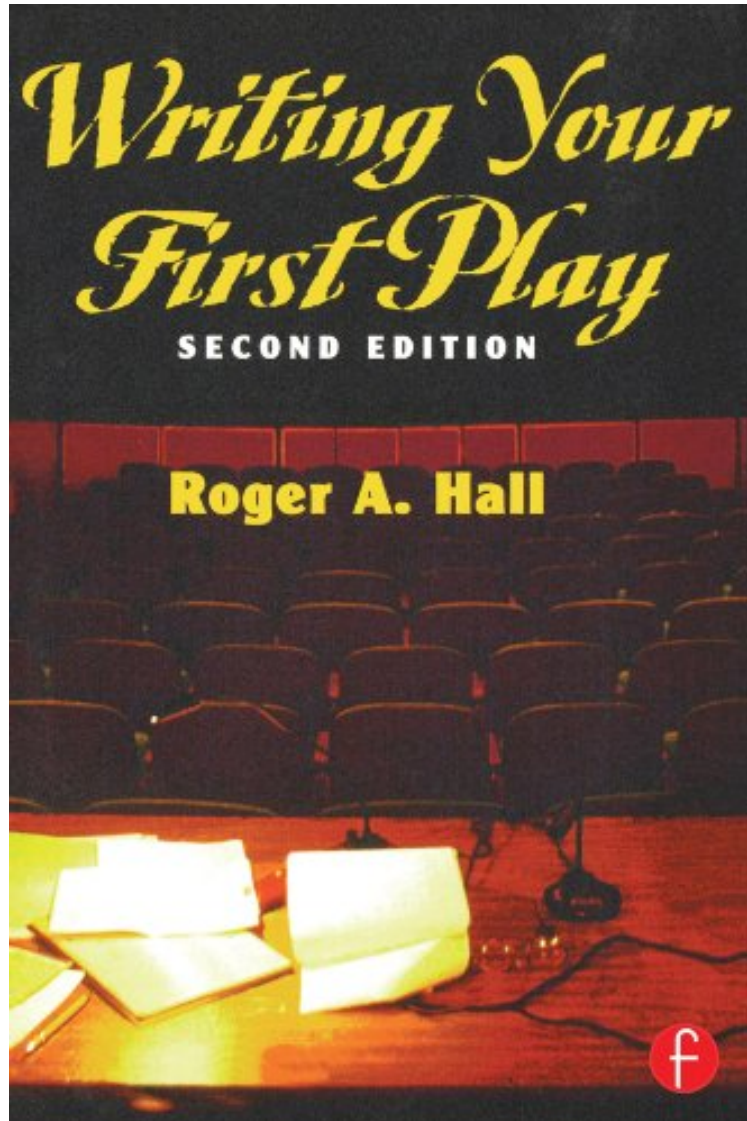


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Writing Your First Play

Roger Hall

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Roger Hall : Writing Your First Play before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Writing Your First Play:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This is a great help and it helps me understand a lot better ...By CustomerSo informational! This is a great help and it helps me understand a lot better how to construct and deconstruct a play. The instructions are clear and answers several questions I had been pondering. Examples are everywhere and provides you with a lot of readings that should be done and people to look up and study. So helpful!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An excellent book for the amateur playwrightBy R. BurfordAn

excellent book for the amateur playwright. This was recommended to me from a former director of mine and was written by his former professor. I am glad I bought it and I highly recommend to anyone starting out. This is better than the book I just had to use for my college playwrighting course. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Road Map for the Beginner By Rachel Smith Manrique This is a good college textbook on playwriting for the beginner. The chapters cover action, conflict, character, dialogue, writing from life, writing from a source, special exercises to expand one's skills, writing a one-act play and marketing plays. The feature that sets it apart from other books on the subject are the many excerpts from plays, most of which were written by Hall's own students. The quality of these excerpts speaks highly of his teaching gifts. One of them, an entire one-act play by Jerome Hairston titled "Cable Man", deserves special mention. The appendix, titled "Classroom Procedures," is written for the instructor. It provides, for example, the relative merits of having authors read their own plays vs. assigning parts to classmates.

Writing Your First Play provides the beginning playwright with the tools and motivation to tell a story through dramatic form. Based in a series of exercises which gradually grow more complex, the book helps the reader to understand the basic elements of drama, conflict, and action. The exercises help the reader to become increasingly sophisticated in the use of dramatic formats, turning simple ideas into a viable play. Topics include: the role of action in drama; developing action and conflict to reveal character; writing powerful and persuasive dialog; writing from personal experience: pros and cons; how to begin the story and develop the storyline. This new edition is thoroughly updated and contains new examples based on contemporary plays. The author has added additional writing exercises and a new student-written one act play. It also contains a new chapter on how to sell your play once it is written. With examples based on student work, this text both inspires and educates the student and fledgling playwright, providing solid tools and techniques for the craft of writing a drama. Roger A. Hall, a professor of theatre at James Madison University, had taught playwriting for nearly 20 years. Many of his students have gone on to write for theatre, television, and the screen. He has written numerous plays and articles and has acted and directed extensively in the theatre.