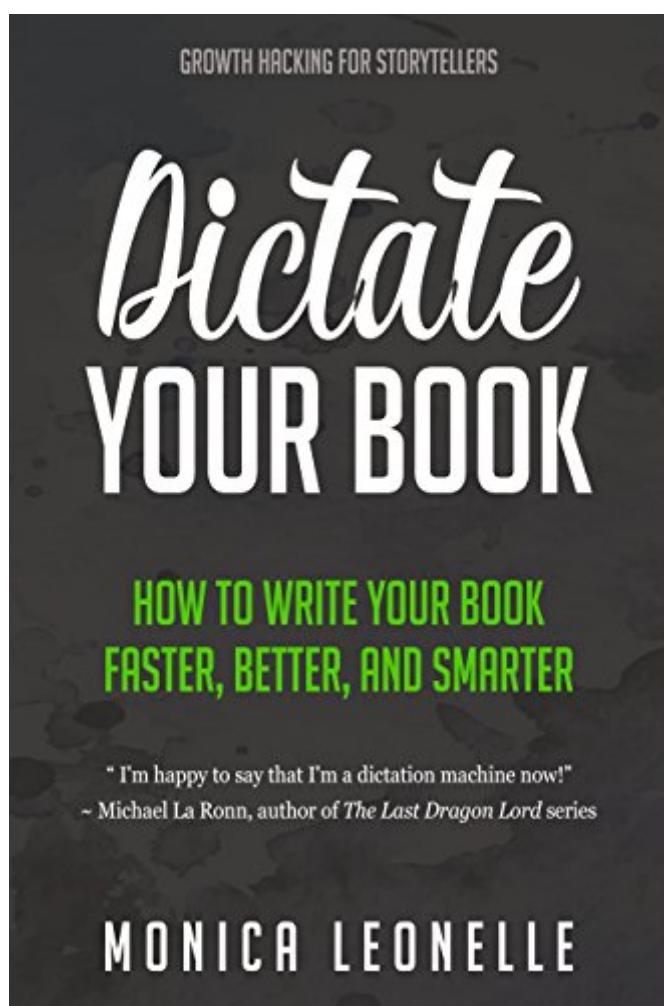


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Dictate Your Book: How To Write Your Book Faster, Better, And Smarter (Growth Hacking For Storytellers #4)



Synopsis

Ready to get on board with dictation (finally)? Like many tools that have come before it, dictation is a new and exciting opportunity to write better, faster, and smarter. But many writers still believe it's not for them. Perhaps they've tried it in the past and it hasn't worked. Or perhaps this new technology is confusing, expensive, or frustrating and that's held them back from taking advantage of it. If you're ready to take the next step and learn a new skill set that will give you a huge advantage over what other authors are doing today, grab *Dictate Your Book* and start working through the challenges that are holding you back from reaping the benefits of dictation. It includes:- Why you need to get started with dictation, even if you tried it before and hated it!- All of Monica's best tips for making dictation work for you, whether you writing fiction or non-fiction- Every piece of equipment Monica recommends, plus half a dozen ways to test dictation before you buy- Monica's full setup for her innovative Walk & Talks which helped her hit 4,000+ words per hour For authors who are ready to take their productivity to the next level, this short guide will help you get started!

Book Information

File Size: 234 KB

Print Length: 59 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publisher: Spaulding House; First edition (September 8, 2015)

Publication Date: September 8, 2015

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B013ZVSVC4

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #93,874 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #28

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Fiction

#55 in Kindle Store > Kindle Short Reads > 90 minutes (44-64 pages) > Education &

Reference #92 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing

Customer Reviews

I had never considered dictating a book. I can type fairly fast, and I've never really experienced any pain in my hands/wrists. When I read Monica's book Write Better, Faster, I thought the part about dictating her book was interesting. Dictate Your Book gives you the necessary information (software, setups for desk and mobile, equipment, and exercises) for writing a book by dictation. I'd like to point out that anyone using OS X Yosemite should definitely try the dictation that comes with operating system. You don't even need to buy a fancy microphone - just use your iPhone headphones with mic (only works on certain macs - I have a mac mini). It's very accurate and seems to get better the more you use it without having to train it. I'm not faster with dictation yet because I'm just learning the correct way to speak and call for commands, but I think it will eventually become my preferred way to write beats and first drafts.

