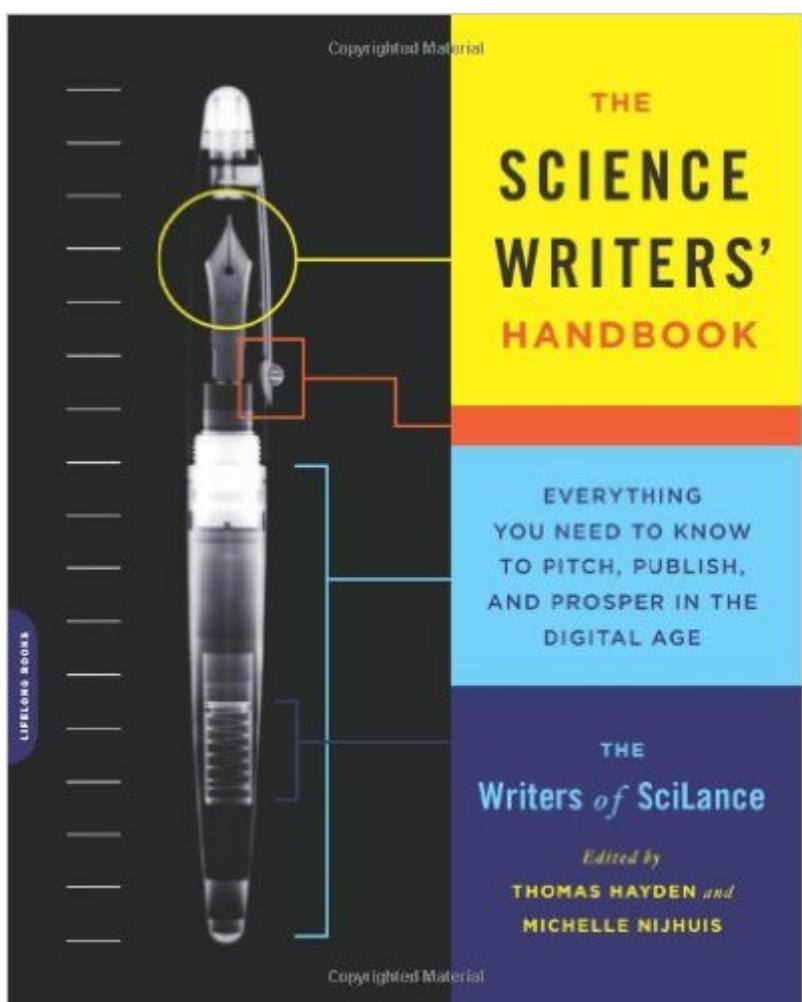


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The Science Writers' Handbook: Everything You Need To Know To Pitch, Publish, And Prosper In The Digital Age



Synopsis

This indispensable guide shows you how to:^{*} Jump-start your career as a freelance or staff science writer^{*} Develop stories and hooks that editors can't resist^{*} Find ideas, pitch stories and report narrative^{*} Navigate the emotional side of writing (envy, loneliness, rejection)^{*} Handle the business details (contracts, taxes, retirement saving, insurance)^{*} Balance freelance work with the rest of your life--even kidsWith over 300 years of hard-won experience, the Writers of SciLance know how to prosper in the evolving world of popular science writing. They want you to succeed too. Whether you're new to the field or a seasoned veteran, these award-winning pros will help you to polish skills, improve business smarts, and create community in what is a rewarding but often solitary field. As a close-knit community of 35 science writers, The Writers of SciLance have worked as staffers and freelancers for newspapers, magazines, radio and television stations, and web sites; as public information officers; and as corporate, university, and non-profit organization writers. Their articles on nearly every science topic imaginable have appeared in National Geographic, Discover Magazine, Smithsonian, the New York Times, The Washington Post, and scores of other outlets. They have won prestigious journalism awards, written best-selling books, and contributed to leading anthologies. SciLancers have taught science writing at Johns Hopkins, Stanford and in workshops throughout Canada and the United States, and been awarded Scripps, MIT-Knight, and Alicia Patterson Foundation journalism fellowships. They live in communities big and small scattered across North America, with partners, children, dogs, cats and even a parrot. PitchPublishProsper.com

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Customer Reviews

This is an outstandingly practical and useful book that every new science writer needs as the essential starting point in the profession. It covers a wide array of topics with an impressively large group of authors. Science writing has come a long way in the past three decades. This is the book that is needed for today's science writing world. Not to date myself too much, but I remember the pivotal year for science writing in America -- 1980. That year saw the debut of two commercial, broad magazines for science (more broad than the stodgy *Scientific American* at the time) -- one that made it (*Discover*) and one that bit the dust (*Science 80*, which was eventually absorbed by *Discover*). At the same time several major science writing programs were launched including the one at M.I.T. that I had a close friend in the inaugural class. Science writing has come a long way since. It's a new world with the internet and a world where prospective science writers desperately need the advice not of some dinosaurs (kinda like some of the professors I had in film school who hadn't made a film since before the age of computers), but of multiple working science writers of today. This is exactly that book, and assembled by Thomas Hayden, who is the sort of veteran of both the working world (was a science writer with *US News and World Report*) and the teaching world (now at Stanford). It takes both sets of skills to make a book that will be useful and coherent, as he has done with this book. The various chapters pretty much take you from start to full speed in a science writing career -- all written in very personable, conversational writing styles.

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