

James Scott Bell

Quotes

*Writing, Character, Book, Worry, Fiction, Stories, Hours, Way, Drunk, Mind,
Thinking, Software, Spiritual, Imagination, Struggle, Needs, Quota, Different,
Edits, Skills*

In fact, one could argue that the skill of the fiction writer boils down to the ability to exploit intensity.

~James Scott Bell

Structure is translation software for your imagination.

~James Scott Bell

Every hour you spend writing is an hour you don't spend worrying about your writing.

~James Scott Bell

Status, worry and comparison are ways to madness, not victory.

~James Scott Bell

Superb historical romance, with a spiritual theme woven seamlessly throughout. I much enjoyed *The Covered Deep* and look forward to more from its author!

~James Scott Bell

Think of it as the Doorway of No Return. The feeling must be that your lead character, once she passes through, cannot go home again until the major problem of the plot is solved.

~James Scott Bell

Write like you're in love. Edit like you're in charge.

~James Scott Bell

A writing teacher once told me that the most successful movies and books were simple plots about complex characters. You should be able to articulate your concept in a couple of lines.

~James Scott Bell

There's a perilous word fiction writers need to watch out for. The word is 'had.'

~James Scott Bell

The semi-colon is a burp, a hiccup. It's a drunk staggering out of the saloon at 2 a.m., grabbing your lapels on the way and asking you to listen to one more story.

~James Scott Bell

The thing I do at the beginning is a "voice journal," a free form doc that is the character speaking to me. I just work on it until I start to hear different from my own, or the other characters.

~James Scott Bell

My philosophy on writing books is that if you learn only one new thing, or even get a new take on something you already know, it's worth it.

~James Scott Bell

If you can write each day, do it, and meet a quota. Minimum 350 words a day. A baboon can do 350 words a day. Don't be shown up by a baboon

~James Scott Bell

Anyone living in Los Angeles who has opposable thumbs is required to write a screenplay.

~James Scott Bell

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