# Inspiring Young Writers

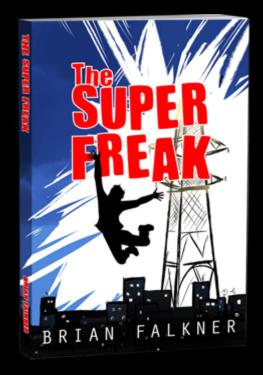
And Exciting Young Readers

Once upon a time...

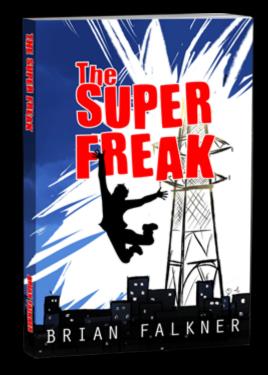
You can't force kids to do creative writing.
You can't force them to read books.
You can inspire them to want to tell stories.
You can inspire them to seek out new worlds...
New Civilisations...
To boldly go..

...where they have never gone before!

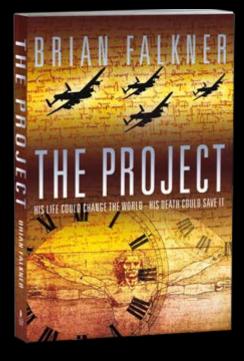
"The English language, I decided, was full of long, wise and wonderful words, that were rarely used, even by teachers. As a full-time native speaker of the language I felt it was my duty to use most of these words as often as possible, and all of them at least once in my life."



The only thing you could rely on, the one thing that was always there, was a library. And the library was full of books, and the books were full of words. Long, wise and wonderful words.



Libraries made Luke nervous. They were full of books, and that seemed like far too much reading all concentrated in one place to him. As if it would reach critical mass and start a chain reaction and explode in a huge blast of words and sentence fragments.



## What inspired me to read? And write?

## My Dad







# NAPOLEON'S ENEMIES AN O DANGER O EXTINCTION DATA DE LA COMPANSION DA CLASH OF Empires

# BRIAN FALKNER

#### Mellons Bay School



#### Alexander Dawson



#### How do we inspire kids to read?

Do what an author does

Hook them into a story with curiosity

Connect with the story using emotions

"Where's Papa going with that axe?" said Fern to her mother as they were setting the table for breakfast.

It's about a boy with a terrible secret

It's about a prison camp where each day they must dig holes in the desert, and nobody knows why.

It's about two friends who start to receive messages from the future. The first message is an SOS.

### I think you'll really like this book...

It terrified me! I had to sleep with the light on!

I bawled my eyes out.

I laughed until it hurt...

#### Get kids to get kids to read

Get them to recommend books to each other.

Get them to share how the books made them feel.

Get them to make book trailers...



