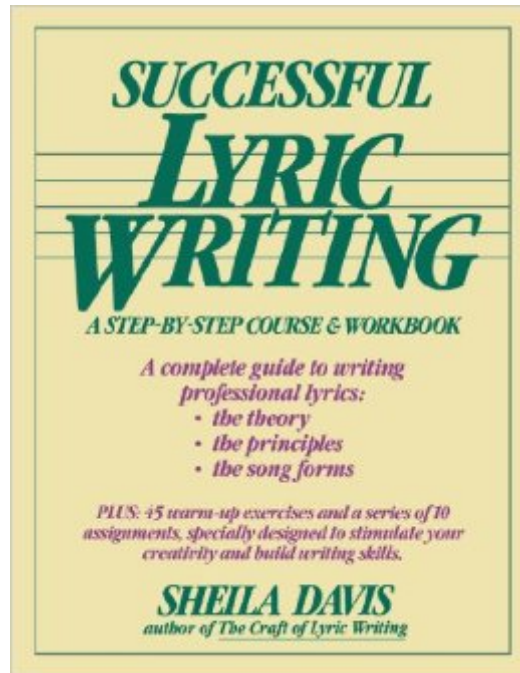


The book was found

# Successful Lyric Writing: A Step-By-Step Course & Workbook



## Synopsis

Davis follows up her best-selling book, *The Craft of Lyric Writing*, with this hands-on companion course in writing professional lyrics.

## Book Information

Paperback: 292 pages

Publisher: Writer's Digest Books; 1st edition (1988)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0898792835

ISBN-13: 978-0898792836

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.8 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.9 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (22 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #90,757 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #25 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Theory, Composition & Performance > Songwriting](#) #41 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Business](#) #130 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Instruments > Voice](#)

## Customer Reviews

"Successful Lyric Writing" is in workbook format, and inherently weaker than Davis' classic "The Craft of Lyric Writing" (see review). The problem with "Workbook" is the exercises, which are the heart of the book and what distinguish it from "Craft". In most every case, Davis either 1) gives the reader/student a scenario about which to write a few lines or 2) asks the student to fill in the blank of a lyric she's already written. Unfortunately, most of Davis' scenarios and exercise verses are unbearably cheesy. From this reader's point of view at least, it's hard to finish writing a lyric you can't bear to read. Thus the exercises are more discouraging than helpful, and it's tough for the reader/student to feel like he's actually learned something. Which is not to say that I disagree with Davis' basic argument that the fundamentals of the craft are undervalued and understudied. Davis correctly argues that inspiration, naively presumed by amateurs to be 90% of songwriting, is in fact only 5%. And yet that 5% is vital. All persons need to feel the occasional sense of accomplishment to continue their pursuit of learning. This workbook robs students of much of their chance to feel that sense of accomplishment. Therefore "Workbook" will more likely help untalented writers to become mediocre than it will help talented ones to be great. Still, "Workbook" is not without merit. The section on "Writing With The Whole Brain" is excellent. Also, the charting exercises accompanying that chapter are great for finding titles and for seeing idea connections that one might not grasp in a

linear exploration.

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