



Ron Carlson Writes a Story

By Ron Carlson

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Ron Carlson has been praised as "a master of the short story" (*Booklist*). In this essay collection, *Ron Carlson Writes a Story*, he offers a full range of notes and gives rare insight into a veteran writer's process by inviting the reader to watch over his shoulder as he creates the short story "The Governor's Ball."

"This is a story of a story" he begins, and proceeds to offer practical advice for creating a great story, from the first glimmer of an idea to the final sentence. Carlson urges the writer to refuse the outside distractions—a second cup of coffee, a troll through the dictionary—and attend to the necessity of uncertainty, the pleasures of an unfolding story.

"The Governor's Ball"—included in its entirety—serves as a fascinating illustration of the detailed anatomy of a short story.

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Editorial Review

Review

“Do yourself a favor and read Ron Carlson.” ?*Stephen King*

About the Author

Ron Carlson is the author of several books of fiction, including *Five Skies*. He directs the graduate program in fiction at the University of California, Irvine.

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