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# Songwriting Without Boundaries: Lyric Writing Exercises For Finding Your Voice





## Synopsis

Infuse your lyrics with sensory detail!Writing great song lyrics requires practice and discipline. Songwriting Without Boundaries will help you commit to routine practice through fun writing exercises. This unique collection of more than150 sense-bound prompts helps you develop the skills you need to:tap into your senses and inject your writing with vivid detailseffectively use metaphor and comparative languageadd rhythm to your writing and manage phrasingSongwriters, as well as writers of other genres, will benefit from this collection of sensory writing challenges. Divided into four sections, Songwriting Without Boundaries features four different fourteen-day challenges with timed writing exercises, along with examples from other songwriters, poets, and prose writers.

### **Book Information**

Paperback: 240 pages Publisher: Writer's Digest Books (January 10, 2012) Language: English ISBN-10: 1599632977 ISBN-13: 978-1599632971 Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.8 x 8.4 inches Shipping Weight: 13.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (56 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #49,622 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #8 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Theory, Composition & Performance > Songwriting #79 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores > Forms & Genres > Popular #114 in Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Publishing & Books

### **Customer Reviews**

I picked up this book as a supplement while attending Pat Pattison's excellent (and free!) songwriting course on Coursera (I strongly recommend the course as well). In brief, the exercises Pat outlines in the book, and Pat's approach to teaching songwriting in general, represent the very best pedagogical approach to the craft that I have ever come across. Not only does he possess a deep understanding of the rhythm of language, line length, and (often-unconventional) rhyme and their often-subtle relationship to perceived meaning, but he goes further to make his understanding accessible in a practical way to the student of the craft. The weeks spent attending his course and reading his books have done far more for my writing than every other book I've read on the subject

over thirty years' time, combined.

I think the content of this book is great. Numerous exercises challenge the budding lyricist to stretch the imagination in innumerable ways. I bought it for my teenage son who sings and has written poetry, has some background in piano, but isn't sure how to get started writing songs.My comments, therefore, have entirely to do with how this book could be made more user-friendly.First, I'd pay a lot more for it if it was workbook-style. The print needs to be a lot bigger to make it easier on the eye, and having some space to do the exercises directly in the book would be a huge plus.Second, to accommodate the above ideas, it needs to be a LOT larger format, as well as spiral-bound so that it can lay flat. As it is, it's a small, thick book with very tiny typeface that doesn't want to stay open. All of those factors make it VERY hard to use in practical terms. You'd have to be really committed to be willing to struggle to see the print, hold open the book, and do the exercises on some other paper where they can't be kept with the section of the book you're working on.These simple changes, which wouldn't alter the content at all, would make this book many times more user-friendly.

After reading this book and taking a course in songwriting from Pat Pattison I will never write or even 'hear' a song the same again. The depth and impact of insight and practical how-to-do-it-ness within the binding of the invaluable book is worth a thousand times the cost. If you are considering it, buy it. It's a gem worthy of reading, hoarding, gifting, putting into your local library and re-reading.

And replaces it instead with boundless options. It will change the way casual and novice songwriters look at songwriting, and reduce hours invested trying to produce the perfect line into lyrics that make sense to the ear!

It gives good strategy on ways to expand you vocabulary and connect words in different ways. It gives you different ways and structures to write songs. It gives you exercises to help improve the quality of your writing as well as the speed.

Gave me a few good ideas for songwriting class. It is specifically geared to lyric writing as its title says and helps writers jump off without censoring themselves. If you want as lot of different types of creative exercises it isn't the best book for you. Centers around "object writing" but goes beyond that too.

I'm a better songwriter than I was before I took this course and used this book. Thank you, Dr. Pattson!

I found this book of exercises really helped me move away from effort into intuitive creative writing. The examples are really helpful, and the book is written as if the teacher is in the room talking, creating a relaxed experience. I recommend it for anyone who needs a boost in their writing skills.

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