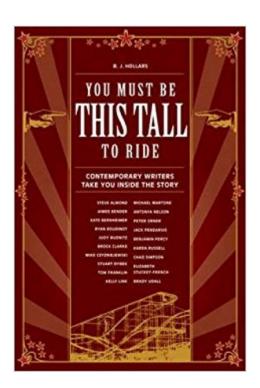


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# You Must Be This Tall To Ride: Contemporary Writers Take You Inside The Story





## Synopsis

Compelling stories have the power to generate infinite wonder: It's nearly impossible to imagine how the author began, and yet we sense there's much more beyond the final word. It's this mystery&#150a combination of inspiration and craft, smoke and mirrors&#150that makes writing feel momentous. But it can also feel overwhelming, causing us to become small, scared, not quite ready for the "big" rides, such as finishing that story, that novel, and finding the courage to share it with the world. In You Must Be This Tall to Ride, you'll find 20 works of fiction and nonfiction by acclaimed contemporary authors, each offering fresh perspective on "coming of age" (a story to which we can all relate), as well as exclusive personal essays and practical exercises. In their own words, these writers grant you a guided tour of craft with unparalleled access to the process behind their creation, including how to:grow a story from the seed of an image or sentenceallow experiments with language to lead you to plotturn even the most unlikely characters into heroestransform raw anecdotes from your own life into compelling fiction and essayJoin 20 writers as we grow up and down, taking a rollercoaster ride in stories. You'll not only begin to understand what makes the wheels of a story turn, you'll also gain the tools and strategies to transform lost characters and runaway plots into the greatest show on earth. So go ahead, step right up. Listen for the calliope music, and take your place in line. Your ride has just begun. CONTRIBUTORS: Steve AlmondAimee BenderKate BernheimerRyan BoudinotJudy BudnitzDan ChaonBrock ClarkeMichael CzyzniejewskiStuart DybekMichael MartoneAntonya NelsonPeter OrnerJack PendarvisBenjamin PercyAndrew PorterChad SimpsonGeorge SingletonBrady UdallLaura van den BergRyan Van Meter

#### **Book Information**

Paperback: 304 pages

Publisher: Writer's Digest Books (May 27, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1582975744

ISBN-13: 978-1582975740

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.9 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,202,064 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #20 in Books > Reference >

Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Newspapers & Magazines #4215 in Books >

Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Writing Skills #6062 in Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Fiction

#### **Customer Reviews**

B.J. Hollars of Fort Wayne, Indiana is working on his MFA in writing at the University of Alabama where he has served as nonfiction editor and assistant fiction editor for Black Warrior Review. His short fiction has appeared or is forthcoming in The Adirondack Review, Puerto del Sol, The Evansville Review, Memorious, and other literary journals.

They are a uniquely digestible slice of life, a means of reading a novel when you only have time for a magazine.

This book is a good study for students of writing, like myself, but it still lacks something. I'm not sure what. Overall, it does have value and if you can find a good price read this, but don't go out of your way.

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