#### **Book Trailers**

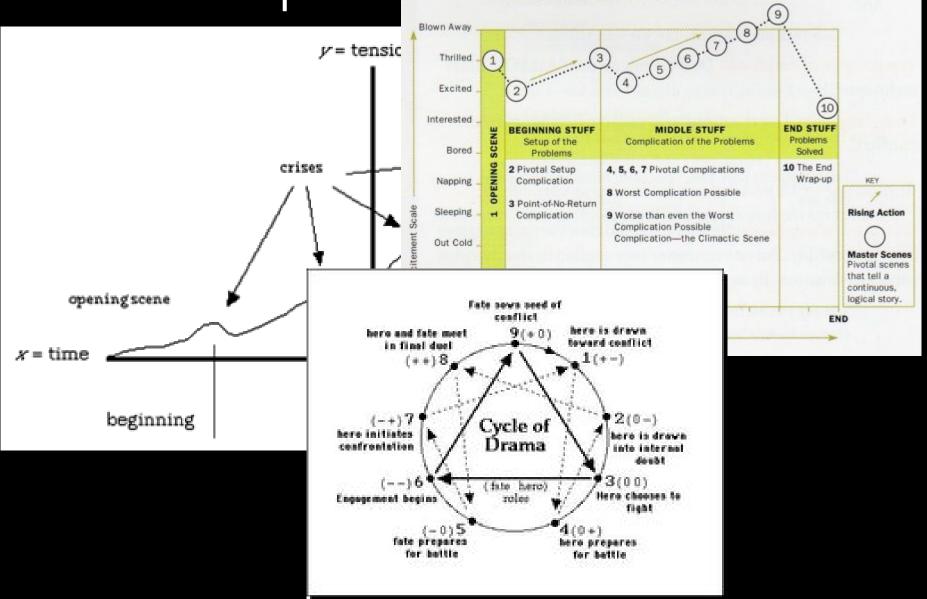
Fun to make

Technology

Makes them think about how to 'sell' the book

## Writing

### Make it Simple



THE MASTER STORY MODEL

### Make it Fun

- Writing is not a punishment

### SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMP

#### Write like a **Boss** Write like a **Champion** Write like an **AUTHOR!**

WRIE like an

AUTHOR With Brian Falkner

The internationally acclaimed school holiday programme for young writers that shows you how to write stories the way professional authors do.



#### Students say...

"the best fun ever!" - Jamie, 12

"I learned things I never expected to learn." - Rebekah, 11

"It expanded my understanding of myself as a writer and opened up a whole future of possibilities." - Grace, 15

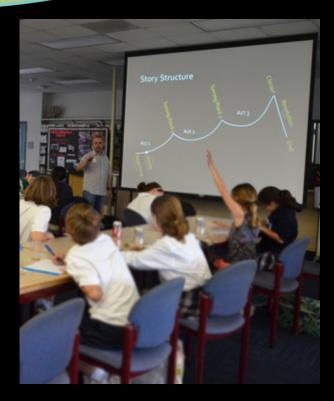
#### WRNE like an AUTHOR

### Writing camps

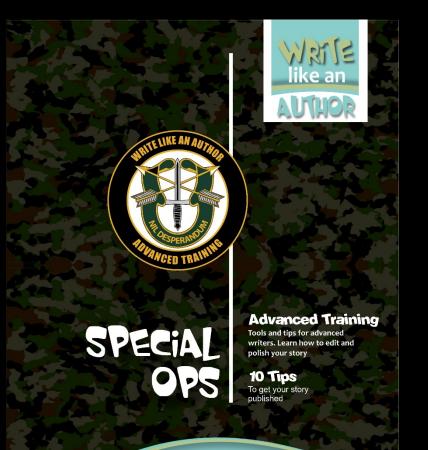
School holiday camps allow students a focussed writing time without other distractions.

Students focus on the goal of producing a story to the very best of their abilities, along the way learning all the skills they will need, with one-on-one mentoring.

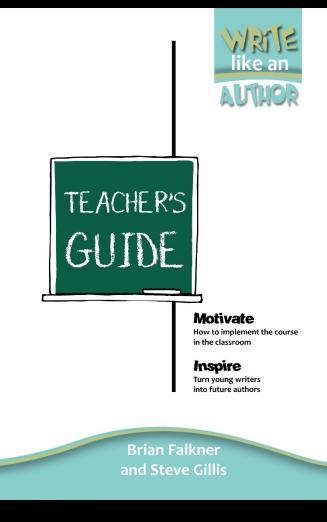
It's not all work, we have lot of FUN!

