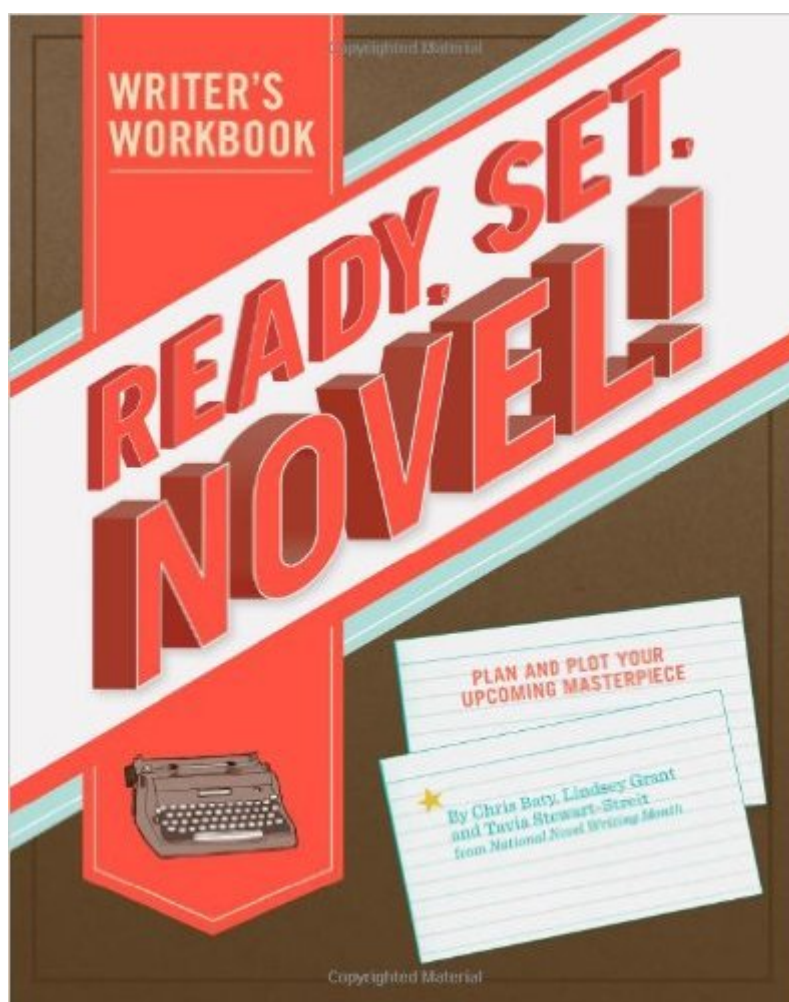


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# Ready, Set, Novel!: A Workbook



## Synopsis

This writer's block-busting workbook guides authors through planning and plotting a novel before writing it from the initial idea generation and brainstorming through character, setting, and story development. Full of helpful lists, plot maps, character Q&As, field trips, writing exercises, inspiring quotes, and plenty of space to write and outline, *Ready, Set, Novel!* provides ample inspiration and guidance to first-time novelists and more seasoned scribes alike.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews Â (52 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

I've been writing novel-length books since I was fourteen and I've always treated novel-writing like building a house. Building a good foundation is pretty much imperative if you want the rest of the "house" to be stable. True, there are people who dive right into a story without any world-building, character-building, or any of that, but it's rare that that's successful. And this little gem of a book has all kinds of fun exercises, from family trees to character profiles to different scenarios for you to write out that really help you think about your characters, their world, the plot, and the novel as a whole. Whether you're a novice or a pro, this book is helpful to any aspiring novelist. Give it a whirl. I think you'll like it.

I never plan my stories. Ever. It's just something I don't do. The times I've tried ended with those stories being immediately abandoned. It's like when I get the ideas down on paper/into a word document, my brain sees them and goes, "æh, good enough." But! I was at

my friend's apartment the other night and was perusing their bookshelf when I happened upon Ready, Set, Novel! Intrigued, I opened it, expecting a boring writer's guide or something, and was delighted to discover it was a workbook for plotting out a novel. I immediately pulled out my phone, went to Amazon, and bought it. It was waiting on my doorstep the \*next\* day. Four for you, shipping department. I began using the workbook last night and if this is the kind of thing I've been missing whilst planning a story, then boy do I have some lost time to make up for! The workbook is visually engaging and very fun to use, not to mention how well it reins in all the ideas vying to be used. It organizes everything nicely. I highly recommend this to anyone who's looking to start a novel (or even a short story). It's a wonderful tool. I'll probably end up buying six more.

These workbooks have really helped me flesh out my characters as well as plot out any major events that happen in the story. It even encourages you to write a few scenes of the characters past so you get a better feel on how the character came to have the personality that he did. I own one for every manuscript I'm working on plus an extra in case an idea hits out of nowhere. It also helps outline and summarize your ms so that you can create a synopsis much easier than trying to come up with one after the book is completely written. I recommend this to all writers, no matter where they are in their career.

I could teach a class using this book, it is so well-laid out and thoughtful. Ms. Grant's writing prompts and thoughts inspire the budding writer with humor and insight into the frustrations every writer eventually meets. This book is not necessarily geared to take one through NaNoWriMo (which is what I tried to do) but it certainly helps get the organization part of storywriting in motion. I really enjoyed using this workbook, and actually made copies of the pages and then wrote on the copies so I can keep this awesome book around for a while!

It was a workbook and I am thinking that it would be a good thing to fill up before November. I think that it outlines what is desirable before you get started writing a novel. I am planning to use this more this year before November 2013.

I loved the layout and space to brainstorm. There are a wide variety of writing exercises, meant to take a writer through the entire plot of a novel, including lots of character building. Some sections were a little kitschy for my taste. For example, there is a coloring section which includes the busts of a few literary greats. The sentiment is cute, and many will love the humor, not to mention the

opportunity for coloring through writer's block, but I was pursuing 50,000 words in 30 days and wasn't allowing myself to procrastinate. If you are competing in NaNoWriMo, I would say this is the tool for you, especially if you enjoy the humorous interludes.

I LOVE this workbook. This workbook will take you through everything you need whether you have an idea for your novel or not. I have two of these now, one for each of the books I am writing. It keeps my ideas clear and concise, offers me a deeper look into my characters, setting and plot that I wouldn't normally be able to delve into myself, and the best of all, it keeps me from making stupid mistakes such as changing something later in the book because I didn't have it written down. I often go back into the book to do exercises I have saved for later if I get stuck in writer's block and it helps me get past those hard times. I will continue to buy this workbook over and over again for each and every novel that I plan on publishing, and will continue to recommend it to people. It is great for those who are taking their time developing ideas or working on a long project, and also great for people who are doing events such as Camp Nano and NaNoWriMo. I cannot say enough about this book. I love it.

I love reading. LOVE IT. I've always wanted to write my very own novel, but had NO IDEA how to start. Ready, Set, Novel!: A Workbook is a terrific tool. To my very great surprise and delight, the instructional areas are not bland or boring, but rather funny and witty. The exercises in it really help expand my mind, even if they make me think so hard that I get a headache from time to time. The workbook also has hysterical pick-me-ups and ... drum roll please ... every writer's favorite thing - procrastination pages! More importantly, this workbook will help you flesh out your characters and give them depth, and I mean DEPTH. And while there are many blank spots/pages for you to write in, I'd still pick up a blank notebook somewhere to keep alongside this one, because with this book, and all the fresh and exciting ideas that will flood your mind, you may just need it.

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The New Traditional Woodworker: From Tool Set to Skill Set to Mind Set (Popular Woodworking)  
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