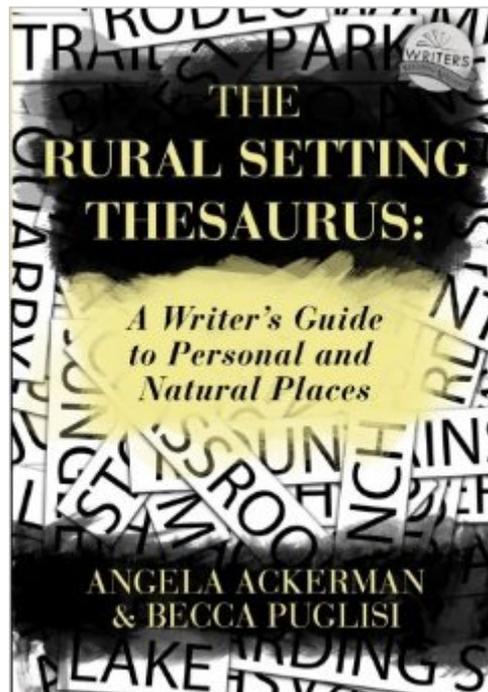


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# The Rural Setting Thesaurus: A Writer's Guide To Personal And Natural Places



## Synopsis

Within the pages of a book exists a world drawn from a writer's deepest imaginings, one that has the ability to pull readers in on a visceral level. But the audience's fascination will only last if the writer can describe this vibrant realm and its inhabitants well. The setting achieves this by offering readers a unique sensory experience. So much more than stage dressing, the setting can build mood, convey meaning through symbolism, drive the plot by creating challenges that force the hero to fight for what he wants, and trigger his emotions to reveal his most intimate feelings, fears, and desires. Inside *The Rural Setting Thesaurus*, you'll find:

- A list of the sights, smells, tastes, textures, and sounds for over 100 settings revolving around school, home, and nature
- Possible sources of conflict for each location to help you brainstorm ways to naturally complicate matters for your characters
- Advice on the many effective ways to build mood, helping you steer both the character's and readers' emotions in every scene
- Information on how the setting directly influences the plot by acting as a tuning fork for what a character needs most and by testing his dedication to his goals
- A tutorial on figurative language and how different descriptive techniques can bring settings alive for readers while conveying a symbolic message or deeper meaning
- A review of the challenges that arise when writing description, as well as special considerations that apply specifically to rural and personal settings

*The Rural Setting Thesaurus* takes a show-don't-tell approach to new heights. It offers writers a roadmap to creating fresh setting imagery that impacts the story on multiple levels while keeping readers engaged from the first page to the last.

## Book Information

Paperback: 260 pages

Publisher: JADD Publishing (May 22, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0989772551

ISBN-13: 978-0989772556

Product Dimensions: 7 x 0.6 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (47 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #21,256 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 in [Books > Reference >](#)

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[Publishing Guides > Writing > Writing Skills](#) #134 in [Books > Reference > Writing, Research &](#)

## Customer Reviews

Great addition to the Ackerman/Puglisi thesaurus collection. Maybe one of the most important because settings are so often overlooked. This is not just for looking up a synonym for a weak word. So much more than you probably expect from a Thesaurus. It begins with some of the most comprehensive help I've read for using settings to improve your story - using for conflict, tension, setting mood, symbolism & metaphors, common errors used in settings, and MUCH more. Each setting has suggestions for sounds, sights, smells, textures & sensations, possible sources of conflict (!), people you might find there, links to other settings that might relate to and more. These aren't only single word suggestions but also descriptive phrases as well (very good ones!). Each ends with super-useful notes & tips, and examples. I like to just browse the entries and find settings I hadn't even thought of that I want to incorporate into my story. Complete your collection with The Positive Trait Thesaurus, The Negative Trait Thesaurus, and the fantastic Emotion Thesaurus. All unique in the Thesaurus world and same superb quality. Want even more - visit [WritersHelpingWriters](#) website for (free!) like physical attributes, textures, shapes, symbolism & motifs, weather, emotional wounds (seriously there is one for that) and more. I can't imagine what the authors are going to come up with next, but I'm looking forward to it., . , .

The thesauruses in this series are auto buys for me since I read The Emotional Thesaurus. I like having the physical book as opposed to the kindle version. It's much easier to flip through. Setting has always been a struggle for me in my writing and this provides great ideas about how to paint a picture of where the action is taking place. On the rare occasion I am looking for a place not specifically listed in the books, there is something similar enough to give me a solid place to start from. I read this cover to cover when I got it. The books are so interesting and have such great information. I refer to it frequently when editing. I like that it was broken up into urban and rural or the book will be a bit unwieldy. Definitely get the companion book Urban Settings Thesaurus. You'll be all set to describe any location. I also highly recommend all the books in the series. Five stars only because I can't give it more.

Here's why I love this book -- and its sister the Urban Setting Thesaurus: in addition to having the usual information about a setting to involve all the senses -- Sights, Sounds, Smells, Tastes, Textures and Sensations -- this book also includes inspiration. The section within each entry titled

Possible Sources of Conflict is very helpful for brainstorming or idea-generation. So while I can use the assistance with remembering what my last cruise was like in all the visceral ways (who takes notes on vacation? not me!), reading through the additional, writer-related sections has my muse working overtime. In addition to that, the Setting Description Example really makes me want to write setting THAT well; it helps form a goal for me by showing me how it can be done. I highly recommend this book for everyone writing in every genre because even fantasy and science fiction have familiar settings.

Writing setting descriptions are a personal bane of mine. It doesn't occur to me to add them while I'm hammering away at the plot, so I rarely bother with them in my first drafts, or my second or my hundredth. I usually only add them after my critique partners complain. I suspect part of my problem has to do with an inability to think up descriptions that don't seem boring and cliché, so I'm always on the lookout for any resource that might help bolster this aspect of my writing. And this book is one such resource. Angela Ackerman and Becca Puglisi, the authors of the ever popular Emotional Thesaurus, have pooled their talents to bring us The Rural Setting Thesaurus and the Urban Setting Thesaurus. These books are a compilation of the various sights, sounds, smells, tastes, and sensations one might expect to find in a wide variety of settings, including graveyards, ancient ruins, farmhouses, schools, caves, and best of all, school science labs! Examples designed to jog your creative juices so that you can generate vivid descriptions for your own scenes. I especially enjoyed the first part of the book, where the authors explain the technique of using setting descriptions, not only to ground the reader in the surroundings, but also how they can be used to set the mood, or foreshadow future events, or to generate conflict, concepts that never would have occurred to me on their own. In summary, I highly recommend this book to anyone interested in boosting their descriptive chops. I was given a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

Another practical how-to book from Angela Ackerman & Becca Puglisi, this time to help you flesh out your descriptive writing of rural settings. No more driving out to the countryside to bait the bull so you can describe the shape, size and smell of a cowflap, it's all right here, right down to the flies. While not a replacement for soaking up the atmosphere, when you can't get there yourself, this book will help you flesh out all five senses.

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