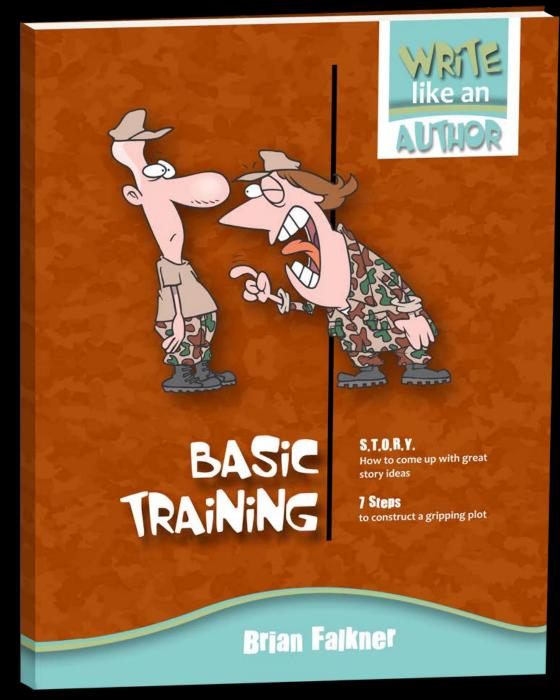




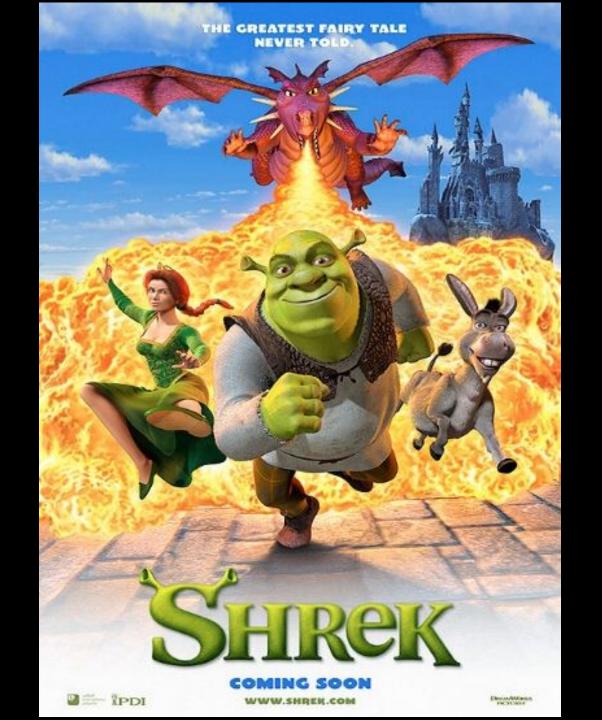


#### **Brian Falkner**





STORY



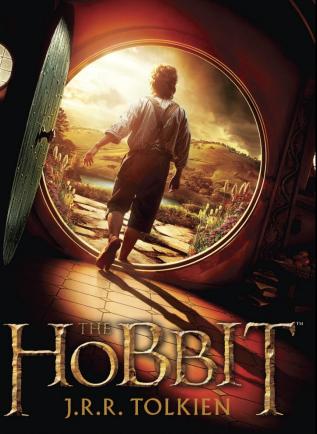


Now Available On Drop And Video.





