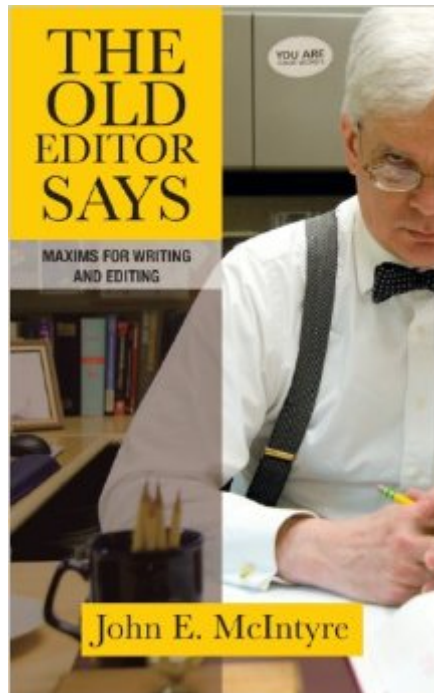


The book was found

The Old Editor Says: Maxims For Writing And Editing



Synopsis

Many beginning writers and editors benefited from a crusty old editor's brisk maxims about the craft. If you want to be reminded of those days, look inside. If you want to learn those brisk maxims, many of them are collected here. And if you aspire to become a crusty old editor, this is the handbook.

About the Author: John McIntyre is the night content production manager at The Baltimore Sun and author of the blog You Don't Say at Baltimoresun.com. A former president of the American Copy Editors Society, he teaches editing at Loyola University Maryland.

Book Information

Paperback: 70 pages

Publisher: Apprentice House (February 8, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1934074896

ISBN-13: 978-1934074893

Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.1 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 0.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (14 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #32,233 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #18 in Â Books > Reference >

Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Editing #185 in Â Books > Reference > Writing,

Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Writing Skills #221 in Â Books > Reference >

Dictionaries & Thesauruses > Foreign Language Dictionaries & Thesauruses

Customer Reviews

John McIntyre is doing editors a favor by publishing "An Old Editor Says." With decades of experience running the Baltimore Sun's copy desk, he has far more than 70 pages of editorial wisdom to share. Having had the privilege of being a writer back in the early '90s who was repeatedly saved from embarrassment by McIntyre's iron delete key, I was delighted to have the chance to get my hands on this book (but dismayed that it was temporarily out-of-stock). At that time, I must confess, I felt slightly oppressed by McIntyre's imperious persona, accentuated by that bow tie. Now that I must edit for food, I have come to realize the value of McIntyre's work. One can also get a flavor of this by reading his blog, "You Don't Say." ([...]) There, wordsmiths can discover that he's not, as some writers think, inflexible and prone to using stylebooks as a cudgel. This "old editor" understands the language is changing and newspaper copy and other forms of writing have to change with it. I believe that reading McIntyre almost daily musings on the craft have made me a

better writer and editor. If that belief is in vain, it's because I'm too pig-headed to follow his advice.

As more and more newspaper copy editors are forced to walk the plank, John E. McIntyre, in "The Old Editor Says," makes it clear that he, for one, is not about to give up the ship -- especially when there are so many verbal barnacles to be dealt with. (And he will defend to the death your right to end a sentence with "with.") You might say that "The Old Editor Says" is McIntyre's magnum opus -- if you can say that about a book that is only 67 pages long. But the description fits, for within these pages he has distilled more than 30 years' of editorial experience into a collection of pithy maxims (his own and others'), each followed by a commentary delivered in the endearingly crusty tone that is familiar to anyone who has attended one of his presentations. (Or, as he prefers to call them, "seances.") "If you can't tell me in one sentence what your story says, you don't know what your story says." "If you are not possessed of a perpetually filthy mind, you are ill-equipped to edit." "Edit to live; don't live to edit." "If you're a writer or editor, there's a good chance you'll learn at least a little something from this book. And if some of the lessons are familiar to you, it never hurts to be reminded, especially in such an entertaining way. All I know is that as I navigate the often troubled waters of contemporary prose, it heartens me to know that John E. McIntyre, battered but unbowed, remains standing at the ship's bridge.

I anticipated some sharply sarcastic witticisms when I started this book. What I found instead was a wealth of "Truths" that would be equally applicable to high school or college students tasked with writing papers, not just budding journalists. If I taught only a writing course I'd put this on the booklist for my students, it's that good. As it is, I'll be quoting it repeatedly in my lit classes in hopes of getting quality papers from my students.

For veteran journalists, *The Old Editors Says* offers lots of advice you probably have heard - or spoken - before. You'll find yourself pumping your fist and saying, "yeah!" in agreement again and again. For less experienced journalists, you won't find a wiser set of maxims to guide your writing and editing. Even veteran journalists - between fist pumps - will find some valuable advice that will help you survive and continue to grow.

As someone in journalism for 27 years, I have to say that I picked up some helpful tips from this book as well as got a healthy reminder of ones I'd neglected or forgotten entirely. But this is a sound, practical book for ALL writers and editors not just newshounds. A zippy read and fun to

share!

if you don't know what that means, you are missing out on one of the greatest editing tools I have ever heard.!!!!If you like editing, but aren't pretentious, you'll love this. It's an easy read, and has some memorable sections that are also very funny!

Brisk, lively, good-humored. Helpful reminders for careful writers and editors, if not quite as many as one might wish for. A surprising number of slip-ups, at least in the digital version, chief among them being the inexact quotation of a sentence from Trollope's Framley Parsonage. Other distractions include "Chicago New Bureau," a semicolon where a colon ought to be (after T.S. Eliot's name), inconsistent treatment of book titles like AP Stylebook and Chicago Manual of Style (sometimes in italics, sometimes in roman), inconsistent capitalization (War On Editing, War on Editing), the shortening of some titles on first reference (the Baltimore Sun is merely the Sun the first time it appears). But the book is a pleasure nevertheless.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Old Editor Says: Maxims for Writing and Editing The Editor's Companion: An Indispensable Guide to Editing Books, Magazines, Online Publications, and More The Editor's Toolkit: A Hands-On Guide to the Craft of Film and TV Editing What The Bible Says About Grieving (What the Bible Says About...) Writing: A Guide Revealing The Best Ways To Make Money Writing (Writing, Writing Skills, Writing Prompts Book 1) Photography: The Ultimate Editing Guide To Enhance And Create Stunning Digital Photos (Photography, Digital Photography, DSLR, Photoshop, Photography Books, ... Photography For Beginners, Photo Editing) Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes, Second Edition (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing) The Chicago Guide to Writing about Multivariate Analysis, Second Edition (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing) Storycraft: The Complete Guide to Writing Narrative Nonfiction (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing) Student's Guide to Writing College Papers: Fourth Edition (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing) The Accidental Life: An Editor's Notes on Writing and Writers Stein on Writing: A Master Editor Shares His Craft, Techniques, and Strategies Writing Romance: The Top 100 Best Strategies For Writing Romance Stories (How To Write Romance Novels, Romance Writing Skills, Writing Romance Fiction Plots, Publishing Romance Books) A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, Eighth Edition: Chicago Style for Students and Researchers (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing) A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, Seventh Edition: Chicago Style for Students and Researchers

(Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing) Cite Right, Second Edition: A Quick Guide to Citation Styles--MLA, APA, Chicago, the Sciences, Professions, and More (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing) The Dramatic Writer's Companion: Tools to Develop Characters, Cause Scenes, and Build Stories (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing) Telling About Society (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing) From Dissertation to Book, Second Edition (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing) The Craft of Research, Third Edition (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing)

[Dmca](#)