



Breathing the Page: Reading the Act of Writing **Non-fiction by Betsy Warland**

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The original edition of Warland's *Breathing the Page* was twelve years in the making. A must-read for students of creative writing, it has proven to be a companion to creative writing teachers and literary editors.

The original collection reflects on the history and animate nature of the objects we use in the act of writing, from computers, to pens and pencils, right down to paper. They also investigate, name, and address the powerful forces at work beneath the language of craft. Warland shows that what ultimately determines whether a piece of writing succeeds or flounders is a writer's ability to be humbled, overcome, or guided by these forces.

In the 2023 edition, Warland continues her quest with additional essays that ask us to be aware of the specific narrative template we inherited as we grew up. They provide strategies for navigating your template when it results in resistance, contradictions, failure, and lack. Among the nine new essays are "Craft-based and Process-based Writing" and "Narrative Position."

The Author:

Betsy Warland has published 13 books of creative non-fiction, lyric prose and poetry. Former director of and mentor in The Writers Studio at Simon Fraser University, former director of the Vancouver Manuscript Intensive, a manuscript consultant, editor and creative writing teacher, Warland received the City of Vancouver Mayor's Award for Literary Excellence in 2016.

Praise:

"Offers practical advice and, at times, breathless insight."

— *National Post*

"More than a survival manual, though it is that too, *Breathing the Page* tells how to reframe a tenacious problem with writing, break out of the kinds of self-induced creative comas storytellers fall into, introduce a beginning writer to the rigours of the writing life, or like a rosary or string of prayer beads, inspire and refocus a burned-out mind."

— *The Globe and Mail*



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