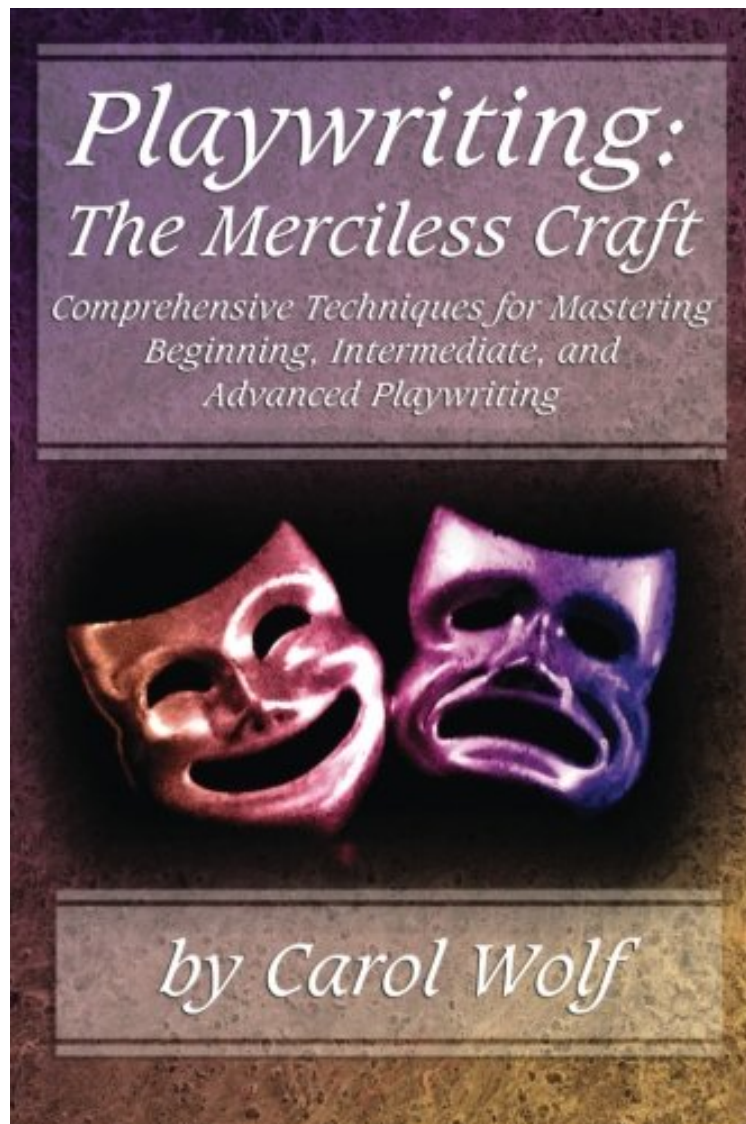


(Mobile book) Playwriting: The Merciless Craft: Comprehensive Techniques for Mastering Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Playwriting

## **Playwriting: The Merciless Craft: Comprehensive Techniques for Mastering Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Playwriting**

*Carol Wolf*

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**Carol Wolf : Playwriting: The Merciless Craft: Comprehensive Techniques for Mastering Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Playwriting** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Playwriting: The Merciless Craft: Comprehensive Techniques for Mastering Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Playwriting:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Belongs on every writer's reference shelf  
By leihsiachen  
The author takes a "teamwork" approach to the art of playwriting. She discusses how a script can bring out the best or worst work of actors, stage managers, set designers, and directors. Her practical approach is liberally illustrated with enjoyable anecdotes drawn from her own impressive real life experience in the theater and with brief, easily understood examples of both good and mediocre dialogue and stage directions. The author clues us in to the differences between plays that have us running for the powder room before intermission and those enduring classics that leave the audience spellbound- actually, I should say, they don't "leave" the audience at all!  
This book sparked my enthusiasm for the theater, inspiring me to buy a play, (*The Whale*, by Samuel Hunter), and try to evaluate it according to the criteria Ms. Wolf sets down. I also have plans to attend an amateur performance of an Agatha Christie play in NYC this winter.  
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great read and inspiring  
By Customer  
I'm a novelist returning to my first love, playwriting, and I was interested in a book on some basics and structure. I bought this on an impulse after reading some preview pages and was impressed by the clarity of the writing.  
This book is a fantastic resource for playwrights or indeed any writer. The author's valuable perspective and solid advice are on every page. It's beautifully organized for writing both full and short plays, and there's substantive attention to each step of the process.  
The only reason I stop reading is because the book inspires me so much I need to rush back to my work and incorporate the guidance and support here.  
And the chapter on "joy" alone is worth the price of this book. Highly recommended, and many thanks to the author for such a valuable book!

This book is designed to serve concurrently the writer who has never written a play, but would like to write a good one; journeyman playwrights who would like to increase their skill set, deepen their knowledge of the craft and increase the power of their work; and advanced playwrights who are seeking new horizons to challenge their already considerable craftsmanship. For the beginning playwright, this book provides specific techniques in how to design your material to work in the theater; for the writer who is already a practiced playwright, this book provides a tool box of skills for plotting, story structure, character development, theatricality, and multiple uses of dialog, to broaden and strengthen your work. It provides a diagnostic tool for trouble-shooting your plays, so that every moment of your plays will work in the theater as you envision them. For the advanced playwright, this book provides layers of techniques to test against your skill set, deepen your dramatic powers, and widen the horizons of your craft. Carol Wolf's plays have been produced on both coasts and on five continents. The plays of her playwriting students have been produced on both coasts and on four continents, so far.

About the Author  
Carol Wolf's plays have been seen on both coasts and on five continents, and include *The Terrible Experiment of Jonathan Fish*, *Daughter of France*, *Day/BlackNight/Morning*, and *The Thousandth Night*, which won the London Fringe First, the Bay Area Critics Circle Award, and an L.A. Drama Critics Circle Award. Wolf taught Masters classes in Playwriting at Manhattan College, Mills College, and classes in playwriting at Foothill College, the UC Santa Cruz Extension Program, and Mills College. She wrote the scripts for the blockbuster video games *Blood Omen II: Legacy of Kain*, and *Legacy of Kain: Defiance*. She co-founded the micro-budget film company Paw Print Studios, for which she wrote and directed two feature films, *The Valley of Fear*, and *Far from the Sea*, and is currently in post production with the documentary, *Letters to my Grandchildren*. Her novels, *Summong*, and *Binding*, *Books One and Two of the Moon Wolf Saga* were published by Night Shade Books. *Coyote Run*, with Eric Elliott, was published by Short Fuse and is under option by Tapas Media. She lives in the foothills of the California Sierra Nevadas in with her husband, two border collies, and a varying number of sheep.