

**SHORT STORIES IN THE MAKING: A WRITERS'
AND STUDENTS' INTRODUCTION TO THE
TECHNIQUE AND PRACTICAL COMPOSITION
OF SHORT STORIES, INCLUDING AN
ADAPTATION OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THE
STAGE PLOT TO SHORT STORY WRITING**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649704330

Short Stories in the Making: A Writers' and Students' Introduction to the Technique and Practical Composition of Short Stories, Including an Adaptation of the Principles of the Stage Plot to Short Story Writing by Robert Wilson Neal

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

ROBERT WILSON NEAL

**SHORT STORIES IN THE MAKING: A WRITERS'
AND STUDENTS' INTRODUCTION TO THE
TECHNIQUE AND PRACTICAL COMPOSITION
OF SHORT STORIES, INCLUDING AN
ADAPTATION OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THE
STAGE PLOT TO SHORT STORY WRITING**

SHORT STORIES IN THE MAKING

A WRITERS' AND STUDENTS' INTRODUCTION
TO THE TECHNIQUE AND PRACTICAL COM-
POSITION OF SHORT STORIES, INCLUDING
AN ADAPTATION OF THE PRINCIPLES OF
THE STAGE PLOT TO SHORT STORY WRITING

BY
ROBERT WILSON NEAL, A.M.

UNIV. OF
CALIFORNIA

NEW YORK
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS
AMERICAN BRANCH: 35 WEST 32ND STREET
LONDON, TORONTO, MELBOURNE, AND BOMBAY
HUMPHREY MILFORD
1914
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

910
N34

Copyright, 1914
BY OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS
AMERICAN BRANCH

TO THE
LIBRARY OF
CALIFORNIA

To
My Wife

300367

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that this is crucial for ensuring the integrity and transparency of the financial system. The text notes that without proper record-keeping, it would be difficult to detect and prevent fraud or mismanagement of funds.

2. The second part of the document outlines the various methods used to collect and analyze data. It describes how different types of information are gathered from various sources and how this data is then processed to identify trends and patterns. The author highlights the need for consistent and reliable data collection methods to ensure the accuracy of the analysis.

3. The third part of the document focuses on the challenges faced in the field of data analysis. It discusses the complexity of large datasets, the potential for bias in data collection, and the importance of using appropriate statistical techniques to interpret the results. The text also mentions the need for ongoing training and development of analysts to keep up with the rapidly changing landscape of data science.

4. The fourth part of the document provides a detailed overview of the current state of the industry. It discusses the latest trends and technologies being used in data analysis, such as machine learning and artificial intelligence. The author also notes the growing importance of data privacy and security in the context of these advanced technologies.

5. The fifth part of the document offers some practical advice and recommendations for organizations looking to improve their data analysis capabilities. It suggests investing in high-quality data collection tools, implementing robust data management systems, and fostering a culture of data-driven decision-making. The text also emphasizes the importance of collaboration and communication between different departments within an organization.

6. The sixth part of the document concludes with a summary of the key findings and a call to action. It reiterates the importance of data analysis in the modern business environment and encourages organizations to embrace data-driven strategies to gain a competitive edge. The author also expresses optimism about the future of the field and the potential for continued innovation and growth.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
CHAPTER I. THEORY OF THE SHORT STORY TYPE (CONTE)	1
I. Fiction Aims at the Interpretation of Life and the Diversion of the Reader, by Means of Concrete Presentation.	
II. The Short Story, or Conte, Is a Type in Itself.	
III. The Short Story, or Conte, is a Drama in Narrative.	
IV. The Plot of the Short Story, or Conte, Must Be Dramatic.	
V. The Short Story Requires Persons in Action in a Time of Crisis.	
VI. Singleness of Effect Is Necessary to the Short Story.	
VII. The Short Story, or Conte, May Aim at Different Kinds of Effect.	
VIII. Some Short Stories, or Contes, Emphasize Theme.	
IX. Some Short Stories Emphasize Plot.	
X. Some Short Stories Emphasize Character.	
XI. Some Short Stories (Contes) Emphasize Atmosphere.	
CHAPTER II. THEORY AND PRACTICE OF THE PLOT	71
XII. The Short Story Plot Much Resembles That of the One-Act Play.	
XIII. The Exposition Is the Introducing Part of the Plot.	
XIV. The Exciting Moment, or Inciting Impulse, Begins the Development.	
XV. The Rising Action Develops the Plot to Its Decisive Moment.	
XVI. The Falling Action Brings the Outcome and Close.	
CHAPTER III. THE COMPOSITIONAL CONSTRUCTION OF THE SHORT STORY	122
XVII. The Opening Seizes Interest, Introduces Action, Strikes the Keynote, and (Perhaps) Conveys Exposition.	
XVIII. The Purposes of the Opening Can Be Served by Various Kinds of Beginning.	

XIX. In the Body of the Story, the Chief Constructional Problem Is That of Sequence.	
XX. The Ending, if Separate from the Climactic Moment, Exists Merely to Supplement and Close the Narrative.	
XXI. A Preliminary Scheme of Important Compositional Facts Will Help the Author.	
CHAPTER IV. OTHER PROBLEMS OF FICTION-WRITING . . .	178
XXII. Observance of Certain "Unities" Prevents Dispersal of Effect.	
XXIII. Decision upon Plot and Selection of Developing Material Must Be Determined by the Author's Detailed Familiarity with the Facts Involved.	
XXIV. Characterization Involves the Presenting of Human Traits, Class Attributes, and Personal Traits and Mannerisms.	
XXV. "Character" Implies an Original Conception of a Person Having Definite Individuality; Its Traits Being Portrayed by Description, Analysis, Psychological Narration, and Especially Act and Speech.	
XXVI. Dialogue Lightens the Narrative, Contributes to Exposition and Intensification, Furthers Action, and Characterizes.	
XXVII. The Main Practical Problems of Dialogue Are, How to Make Sure of Essential Truthfulness and Produce Verisimilitude.	
AFTERWORD. THE QUESTION ANSWERED . . .	249

CHAPTER I

THEORY OF THE SHORT STORY TYPE, OR CONTE

I. FICTION AIMS AT THE INTERPRETATION OF LIFE AND THE DIVERSION OF THE READER, BY MEANS OF CON- CRETE PRESENTATION

1. When we ask, what is the purpose of fiction? we find that a complete answer must include two assertions. True, in many discussions concerning fiction, its structure, its methods, and the like, sometimes one of these assertions, sometimes the other, is disregarded. But a complete understanding—one that is philosophically sound—nevertheless cannot be had without including both in the answer.

2. These two purposes of fiction when fiction is typical and at its best, are:

A. To interpret human life, and

B. To interest (amuse, divert, entertain) the reader. "Interpret" must here be understood to mean, produce in the reader a clearer understanding of or a sense of having experienced human life. But much good fiction is produced in which emphasis is laid mainly and even solely on entertainment. This does not, however, mean that such fiction is without interpretive value.

3. We must understand, however, that this interpretive aim is not an immediate, but rather an ultimate and sub-