



36 Craft Essays

Chuck Palahniuk

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AshleyS says

Lots of thought-provoking ideas here, that work well as exercises even if you wouldn't want to incorporate them in your regular writing style. It works well as a challenge to one's laziness or thoughtlessness in filling blanks with easy solutions like "he thought that..." and suggesting that unpacking things through action is more engaging. Throwing away the interior monologue, however, means losing one of the main weapons that a book has that a film lacks.

A lot of variations on "Show don't tell" and a lot of icky detail, as you might expect from Palahniuk. This book lacks a little bit of qualification, it's more of a "Here's how to write like me and my mentor Tom Spanbauer" rather than "Here's a few tools and exercises to consider".

Christian Baloga says

While successfully giving aspiring authors great advice, Palahniuk inserts anecdotes that will make even the harshest critics laugh out loud.

Mel says

Peter says

Some of the stories are a little bit gruesome. But the actual writing advice is some of the best and clearest I have ever read.
