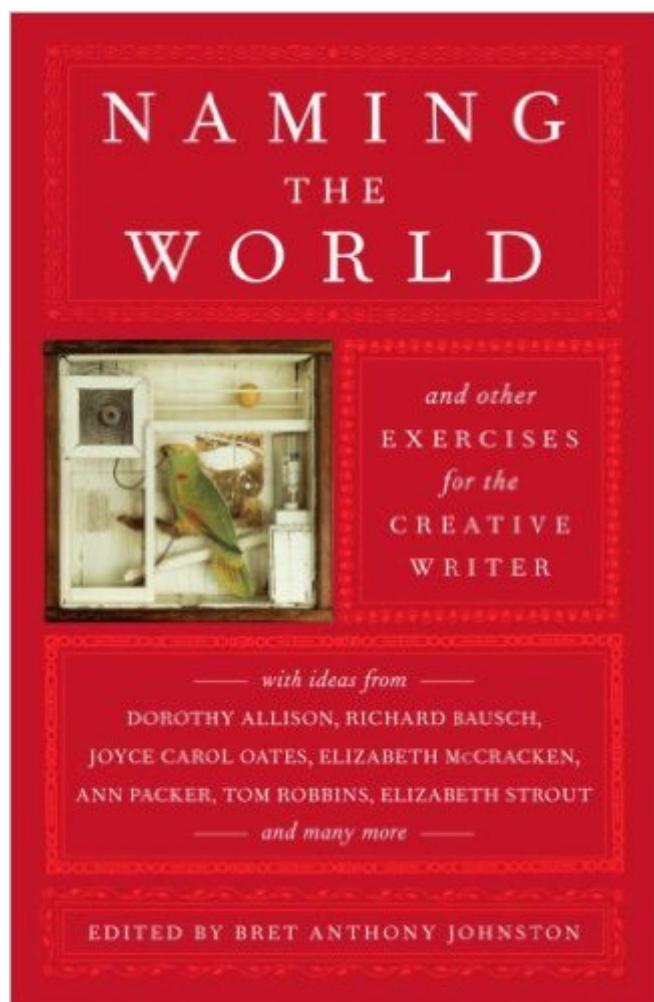


The book was found

Naming The World: And Other Exercises For The Creative Writer



Synopsis

You already have the tools to become a gifted writer; what you need is the spark. Harvard creative writing professor and acclaimed author Bret Anthony Johnston brings you an irresistible interactive guide to the craft of narrative writing. From developing characters to building conflict, from mastering dialogue to setting the scene, *Naming the World* jump-starts your creativity with inspiring exercises that will have you scrambling for pen and paper. Every chapter is a master class with the country's most eminent authors, renowned editors, and dedicated teachers. Infuse emotion into your fiction with three key strategies from Margot Livesey. Christopher Castellani dumps the "rewrite what you know" maxim and challenges you to really delve into the imagination. A point-of-view drill from Susan Straight can be just the breakthrough you need to flesh out your story. Jewell Parker Rhodes shares how good dialogue is not just about what is being said but about what is being left unsaid. Brimming with imaginative springboards and hands-on exercises, *Naming the World* has everything you need to become a stronger, more inventive writer. A delicious book. Imagine yourself at a cocktail party crammed with literary lions. You have the chance to spend a few moments with each of them. Wit and wisdom abound.

“Julia Cameron, author of *The Artist's Way* A highly useful and perceptive book. With charm and intelligence it touches on nearly every teachable aspect of the devilishly difficult art of writing.”

“Ethan Canin, professor of creative writing at the Iowa Writers Workshop, and author of *Carry Me Across the Water* These entertaining and useful exercises, intelligently organized, are a boon for both beginning and experienced writers.”

“Andrea Barrett, National Book Award-winning author of *The Air We Breathe* Forget about getting an MFA! For any writer struggling with his craft, here is the equivalent of a master class in writing by some of the best writer/teachers around.”

