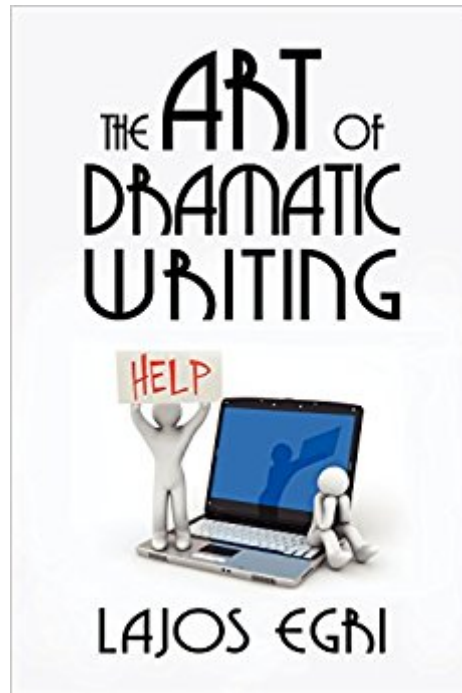




The book was found

# The Art Of Dramatic Writing



## Synopsis

"For many years, Lajos Egri's highly opinionated but very enjoyable *The Art of Dramatic Writing* has been a well-guarded secret of playwrights, scriptwriters, and writers for television. Unlike many other books on playwrighting (several of which Egri criticizes during the course of this one), the author's systematic breakdown of the essentials for creating successful realistic plays and screenplays effectively demystifies the process of creative writing." --John Longenbaugh

## Book Information

Paperback: 334 pages

Publisher: Merricat Publications (November 24, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1434403874

ISBN-13: 978-1434403872

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.8 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #109,756 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #43 in [Books > Arts &](#)

[Photography > Performing Arts > Theater > Playwriting](#) #465 in [Books > Self-Help > Creativity](#)

#681 in [Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Writing Skills](#)

## Customer Reviews

Lajos Egri is a highly opinionated man, and one of a bygone era. His analysis of what makes great theater has long been disproved by the inventiveness of playwrights like Harold Pinter, whose dramatic tension powerfully hinges on the pause between words, and screenwriters like Charlie Kaufman, whose narrative line successfully obsesses over the incongruity of the human condition. These writers, who emerged since the 1946 publication of Egri's "*The Art of Dramatic Writing*," have shown that character does not necessarily drive plot, the purely visual can suffice in revealing a story, and style can trump structure. Nevertheless, "*The Art of Dramatic Writing*" is an excellent book for novice playwrights, aspiring drama critics, or theatre students. Readers interested in dramatic theory will also be absorbed by Egri's systematic deconstruction of plays by Ibsen, Strindberg, Shakespeare, and O'Neill to prove his theory that character is the basis of a great story. In summary, here is what Egri writes: \* Character drives plot, not the other way around. \* Well-drawn characters possess three dimensions, physiology, sociology, and psychology. Avoiding any of these three in developing a character will lead to composing a failed drama. \* The play must have a

premise that its writer can assert in a three-part sentence suggesting character, conflict, and resolution. Examples: Power-mongering (character) results in (conflict) self-destruction (resolution). Love (character) conquers (conflict) oppression (resolution).<sup>\*</sup> Conflict should slowly rise to create conflict, tension, climax, and conclusion. It should not be static, leading to boredom, or jumping, leading to melodrama.<sup>\*</sup> Conflict demands perpetual exposition, or transition.<sup>\*</sup> Plays should start at a turning point in a pivotal character's life.<sup>\*</sup> Characters in conflict are drawn by unity of opposites. He does a fine job of illustrating this concept by breaking down numerous dramatic characters, most notably Nora and Torvald in Ibsen's "A Doll's House." A lot has been said about the author's relentless assault on plays and playwrights he considers inferior (he despises "Tobacco Road" and rebukes all things Noel Coward). But Egri's observations on humanity are universal and his tips on approaching the craft of playwriting are timeless. Great writers such as Woody Allen have found his work stimulating. This is one engaging, highly instructive book.

THE best book for the serious writer. It's old but still absolutely relevant regardless of the literary genre you write in (play, novel, screenplay). It's not for the casual, commercial writer. It's designed for writers who aspire to writing timeless literature. It won't make you a literary genius. That's up to you, but this is your primer.

The Classis text.

As a professional screenwriter and teacher of screenwriting I believe this is the best book on screenwriting ever written. Egri gets to the core of what it takes to construct a script. No one has done it better or more concisely since he wrote this book in the 1950s.

Wonderful foundational guidelines that I needed, thank you.

This book covers the subject succinctly and clearly in a very understandable way. Though structured for play writes I have recommended this book to many screenwriters and all have found it really informative and instructive. In my opinion a must have for any writer.

If you're a screenwriter highly recommend this book. So much better than any script book out there. Clear and easy to follow.

great

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Writing Mastery: How to Master the Art of Writing & Write 3,000 Words Per Day - Overcoming Writer's Block (Make Money Online, Copywriting, Erotica Writing, ... Writing Mastery, How to Write a Book) The Art Of Dramatic Writing: Its Basis in the Creative Interpretation of Human Motives The Playwright's Guidebook: An Insightful Primer on the Art of Dramatic Writing The Art of Dramatic Writing Playwriting Seminars 2.0: A Handbook on the Art and Craft of Dramatic Writing with an Introduction to Screenwriting The Dramatic Writer's Companion: Tools to Develop Characters, Cause Scenes, and Build Stories (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing) Writing for emotional impact : advanced dramatic techniques to attract, engage, and fascinate the reader from beginning to end A Masterclass in Dramatic Writing: Theater, Film, and Television The Dramatic Imagination: Reflections and Speculations on the Art of the Theatre, Reissue (Theatre Arts Book) The Dramatic Portrait: The Art of Crafting Light and Shadow Resume: Writing 2017 The Ultimate Guide to Writing a Resume that Lands YOU the Job! (Resume Writing, Cover Letter, CV, Jobs, Career, Interview) The Elements of Style Workbook: Writing Strategies with Grammar Book (Writing Workbook Featuring New Lessons on Writing with Style) 2k to 10k: Writing Faster, Writing Better, and Writing More of What You Love Writing with Style: Conversations on the Art of Writing (3rd Edition) Writing with Style: Conversations on the Art of Writing (2nd Edition) Black and White (and a Bit in Between): Timeless Interiors, Dramatic Accents, and Stylish Collections The Loneliest Mountain: The Dramatic Story of the First Expedition to Climb Mt. Minto, Antarctica The Electra Story: The Dramatic History of Aviation's Most Controversial Airliner Bart: The Dramatic History of the Bay Area Rapid Transit System Lost at Thaxton: The Dramatic True Story of Virginia's Forgotten Train Wreck

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)