First, I'd have to say I've really enjoyed and benefitted from the "Growth Hacking For Storytellers" books by Monica Leonelle. They are easy to read and very informative. They are quick reads that efficiently communicate a lot with a pleasant personal tone. I think she would be a great person to know. So, I'd like to share a much cheaper alternative set of hardware as opposed to the equipment described in this book. Monica states clearly these are the tools she uses, but that they surely aren't the only choices and that it is wise to be on the lookout for better tools at all times. I'm very interested in dictation and I make enough in my business (sometimes) to allocate a bit to R&D. I'm totally convinced that dictation technology and skills are going to continue to grow in importance in the future. By the way, I'm a software developer and a serious percentage of my time necessary goes into writing. I continually have to produce specifications, user manuals, and addenda. Most of the time writing has a cost associated with it for me. Specifically, the faster I can get it done, the more profit I make. So, it's important to do it fast without compromising the quality. Also, by the way, I recommend Scrivener. I consider it possibly the best piece of writing software ever. Also, I am a Mac user so factor that in here, although I see no reason why the items I describe below would fail to work well with PCs. At any rate, I purchased the whole "kit and caboodle" Monica describes. That includes:- a nice \$100 AT2020 microphone

(http://www..com/gp/product/B0006H92QK?psc=1&redirect=true&ref_=oh_aui_search_detailpage)-

all the amenities, which includes a swing-arm mount, pop filter, quality cabling, (about \$50) and- a \$50 Blue Microphones Icicle

(http://www..com/gp/product/B001EW5YQS?psc=1&redirect=true&ref_=oh_aui_search_detailpage).

I already had Dragon for Mac. I've purchased every version Nuance has ever sold, and I have something of a love/hate perspective about Nuance. That's a discussion for another day. With Dragon, I've tried many different microphones over the years because Dragon was at least a little "pissy" about what would work well, or work at all. Also, I've gone through many many voice recorders over the years because they are indispensable to me in my business. I record interviews continually. Experimentation with various recorders for use in transcription has produced resonable results with the recorder I list below. I don't use my iPhone (another love/hate relationship) because, for my purposes and experience, a dedicated digital voice recorder is easier and more rewarding to use on a day-in-day-out basis. So, to my point(s): After experimenting considerably with the tools described in "Dictate Your Book", my conclusion is that this set up is entirely workable. However, it is less workable and considerably more expensive than the alternatives I describe below. You can save a lot of \$, get equal quality, and suffer less hassle with the gadgets. Also, the tools I mention here are very compact and present no difficulties when you want to go mobile. Here are two headsets that work beautifully with Dragon for Mac (v3, v4 and v5). One set is "on ear" type which is nice for staying in touch with the sounds in the room, and the other is "over ear" type which is comfortable and isolating. The use of a headset allows you to both hear and speak hands free. Both models of headset come with the option of either mini-plug connectors, which work perfectly with the voice recorder (record and playback), or USB connector, which can be easily plugged directly into your computer (Mac in my case). Bear in mind that if you opt to go with the mini-plug versions, you can still buy a cheap USB adapter to have these headsets work with your computer. In my case, I bought two headsets; one that I leave connected to the Mac and the other to take with me when I use my voice recorder. I paid a little more for convenience. I keep the over ear headset connected to my computer, and use the on-ear headset when I'm outdoors so that I can hear traffic well enough to stay alive. Also, both headsets come with pop filters for the microphone. Using the headset(s) with the voice recorder is cinch. The controls on the recorder are ideal for manual manipulation. The headset gives a loud clear input and you can instantly play back what your recorded through the headset. Everything is very compact, fast, and easy and takes only one hand. Most of the time the recorder just stays in my pocket as I walk along leaving my hands free (to hold the dog).
as

leash).Koss CS-100 headset (on ear)

This was one of the best books I've read this year. Before reading this, I had tried dictation off and on for several years, stopping because it just wasn't smooth enough for me. Monica does a great job stating the case for why authors should reconsider dictation. She also walks you through her dictation setup and how to get started with Dragon, which is the only program authors should be using right now. After trying the book, I'm happy to say that I'm a dictation machine now, and this stuff really DOES work. But you've got to put the time and effort into learning it, just like you do with any skill like typing or Photoshop. It doesn't happen overnight. It feels awkward at first--almost like being handicapped. But if you go into it with a mindset that you're going to succeed, the methodologies will blow your current workflow out of the water. Guaranteed. My only minor issue with the book was that it glossed over dictation drills (as the author doesn't believe in them). I'm a very methodical, systems-oriented person, and if it weren't for the drills I found in another book, I might have abandoned dictation even after reading Monica's book because I couldn't wrap my head around "how" exactly to dictate properly and create a clean first draft. While the drills and exercises aren't for everyone, I can't stress the importance of dictation enough for people like me, and I think this book would have been an even better deal than it was if there was at least a little time devoted to helping ease newbies like me into the unfamiliar territory of dictation--just to seal the deal a bit more. Overall though, I'm immensely glad that I read this book and forever grateful to Monica for opening the door to dictation for me---it's going to take my writing career to new heights, I already know it!

If you are considering using dictation to write, 'Dictate Your Book' is the book for you. If you are new to using dictation (specifically Dragon) 'Dictate Your Book' is the book for you. If you gave up on dictation because you found it frustrating, 'Dictate Your Book' is the unequivocally the book for you. This is a very quick and easy book and has no fluff. It gives you what you need to know to make up your mind about dictation and start using it. When I first started using dictation, I picked up one of the few guides it cost 10X the price and has 1/10 the value. Dictate Your Book is, hands down, the best book I've encountered for someone just starting out with dictation or has tried it and been frustrated with the process. Are you still reading this? Cut it out and buy the book already! And, by the way, I am dictating this. Thanks, Monica!

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