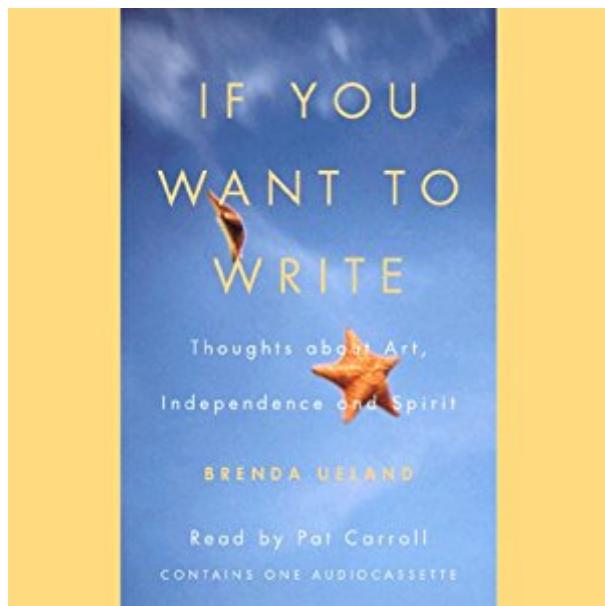


The book was found

# If You Want To Write: A Book About Art, Independence, And Spirit



## **Synopsis**

But we must try to find our True Conscience, our True Self, the very Center, for this is the only first-rate choice-making center. Here lies all originality, talent, honor, truthfulness, courage and cheerfulness. Here lies the ability to choose the good and the grand, the true and the beautiful. In her ninety-three remarkable years, Brenda Ueland published six million words. She said she had two rules she followed absolutely: to tell the truth, and not to do anything she didn't want to do. Her integrity shines throughout *If You Want to Write*, her bestselling classic on the process of writing that has already inspired thousands to find their own creative center. Carl Sandburg called this book "the best book ever written about how to write." Yet Ueland reminds us that "whenever I say 'writing' in this book, I also mean anything that you love and want to do or make."

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

This is a great book about writing that generalizes to any creative endeavor in your life. Little of the advice given in the book is directly related to writing. Almost all of the advice applies equally well to any part of your life where you are held back by self-criticism, unrealistic expectations, and unclear thinking. Ueland's approach is honest and direct and inspiring. Unfortunately, the BN Publishing edition - a print on demand service - is terrible. There are missing letters, missing words, odd line jumps, and other marks of a hasty electronic conversion. I would definitely recommend this book to anyone interested in doing any creative work. But I would also urge you to buy a different edition.

Others have done a thorough job of reviewing the contents of this slim book. My review is about the

context - this current BN Publishing edition could have been a gem with some care and effort. Sadly it is below par. First of all, there are many careless typos and haphazard blank lines within paragraphs throughout the book. Although this work was first published in 1938, there is no indication of its original copyright or publishing history. Apparently this publisher acquired the copyright in 2008 and cares nothing for what transpired before. Even more glaring, there is no introduction to give the contemporary reader a sense of how and why these insights have transcended time and are still important today. A short biography of the author would also have been in keeping with a book that has been around for approximately 75 years. If you purchase If You Want To Write, look into finding a different edition.

This is absolutely great to get you going on days where inspiration or motivation run thin. I incorporated this book into my daily routine, reading a chapter a day, since they are so short. I would say 75% of the book had great insights, while a good chunk of it was either aimless ramblings (identified as a more self-righteous, preachy approach to how to/not write) or pages of student journal entries that were absolutely not helpful. But honestly, there are pages in this book that woke me up and moved me to write. I would buy it again and recommend to all my friends.

Every writer/wanna be writer should read this book!! I have read several "How to" guides for writers and this is by far the BEST! Ueland gives the perfect antidotes to several writer struggles. I MUST buy a print copy right now! It is too good not to!

Carl Sandburg called this book the best book on writing he had ever read. I have to agree with him. I suspect were he alive today he would still feel the same way. Anyone involved in any creative endeavor will be nourished by this book. I gave this book many years ago to my daughter in high school. She has two best sellers now and cites it as one of her great inspirations as a writer.

I first read this book 20 years ago - I found it inspirational then, and I find it inspirational now. I have reread it many times, and I have purchased numerous copies to give to friends as well. This book is not just a treatise on writing. It is a boisterous expose' of our spiritual and creative natures, and how these tender qualities are squashed in us as life goes along. Read this book, and reclaim the exuberance and joy that comes with the freedom to be our true selves! (Oh, and get some input on writing while you are at it...)

I bought this book based upon Guy Kawasaki's over the top guarantee that if you don't like it, he'll give you your money back. Considering that he is just a fan, and not the publisher, and that I'm an admirer of his writing, I bought it. I am not disappointed. This is a charming book about creativity and doing your creative work without fear. The author is a writer so it focuses more on writing than other creative tasks, but she assures us repeatedly that her advice is universal regardless of medium. Her writing style has charm, I don't know how else to put it, and it has the cadence of its time, the 1930's. That the book is still in print more than 70 years after its publication date says much about the universal ideas within and the quality of its expression.

I loved this book. Brenda stresses that writing is about telling the truth and the importance of imagination. The truth she speaks of is the writer's own truth. What is seen in the imagination. And not writing what is not seen. She judges writing based on whether she believes it and encourages writers not to add descriptions that they cannot see in their imagination. She believes imagination comes from God, though I don't consider this book religious. She abhors critics who judge but don't create. An enjoyable paradox since she critiques several pieces of writing, primarily for not being honest. She encourages free, messy, journal style writing in order find one's own voice. She addresses the concept of writer's block by saying that the creative process is slow, and encourages us to slow down, remove distractions, and listen patiently. I feel very inspired and capable to write after reading this book.

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If You Want to Write: A Book about Art, Independence, and Spirit This book will teach you how to write better: Learn how to get what you want, increase your conversion rates, and make it easier to write anything (using formulas and mind-hacks) The 30 Day Romance Novel Workbook: Write a Novel in a Month with the Plot-As-You-Write System (Write Smarter Not Harder) How to Write the Perfect Personal Statement: Write powerful essays for law, business, medical, or graduate school application (Peterson's How to Write the Perfect Personal Statement) All In One: Part 1,2,3 & 4 -- Write a Detective Novel, Write a Good Mystery, Red Herrings, Hiding & Finding the Clues: Help With Writing A Detective Novel (Write Me Dearly) Deliverance From Python Spirit: Powerful Prayers to Defeat the Python Spirit → Spirit of Lies, Deceptions and Oppression. (Deliverance Series Book 3) You Can Write Poetry (You Can Write It!) You Can Write a Column (You Can Write It!) You Can Write for Magazines (You Can Write It!) So, You Want to Be a Coder?: The Ultimate Guide to a Career in Programming, Video Game Creation, Robotics, and More! (Be What You Want) The MBA Reality Check: Make the School You Want, Want You Do You Really Want to Meet

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