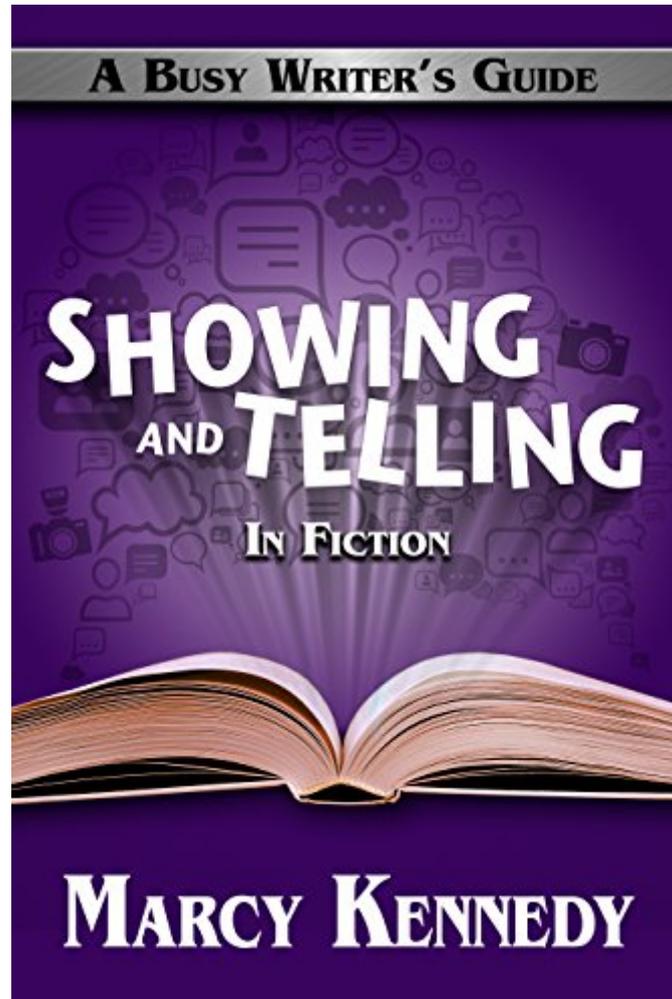


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Showing And Telling In Fiction (Busy Writer's Guides Book 4)



Synopsis

You've heard the advice "show, don't tell" until you can't stand to hear it anymore. Yet fiction writers of all levels still seem to struggle with it. There are three reasons for this. The first is that this isn't an absolute rule. Telling isn't always wrong. The second is that we lack a clear way of understanding the difference between showing and telling. The third is that we're told "show, don't tell," but we're often left without practical ways to know how and when to do that, and how and when not to. So that's what this book is about. Chapter One defines showing and telling and explains why showing is normally better. Chapter Two gives you eight practical ways to find telling that needs to be changed to showing and guides you in understanding how to make those changes. Chapter Three explains how telling can function as a useful first draft tool. Chapter Four goes in-depth on the seven situations when telling might be the better choice than showing. Chapter Five provides you with practical editing tips to help you take what you've learned to the pages of your current novel or short story. Showing and Telling in Fiction also includes three appendices covering how to use The Emotion Thesaurus, dissecting an example so you can see the concepts of showing vs. telling in action, and explaining the closely related topic of As-You-Know-Bob Syndrome. Each book in the Busy Writer's Guides series is intended to give you enough theory so that you can understand why things work and why they don't, but also enough examples to see how that theory looks in practice. In addition, they provide tips and exercises to help you take it to the pages of your own story with an editor's-eye view. Most importantly, they cut the fluff so you have more time to write and to live your life.

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Customer Reviews

This is a very short book, but full of great information. The author explains the difference between "show" and "tell" with lots of good examples. There is a list of red flags that let you know that you are telling, not showing. Also there's good advice about when it might be better to tell and not show. It has a whole "Take it to the page practical applications" which is very helpful. There are pages and pages of exact word examples that need to be scrutinized. At the end are free appendices with free downloads for practice. Highly recommended, short and sweet help for writers.

I highly recommend *Mastering Showing and Telling in your Fiction a Busy Writer's Guide (MST)*. MST not only explains the difference between conclusory and evidence based narratives, it also provides techniques to help writers identify and transform a conclusory based work in progress into well-balanced work of fiction, i.e. where well-placed elements of conclusory statements work within the overarching framework of an evidence based narrative. Armed with such knowledge, writers are now able to create richer more compelling works of fiction for their readers. Thank you Ms. Kennedy!

This is another excellent book in the *Busy Writer's Guide Series*. After investing a few hours studying this guide, I've noticed an immediate improvement in my writing. So far I've purchased "*Mastering Showing and Telling in Your Fiction*," "*Grammar for Fiction Writers*," and "*How to Write Dialogue*." Out of all the how-to books for writers on Amazon, I've found Marcy's books to be the most helpful. They are clearly written, to the point, and easy to understand. I also plan to buy her books on "*How to Write Faster*," "*Strong Female Characters*," and "*Twitter for Authors*." I like how each book focuses on one skill, and clearly explains how to implement it. The author doesn't add a lot of fluff, and by the end of the book you will "get it."

Not sure if this was a case of 'When the student is ready the teacher will come,' or if Marcy Kennedy

is just an amazing teacher or both, but this book transformed a fuzzy concept into doable steps for me. That is huge. I highly recommend this book. It is packed with actionable information. Easy to access information. No wading thru pages and pages of ego. Just straight up info. I use ProWriting Aid to help me edit. After reading this book, I understand why it flags certain things and how fixing those items improves my work.

This was a quick, easy read that left me with the tools and knowledge I needed to improve my writing. It's informative without boring you to tears. I've come across this problem in the past and always put the book down, hesitant to pick it back up. It's difficult to absorb the knowledge you need when your brain feels like fuzzy oatmeal. It's like sitting in a class with the teacher droning on... "Bueller, Bueller..." This book was great, informative enough for me to understand the concepts without making me feel like my brain is a radio that's gone to static. I loved this book and will be looking at more of her busy writers series in my quest to study the craft of writing. Thank you Marcy Kennedy!

I love all "A Busy Writer's Guide" books! Each one of these books teaches you everything you need to know to write your novel. They explain understandably the technics and they made clear by examples. I think they are very helpful for every new writer and also a good reminder for all the "old dogs".

This was an excellent book. I learnt a lot from this and employed some techniques from it straightaway. I'd highly recommend this for anyone starting out and even authors who are down the track. Well worth it. Thanks

This is another Marcy Kennedy book in her Busy Writer's Guide. I enjoyed this one just as much as I enjoyed all the others. I want to thank Marcy for making this topic so easy to understand. Her examples clearly show the difference. As with all the other books, if you are looking for a beginner's how to book, this is not really for you. If you already know what it means to show and when you are telling but need reminders to stop you from falling into the telling mode, this is definitely for you. Not to say that a beginner should not buy this book, but it would help more if you have read some of the other more fleshed out volumes that are available. I have bought all of the books in this series and have not been disappointed.

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