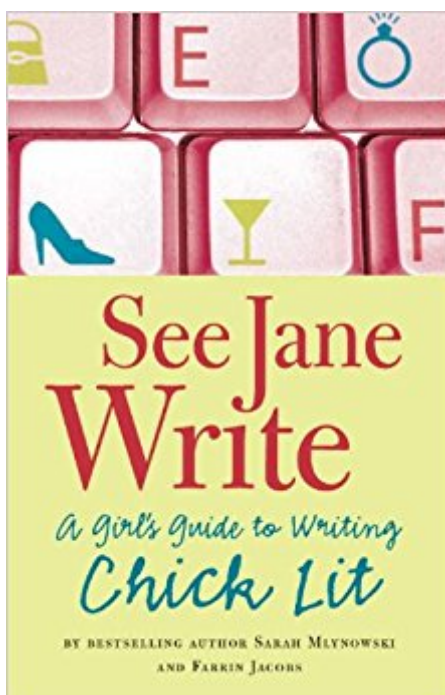


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# See Jane Write: A Girl's Guide To Writing Chick Lit



## Synopsis

With chick lit novels popping up on every bestseller list, millions of readers are all thinking the same thing: I could write this stuff. I could write a bestseller and never go back to the office again! And here's the guide that will show you how. Bestselling novelist Sarah Mlynowski and veteran chick lit editor Farrin Jacobs cover every stage of developing and selling your soon-to-be bestselling novel, with information on developing an idea, learning the basics of plotting, deciding on a point of view, pacing, and conflict, making your characters likable, finding an agent—and much more, including humorous tips and advice from scores of established writers (from Meg Cabot and Marian Keyes to Emily Giffin and Sophie Kinsella). If you've got stories to tell, See Jane Write will take care of the rest!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Writer Mlynowski (Milkrun, Me vs. Me) and editor Jacobs, formerly of Red Dress Ink, team up for this handy dandy guide to penning "chick lit," which they define in the first part, "The Big Picture," as "often upbeat, always funny fiction about contemporary female characters and their everyday struggles," citing Helen Fielding's *Bridget Jones's Diary* as the watershed moment for the genre ("not necessarily the first chick lit author, but ... certainly the most popular"). The balance of the first part goes into preparation for writing, describing it in terms of therapy ("It's your opportunity to vent, reveal, create, and release") and dating ("You want to charm your reader"), and providing a lesson

in motivation, "Getting Back at Your Ex and Other Reasons to Write." The text contains plenty words of wisdom from other chick lit pros, including novelists Meg Cabot (Queen of Babble) and Sophie Kinsella (Confessions of a Shopaholic). Fiction writers of all stripes, however, should find useful a substantial chunk of this irreverent, easy-to-read guide, especially in part two, "The Details." Chapters on character, plot development, structure and pacing all translate well. Though warning against stereotypes like "Multiple Personality Mary" and "Perky Patty" aren't exactly earth-shattering, this primer covers the basics with wit, style and plenty of welcome encouragement from those who have been there. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Grade 8 Up "Fun, inspiring, and organized in a clear and encouraging style, this book covers topics from what chick lit is to how to create believable characters, develop a plot, and set a tone. The authors discuss seeing a project through to the finish and getting it published. The writing style is quirky and the advice is sound. The main theme is that writing is difficult, but rewarding, and that one can always improve. Cartoons in shades of pink and green enhance the text, done in the same colors. Sidebars offer practical advice and quotes from published writers. The information is transferable to nearly any type of writing, making the book useful and enjoyable to a wider audience than the title suggests." Marcie Mann, Lafayette Jr. Sr. High School, NY Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

A quick read, I found this little book a great overview of the construction of a novel. It's going to be a keeper on my reference shelf for quick reviews. Even if you write other genres, this book will guide you in preparation for whatever you write.

I've been writing for almost fifteen years. I grew up reading teen lit and chick lit and wanting to write books just like that, but I always wipe out, dead end, ect. Sarah and Farrin have put together a great guide to help you through your journey of writing a book. Their guidelines and list ideas can actually help you through a variety of projects and tasks, not just novel writing. I found it inspirational and when it needed to be, tough! I'd recommend it to people who want to write and people who like to read, because it gives a lot of insight into the ways the authors create their books and especially their lead characters.

This book is for you if you are looking for practical (& interesting) advice on writing. I have tons of

books on writing and while I try to get the ones with the best reviews, this book stands out as one that makes the research process fun. I've read two of Sarah Mlynowski's books and I love Caren Lissner's writing style (the co-author was her editor) so it makes sense that I'm enjoying this book. I recommend it!

The guide is fun to read and not too technical. The colored ink and pages make it a little over-the-top with feminine decoration, but it doesn't detract from the content. It's a good guide maybe for someone who has never written (anything) before, but some of the 'insider' tips are more like common sense. I would have appreciated more tips on how to crack the market, what types of books sell best, and more on structuring a story.

This book is great. I have been trying to break into the Chick-Lit genre as a writer, and this book has been the most helpful. The authors did a great job of keeping the information simple to understand, but yet detailed enough that I got a great grasp of what's needed to write in this genre. I would recommend this book to anyone needing some pointers on writing a chick-lit novel.

So I like to read chick-lit, but I've never written it. This was a great book to read to help me understand more about the genre and what it takes to write chick-lit. Great examples throughout, easy to read and understand.

I have read this book three times. It is so user friendly, fun and absolutely charming. I am thrilled to say that since I read See Jane Write, I have finished my own Chick Lit book, Called Diary Of A Beverly Hills Matchmaker. It will be published in February 2010. Thanks Ladies.

Some very helpful tips on how to structure a chick lit novel while avoiding traps and clichés. Written in an easy to understand style. Lots of helpful references to other novels as examples.

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