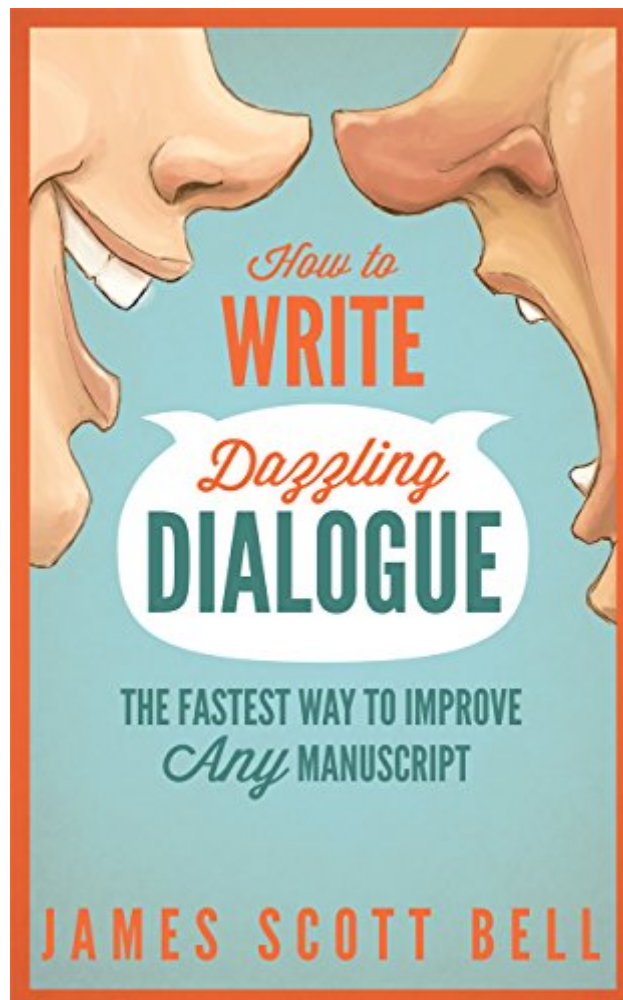




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How To Write Dazzling Dialogue: The Fastest Way To Improve Any Manuscript



Synopsis

There is one sure-fire way of improving your novel fast. . . You may know the fundamentals of how to write fiction. You may be more than competent in plot, structure and characters. But if your dialogue is dull it will drag the whole story down. On the other hand, if your dialogue is crisp and full of tension it immediately grabs the reader. And if that reader is an agent or editor, sharp dialogue will give them instant assurance that you know what you're doing as a writer. Writing a bestseller or hot screenplay is no easy task, but dazzling dialogue is an absolute essential if you want to get there. The best part is, the skills of the dialogue craft are easy to understand and put into practice. #1 bestselling writing coach James Scott Bell has put together and expanded upon the dialogue lectures from his popular writing seminars. In *How to Write Dazzling Dialogue* you'll learn: What fictional dialogue is ... and isn't The 11 secrets of crafting memorable dialogue The 5 essential tasks of dialogue 5 ways to improve your dialogue 4 can't-miss methods to increase conflict and tension in any dialogue exchange The top 10 dialogue issues, and how to resolve them You'll also see dazzling dialogue in action with examples from hit novels and screenplays. Don't sabotage your chances of selling your work to readers or publishers because the dialogue is unexceptional. Dazzle them with what the characters say. *How to Write Dazzling Dialogue* will give you the tools to do it.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Succinct, concise and a breeze to read," she said."Really." He didn't sound convinced. "Look, where other books on writing fiction drop the ball on dialogue, this guy not only picks it up, he spins it on one finger. . . and he tells us the same thing." She took a sip of beer and leaned into him. "We need to know our characters." He grimaced. Took another slice of pizza and let the white, oily cheese pull across the plate. "Not that again." "You know it's a juggling act. All the mincing - or not mincing - of words. Making it tense. Or alluding to something." She pulled a piece of crust apart. "Shutting a character up at the right time. It's all in there." "Huh. Well, I'm not there yet. I'm still working on the plot." "You'll get there." "Can I borrow yours?" She swallowed the beer. "Buy your own."

This is the book on writing dialogue that I have been searching for! I just purchased it this morning and have already emailed the link to two writing friends. Bell sums up what makes dialogue dazzling and how to avoid writing dialogue that, while it may get the job done, is flat and boring. He also covers punctuation (a challenging concept for many beginning writers) and my favorite topic: Curving the language. This one is a keeper and I will be referring to it often.

I have two bookshelves of writing craft books. This doesn't include the shelf with my dictionaries, style manuals, thesauri, and grammar books. I've also taken many writing classes. I've made a conscious effort in the past couple of years to not take any more classes, not buy any more books because most of them don't have anything new to teach me. This book is different. It's really a booklet or pamphlet, not a whole book, but it focuses specifically on writing dialogue and goes deeper than most general books. James Scott Bell provides specific techniques for adding tension to dialogue, for avoiding the boring chit-chat while still keeping the essentials of what you want your characters to say. There are several suggestions for exercises you can try to improve the way you write dialogue, some of which were new-to-me. With the number of writing books I've read, I'd assume they would be new to others as well. It does include most of the standard advice for writing dialogue as well, but Bell was smart enough to put this at the back rather than the beginning where it might make the reader assume you were just getting tips you already knew. Most of all, I like the

tone of this book. It doesn't present the information as rules you must follow. Instead, it says these are things I've learned about dialogue, things you might want to incorporate in what you do when you write it, but if you want to do something different, that's okay, too. That's very refreshing to see in a writing craft book.

If you judge a book by how much it teaches you that you really needed to know, then this is a great book. 5 Stars plus! The author just flat out shows you how to punctuate all types of dialogue.

I'm sure there are grammar books that might differ on a point or two but everything Bell did made perfect sense to me. It all was simple to understand and it convinced me to adopt his suggestions. The rest of the book is about all aspects of dialogue and it is exactly like I most want a 'how to' book to be written. The text reads like an experienced trial lawyer zeroing in on a cross examination. Short, to the point, and powerful. A typical academic author could easily have made this book three times longer while saying less. Bell is one of the best live teachers I've ever had and he writes as well as he teaches. If you can go to one of James Scott Bell's seminars, do it. If you seek help on writing better dialogue, it would be hard to find a better book.

This is the second of JSB's books I've read on writing. I like his style and method. My degree is in business, not writing, but one of my favorite experiences in school was to learn a subject from someone who professionally practiced the subject. Luckily for me, most of my teachers professionally practiced their subjects in business which is why I look fondly on that education. I also look fondly on JSB's teaching books because it is so evident that his practical advice comes from experience as well as education. His knack for boiling a topic down to the essentials and, subject after subject, threading the needle precisely with just the right amount of information to convey the idea convincingly has me convinced that I should have picked his books up years ago. I would have been so much further along as a writer than I am now. Better late than never though. His ideas have already improved my writing. I highly recommend *How to Write Dazzling Dialogue* to you. This information is a bargain and invaluable. Go ahead and make the purchase.

Good advice and a quick read - you are unlikely to regret reading the book. However, since the most useful parts seem to be excerpts showing great dialogue from famous literature and film scripts, one cannot escape the feeling that he'd do equally well skipping the book altogether and reading great literature instead, paying attention to how the authors crafted their dialogues and how these helped shape their characters and advance the narrative.

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