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101 Best Sex Scenes Ever Written: An Erotic Romp Through Literature For Writers And Readers



Synopsis

Making the provocative purposeful, this analysis spotlights the most exciting--or potentially embarrassing--story element: the obligatory sex scene. This sensibly suggestive guide demonstrates how to advance plots and reveal truths about characters through their romantic tableaux. Each scene is accompanied by insight into its authors' intentions, how they accomplished them, and their thoughts on romance, love, and sex. The featured passages include men such as William Faulkner, Ernest Hemingway, and John Steinbeck and women from Margaret Mitchell to Toni Morrison and Danielle Steel.

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Customer Reviews

This book sickened me as much as Fifty Shades of Grey. Just read the sample and you'll see what I mean. I'm assuming that, like me, many customers have picked this book up for one thing: to find truth and value in all erotic literature, to write it well, without shying away or becoming embarrassed: respecting different sexual practices and finding the value and truth in unpleasant sex scenes. This author shows none of these traits. He mocks those who prefer more explicit scenes, skips steadier

parts in scenes he describes, cuts down brilliant authors like Updike and favors some of the most awkwardly written, clunky sex scenes that I have ever read. The only valuable information I learned from this book was what was written by other people; I was given prime examples of badly written sex scenes and also read two or three samples of books that I might like. If you want a book that won't slander its chosen subject, read Susie Bright's *How to Write a Dirty Story*, articles on ERWA, (or take my predecessor's advice) and read Stacia Kane's *How to be a Sex Writing Strumpet*. Download Remittance Girl's podcast episode *Taboo in Erotica* if you want to learn, as Hemingway said: What you know to be true, then read anything besides this modern day Thomas Bowdler's scathing attempt at "an erotic romp through literature."

It's not a bad book. It's actually kind of interesting if you're just wanting to read about sex scenes. This shouldn't be picked up though if you're hoping to use it as more of a guide, because that's not what this is at all. Instead try *Be a Sex-Writing Strumpet* by Stacia Kane. That covers a lot of topics and it's half the price.

Excellent examples of how the big boys and girls do it. Very enjoyable to read. Barnaby's comments are superb; just as is the case with his book: *101 Best Scenes Ever Written*. He left a significant vacancy in the world of literature and his wisdom is sorely missed.

I hate writing love scenes so I read what others have done before me. This collection ramps up through the years and helps the reader see from where we've come and also sometimes less is best.

Sex scenes are not about "the act" but about the tension and the process of the writing. Conrad nails it. This is a must-have read for writers.

I read through it, and it wasn't very much help. I don't know why I even bought it. Hate it!!!

When I was 13, I found a book with the title *Skye O'Malley* in my mom's closet. It had that standard "romance novel" cover with the muscular, long-haired man holding a woman in a classic Southern dress whose breasts were about to pop out over the top. Naturally, being curious as to what the book was about, I flipped through it. Every page I turned to was filled with sex. And more sex. When I asked my mom if I could read it, innocently enough I thought at the time, she said no and hid it.

While she was at work, I found it. And read it. Well, at least, the good parts anyway ;) If the book actually had a plot, I was as oblivious to it as the author. 101 Best Sex Scenes Ever Written by Barnaby Conrad has sex on every page. But it's nothing like Skye O'Malley. Honestly, I was a little afraid it would be. But the word "best" caught my attention and, since the author has a few other "101 Best..." books out, I thought that I would take the opportunity to read through it and see what he had in mind. In the introduction, Mr. Conrad lays out that this book isn't going to be filled with scenes to "titillate the reader." Each was selected because the scene "advance[s] the plot in some way or helped to characterize the protagonists of the story they came from." So what we actually have here are sex scenes that are intricate to the plot of the novel and not simply gratuitously placed on every other page. The scenes chosen for this book are taken from a wide reading of literature. From Madame Bovary and Lady Chatterly's Lover all the way to the scene from Deliverance (yes, THAT scene), the selections from the gamut of sex scenes in literature and are listed by topic in each chapter. Mr. Conrad takes each scene and tells us what it does for the novel that contains it -- and, in some instances, makes the reader want to either read -- or re-read -- that novel. He talks about what the scene's place in the novel was, what it did for the story, and why the author chose to represent it the way they did. At the beginning of each chapter, there is a quote regarding the chapter's subject. Some of my favorites: "By the time you swear you're his/Shivering and sighing/And he vows his passion is/Infinite undying -- /One of you is lying." Dorothy Parker, Chapter 4: "What is This Thing Called Love?": The First Time. "The pleasure is momentary, the position ridiculous, and the expense damnable." Lord Chesterfield, Chapter 7: "Hah-hah, Was It Funny For You, Too?" "Oral sex is like being attacked by a giant snail." Germaine Greer, Chapter 10: Oral Exam. "I shall be back in two weeks to embrace you passionately. Do not bathe." N. Bonaparte in a letter to Josephine, Chapter 13: Ugh, E-e-e-uuu, and Gross. I thoroughly enjoyed this book. I'm not a romance novel fan, but this book was far more interesting to me than romance fiction. The only thing that kept this book from receiving five stars was that I would have enjoyed a more thorough deconstruction of each scene. But, quite honestly, the scenes did indeed speak for themselves and Mr. Conrad provides enough information to make the entire book worth reading both on an enjoyment level and to revisit when considering writing a sex scene to include in one's own novel. I intend to keep this book handy for future reference because these are the types of sex scenes I would want to write in my own novels and this is a fantastic resource for understanding and examples.

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