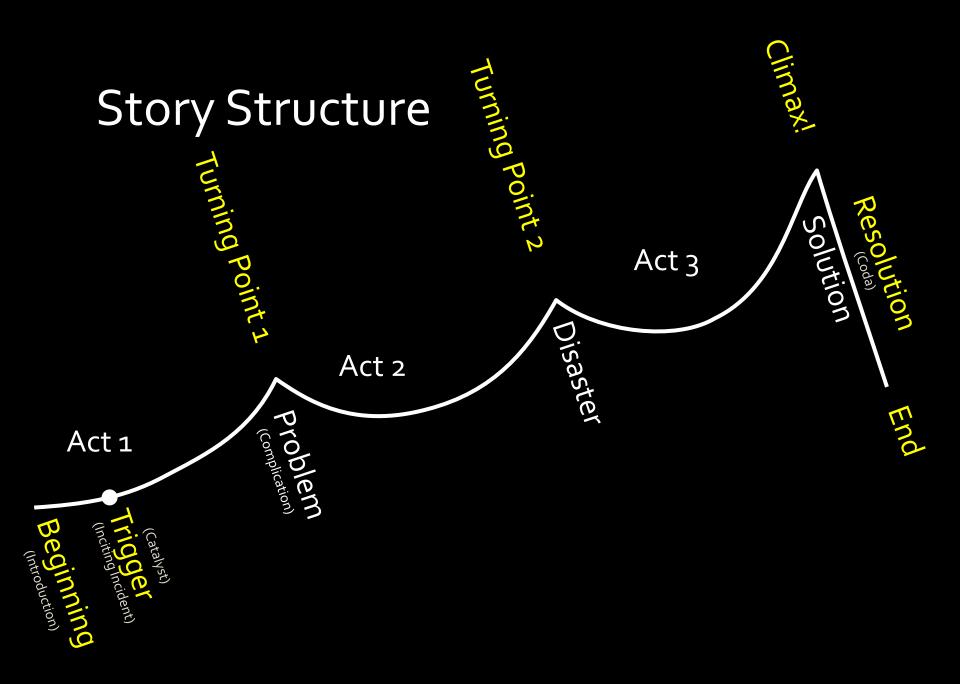
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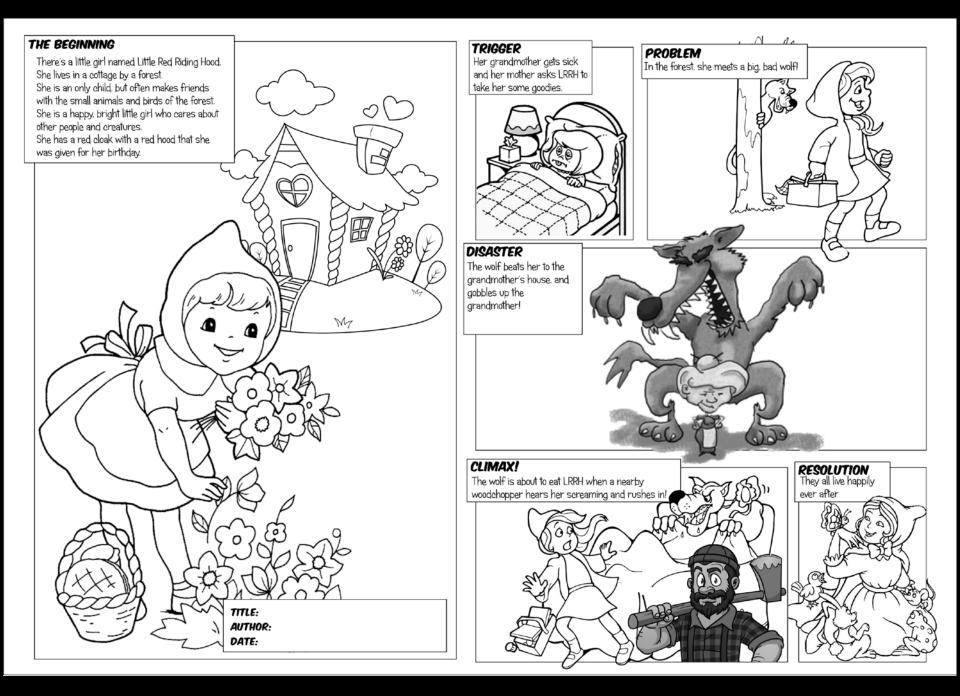


