



MYNOVEL AUTHOR SERIES

PRACTICAL GUIDES FOR BUDDING INDEPENDENT AUTHORS

**BOOK
4**

WRITING DIALOGUE

A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO WRITING NATURAL,
BELIEVABLE CONVERSATIONS THAT REVEAL
CHARACTER AND MOVE THE STORY FORWARD.

*From stilted
to natural...
and memorable*

VOICE

SUBTEXT

CONFLICT

TENSION

TAGLINES

**INCLUDES
PDF GUIDE
+
EDITABLE
WORD
WORKBOOK**

Great
Dialogue
Brings
Characters
to Life

"I didn't see
that coming."

"You always
do this."

"That's not
fair."

"Maybe you're
right."

MIKE GROBLER

FREE PREVIEW

WRITING DIALOGUE

MyNovel Author Series — Book 4

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This short preview contains the introduction and the opening of
Chapter 1.

The full guide includes 15 chapters plus an editable Microsoft Word
workbook.

*A practical guide to writing natural, believable conversations that
reveal character and move the story forward*

Introduction — Dialogue Is Action

Dialogue is sometimes treated as the easy part of fiction. Put quotation marks around what people say, add a few 'he said' and 'she said' tags, and the conversation is done. In practice, good dialogue is one of the most demanding parts of a novel because it has to sound natural without becoming a transcript of ordinary speech.

Real conversations are full of repetition, unfinished sentences, filler words, polite exchanges and information that matters only to the people involved. Fictional dialogue must create the impression of real speech while doing much more work. It can reveal character, create conflict, hide information, expose relationships, change decisions and move the plot forward.

Dialogue is action. One character says something because they want a response. The other person answers, avoids, lies, attacks, jokes, changes the subject or stays silent. The exchange alters the situation, even if only slightly.

Strong dialogue is not written to sound clever. It is written to make something happen.

We will continue using Leah Daniels, her brother Daniel and the neglected coastal guesthouse from the earlier books in the series. Their conversations give us a practical way to see how dialogue changes when characters have different goals, histories and reasons for not saying exactly what they mean.

WORKBOOK: Complete Exercise 1 — Before You Begin in the accompanying editable Word workbook.

1. Know What Dialogue Must Do

Before writing a conversation, ask why it belongs in the story. If two characters talk for a page and nothing changes, the scene may feel pleasant but unnecessary.

Dialogue can perform several functions at once. It can reveal new information, create tension, expose a relationship, force a choice, show a misunderstanding, plant a clue or make a character commit to something. The strongest exchanges usually do more than one of these.

Dialogue should change the situation

A conversation does not need to end with a dramatic argument, but something should be different afterwards. A character may know more, trust less, make a promise, become suspicious or decide on a new course of action.

PRACTICAL EXAMPLE

Leah asks Daniel to delay selling the guesthouse for three months. If Daniel simply says, 'All right,' the conversation ends the problem too easily. If he agrees only on condition that Leah uses her own savings for repairs, the dialogue creates a new commitment and a new risk.

WORKBOOK: Complete Exercise 2 — Define the Purpose of the Conversation in the accompanying editable Word workbook.

THE PREVIEW ENDS HERE

Continue with the full guide to explore character voice, natural conversation, subtext, dialogue tags, action beats, punctuation, interruptions, multilingual dialogue, stuttering, dialect, WhatsApp and email messages, group conversations and more.

Your purchase includes the complete PDF guide and an editable Microsoft Word workbook.

PURCHASE THE FULL BOOK