will find much to embrace here. And you will never, never again dream of waiting for that commitment-free sabbatical in the south of France to get your writing project under way. --Jane Steinberg

From Publishers Weekly

In a flowing sequence of personal essays and exercises (many of them reprises from her bestselling The Artist's Way), Cameron seeks to help readers enjoy writing as a natural, joyful process. "All of us have a sex drive. All of us have a drive to write." She offers advice on how to get over the stiffness or outright paralysis that creeps in when people make writing a "Big Deal." Wholeheartedly believing in writing as a process that connects us to the divine, whether we experience that finer source as internal or external, Cameron is refreshingly real. She invites readers to make use of the interruptions and torments as well as the sensual pleasures of their lives (for example, through the creation of a real or imaginary "Wall of Infamy," using memories of people who have hurt them) as a source of energy that can be focused to write their way "clear of rage, frustration, and negativity." Acknowledging that she is "a sort of creative nurse practitioner," Cameron, telling the stories behind some of her own stories and poems, shows how writing can lead us down into the most vibrant parts of ourselves, to the very source of health. Although she covers much of the same territory she explored in The Artist's Way, Cameron's prose and anecdotes sparkle with fresh, lived experience, demonstrating that when the subject is creativity, a writer really can't enter the same stream twice.

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From Library Journal

Cameron declares that "it is human nature to write" and sets about proving it in this follow-up to her best-selling writing guides, which include The Vein of Gold (LJ 11/1/96). Her first novel, The Dark Room, is coming out from Carroll & Graf this fall.

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Leona Ferretti:

Now a day folks who Living in the era exactly where everything reachable by match the internet and the resources within it can be true or not require people to be aware of each info they get. How individuals to be smart in receiving any information nowadays? Of course the answer then is reading a book. Reading a book can help persons out of this uncertainty Information specifically this The Right to Write: An Invitation and Initiation into the Writing Life book since this book offers you rich information and knowledge. Of course the knowledge in this book hundred pct guarantees there is no doubt in it you may already know.

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Michael Patterson:

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