THE ENCHANTING PRELUDE TO THE LORD OF THE RINGS









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#### Make it Visual

# HEROES & VILLAINS

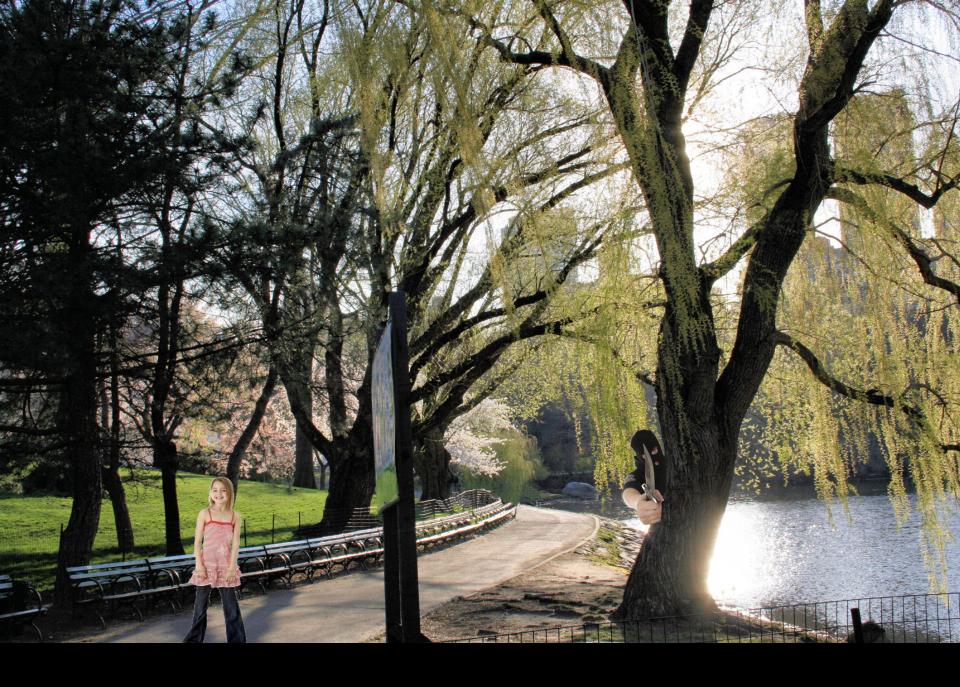
CREATE Engaging characters to draw the reader into your story

21

3 Traits that will help create empathy

WRÍ∫≧ like an

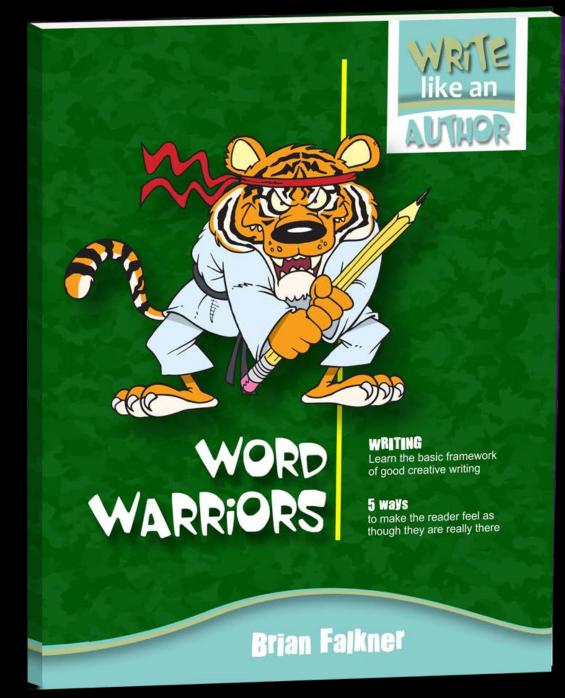
Brian Falkner



### 1. Humour

We like people who make us laugh

We care about people we like.



## Make it Quick

Some houses, to Maddy, seemed to be happy, with fresh paint and \*\*\*\*\*.

And other houses seemed dour and sullen, watching you go by with a sour expression. Yet other houses seemed sad and tired, especially those ones all crammed together in long rows on long dreary streets.

This house looked mean. It looked angry. **\*\*\*\*\*** Maddy thought as they bounced up a long winding, and **\*\*\*\*\*** driveway through **\*\*\*\*\*** gardens that had gone to rot and ruin. **\*\*\*\*\***.

Some houses, to Maddy, seemed to be happy, with fresh paint and bright windows like smiling eyes and little lace curtains puffing gently in the breeze.

And other houses seemed dour and sullen, watching you go by with a sour expression. Yet other houses seemed sad and tired, especially those ones all crammed together in long rows on long dreary streets.

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This house looked mean. It looked angry. Perhaps ferocious was the right word to use, Maddy thought as they bounced up a long winding, and \*\*\*\*\* driveway through \*\*\*\*\* gardens that had gone to rot and ruin. \*\*\*\*\*.