“Betsy Lerner, author of *The Forest for the Trees: An Editor's Advice to Writers*

Book Information

Paperback: 400 pages

Publisher: Random House Trade Paperbacks (January 8, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0812975480

ISBN-13: 978-0812975482

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.8 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (29 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #39,954 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #66 in Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Publishing & Books > Authorship #179 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Literature > Creative Writing & Composition #298 in Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Fiction

Customer Reviews

If you are as yet unfamiliar with the work of Bret Anthony Johnston, dear writer, there are two things you should know. The first is that his fiction is tight, controlled, alluring and fresh, so he knows whereof he speaks. (And if you haven't discovered him yet, I highly recommend purchasing *Corpus Christi* along with *Naming the World*; the former is a collection of Johnston's short stories.) The second is that Bret Anthony Johnston is currently one of our most vocal and devoted cheerleaders for the craft of writing. Like Ray Bradbury, Johnston is a writer's writer, someone who can become just as enthusiastic and excited about the process of writing as he can about the finished product itself. The introduction to *Naming the World* begins, "I don't believe in talent... Truth be told, I'm not at all sure that writing can be taught. I am positive, though, that it can be learned. What I believe in, as a writer and a teacher, is dedication." I once heard author Douglas Clegg say, "I don't believe the great American novel will be written by a writer who is 'great'; I believe it will be written by a writer who writes." He went on to say that, as writers, the greatest obstacle we have to conquer is the self-doubt that keeps us from writing. Because after all, as tired of a cliche as it may be, practice does indeed make perfect--or close enough to perfect to publish. For those of us, from novice to professional, whose lives are sustained by writing, *Naming the World* offers a buffet of appetizers, prepared by some of my favorite writers, designed to intensify our hunger for putting pen to paper or fingers to keyboard. Johnston names dedication, stubbornness and discipline as the traits he believes will lead to writing as a vocation.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Naming the World: And Other Exercises for the Creative Writer *Memory Exercises: Memory Exercises Unleashed: Top 12 Memory Exercises To Remember Work And Life In 24 Hours With The Definitive Memory Exercises Guide!* (memory exercises, memory, brain training) *The Graphic Designer's Digital Toolkit: A Project-Based Introduction to Adobe Photoshop Creative Cloud, Illustrator Creative Cloud & InDesign Creative Cloud (Stay Current with Adobe Creative Cloud)* *The Writer's Toolbox: Creative Games and Exercises for Inspiring the 'Write' Side of Your Brain* *Pilates and Bodyweight Exercises: 2-in-1 Fitness Box Set: Shred Fat, Look Great (Pilates Exercises, Bodyweight Exercises, Fitness Program, HIIT Program, ... Muscle Building, Lean Body, Total*

Fitness) The Writer's Guide to Everyday Life from Prohibition Through World War II (Writer's Guides to Everyday Life) Indiscretion: Finitude and the Naming of God (Religion and Postmodernism) Naming Nature: The Clash Between Instinct and Science Polarization in the US Catholic Church: Naming the Wounds, Beginning to Heal The Complete Writer: Level 1 Workbook for Writing with Ease (The Complete Writer) The Complete Writer: Level Two Workbook for Writing with Ease (The Complete Writer) Align Your Writing Habits to Success: From procrastinating writer to productive writer in 30 days (or less) The TV Writer's Workbook: A Creative Approach To Television Scripts 100 CAD Exercises - Learn by Practicing!: Learn to design 2D and 3D Models by Practicing with these 100 CAD Exercises! Exercises for the Brain and Memory : 70 Neurobic Exercises & FUN Puzzles to Increase Mental Fitness & Boost Your Brain Juice Today (With Crossword Puzzles) Ab Exercises: Discover the Top 3 Ab Exercises to Help Aid Fat Loss and Get You Rock Hard Abs Kegel Exercises for Men: PC Muscle Exercises to Improve Sexual Health & Performance Practice Makes Perfect Basic English, Second Edition: (Beginner) 250 Exercises + 40 Audio Pronunciation Exercises (Practice Makes Perfect Series) LIVING THE LAW OF ATTRACTION - 40 PRACTICAL EXERCISES: Daily Exercises To Attract Anything You Want Into Your Life The Courage to Be Creative: How to Believe in Yourself, Your Dreams and Ideas, and Your Creative Career Path

[Dmca](#)