



How to Write Like Tolstoy: A Journey Into the Minds of Our Greatest Writers (Hardback)

By Richard Cohen

RANDOM HOUSE, United States, 2016. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 239 x 160 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. For anyone who has ever identified with a hero or heroine, been seduced by a strong opening sentence, or been powerfully moved by a story's end, *How to Write Like Tolstoy* is a thought-provoking journey inside the minds of the world's most accomplished storytellers, from Shakespeare to Stephen King. "Great writers can be inhibiting, and maybe after one has read a Scott Fitzgerald or Henry James one can't escape imitating them; but more often such writers are inspiring." Richard Cohen Behind every acclaimed work of literature is a trove of heartfelt decisions. The best authors put painstaking, sometimes obsessive effort into each element of their stories, from plot and character development to dialogue and point of view. What made Nabokov choose the name *Lolita*? Why did Fitzgerald use first-person narration in *The Great Gatsby*? How did Kerouac, who raged against revision, finally come to revise *On the Road*? Veteran editor and teacher Richard Cohen draws on his vast reservoir of a lifetime's reading and his insight into what makes good prose soar. Here are Gabriel García Márquez's thoughts on how to start a novel ("In the first...



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