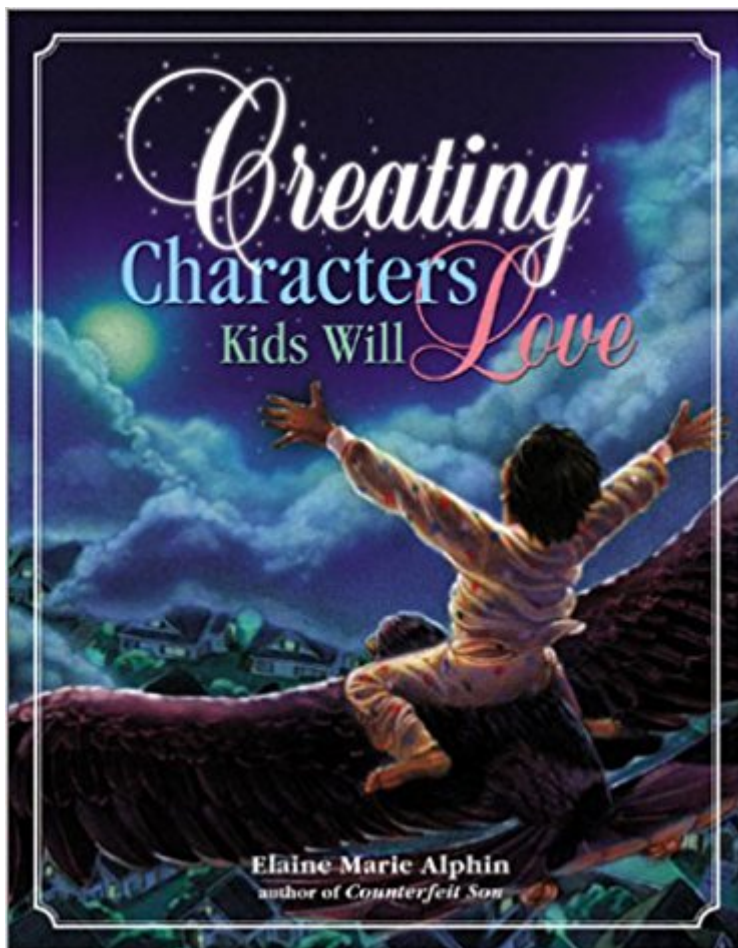


The book was found

# Creating Characters Kids Will Love



## Synopsis

One key element in creating engaging stories for kids is developing vivid characters. Veteran children's author Elaine Alphin gives readers concrete tips for bringing their characters to life, including: How to observe real kids and bring their life onto the page; How to remember your own childhood and make it a part of your story; How to use the elements of characterization as the basis for conflict and action; With examples from successful children's books and exercises throughout, this book is a must-have for both the beginning writer and those more experienced in the children's book field.

## Book Information

Series: Write for Kids

Paperback: 232 pages

Publisher: Writer's Digest Books (September 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0898799856

ISBN-13: 978-0898799859

Product Dimensions: 9 x 7 x 0.7 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 11 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #4,356,833 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #42 in [Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Children's Literature](#) #2282 in [Books > Textbooks > Reference > Writing Skills](#) #7880 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Literature > Creative Writing & Composition](#)

## Customer Reviews

Elaine Marie Alphin's writing has won numerous awards, such as ALA Recommended Book awards, the SCBWI Magazine Merit Award for fiction and nonfiction as well as the Virginia Best Book award. Her stories and articles have appeared in nearly every major children's periodical.

This book is filled with specific examples of creating great characters. It is divided into the different types of children's literature, so it can help any aspiring author who may change the ages he/she decides to use in books or stories. The book is a guide that authors should use to check their work before they submit it to a publisher. I highly recommend it.

Good info.

Amazing

Good reference book.

Daughter loves this book..

This is more like a class than just a book. It's full of great information and practical exercises to put them into place right away. I spent a few days reading it and doing the exercises and found it invaluable.

Easy to understand, clear information with useful exercises and places to go for further examples. Worth reading whether you are writing for kids or adults, or writing short stories, novels or plays. Rather than just doing the shopping list approach to character development - hair colour, eye colour, fat/thin, tall/short etc - the author encourages a deeper understanding of character via understanding the character's external and internal journey through a story. Highly recommended.

What do you do when you don't feel like writing? You go online and review your favorite writing books on .com! Creating Characters Kids Will Love is really a must-have for the wanna-be children's writer. This book and "Story Sparkers" (also available here--look for the set and save money!) are the best write-for-children guides I own, and I own nearly every one on the market! The fun large format makes this book feel sort of like a workbook (though it really isn't), and it's easy to just flip to a section and start reading some helpful info without starting at the beginning. This is how I find myself reading this books much of the time (I get stuck writing and take a break by just reading some advice out of one of these). There's some very good stuff here, and lots and lots of recommendations for books and magazines to read, if you're the kind who'll actually go find the stuff! This book concentrates on character development, with some how-tos on plot structure and conflict (as they relate to character development!) thrown in. Also, if you're interested in writing true stories or maybe historical fiction, there are chapters for you. All in all, it's really a good read. Even if you don't relate to the author's own examples of writing, you'll come away with a better idea of what kids (and publishers) expect in your manuscript. Good luck!

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