Some houses, to Maddy, seemed to be happy, with fresh paint and bright windows like smiling eyes and little lace curtains puffing gently in the breeze.

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This house looked mean. It looked angry. Perhaps ferocious was the right word to use, Maddy thought as they bounced up a long winding, and decrepit driveway through dark and overgrown gardens that had gone to rot and ruin. Black vines and creepers twisted their way up around trees and plants, strangling them.

## Make it Do-able

Break it down

Show them the bits

Put it back together.

# The framework of writing

#### Narration

• To move the story from A to B

#### Description

- To give the reader a sensory reality
- Dialogue and action
- To bring characters to life
- Inner Thoughts
- To create empathy.

# Kornfeld

I was sitting alone in the old hall, when Kornfeld walked in, saw me and demanded that I give him my lunch.

### Kornfeld (with description)

I sat on the edge of the stage in the hall. Not the shiny, glass-walled new hall over by the communications building, but the original wooden hall, that now doubled as a gym, built when the school was built.

It was filled with long hard seats, polished wood on metal frames, but old, and cracked on the edges, to drive small splinters into the legs of small boys.

Light came from high, slatted windows, one of which was cracked and the wind outside made a frightened squeal through it.

The place smelled of sweat, and the wet socks of hundreds of kids. That smelly socky gymmy smell that gets in your nostrils and sets up camp.

Kornfeld entered. His shirt was torn across the shoulders and his trousers were too short.

Half way down the aisle he demanded that I give him my lunch.

### Kornfeld (with dialogue and action)

I sat on the edge of the stage in the hall. Not the shiny, glass-walled new hall over by the communications building, but the original wooden hall, that now doubled as a gym, built when the school was built.

It was filled with long hard seats, polished wood on metal frames, but old, and cracked on the edges, to drive small splinters into the legs of small boys.

Light came from high, slatted windows, one of which was cracked and the wind outside made a frightened squeal through it.

The place smelled of sweat, and the wet socks of hundreds of kids. That smelly socky gymmy smell that gets in your nostrils and sets up camp.

Kornfeld entered with a thud as the door slammed back against the frame. His shirt was torn across the shoulders and his trousers were too short.

I tried to shrink into the gloom on the stage.

"Hey, it's the professor," his eyes lit up. He advanced down the aisle like a rumbling earthquake, pushing aside seats that he felt were in his way or just annoyed him for some reason.

"Giz your lunch, four-eyes, or I'll smash ya."

I waited until he was right in front of me, taller than me even though I was sitting up on the stage. "Your ma forgot yours again, huh?"

"You don't talk about my mum," he seemed to grow bigger as he spoke. "You..."

I cut him off. "I got an egg-salad sammy that I don't like. You can have that. And my apple. But you gots to say please."

### Kornfeld (with inner thoughts)

I sat on the edge of the stage in the hall. Not the shiny, glass-walled new hall over by the communications building, but the original wooden hall, that now doubled as a gym, built when the school was built.

It was filled with long hard seats, polished wood on metal frames, but old, and cracked on the edges, to drive small splinters into the legs of small boys.

Light came from high, slatted windows, one of which was cracked and the wind outside made a frightened squeal through it.

The place smelled of sweat, and the wet socks of hundreds of kids. That smelly socky gymmy smell that gets in your nostrils and sets up camp.

It was a perfect place to get away from the aliens that inhabited this school. Except I knew that was wrong. They weren't the aliens. I was. Whatever reasons my olds had for coming to this country, they weren't good enough. These kids and I had nothing in common.

Kornfeld entered with a thud as the door slammed back against the frame. His shirt was torn across the shoulders and his trousers were too short. He had outgrown them again last summer I guess.

I tried to shrink into the gloom on the stage, but I knew that was never going to work.

"Hey, it's the professor," his eyes lit up, but it wasn't happiness to see me, I was sure of that. He advanced down the aisle like a rumbling earthquake, pushing aside seats that he felt were in his way or just annoyed him for some reason.

"Giz your lunch, four-eyes, or I'll smash ya."

Not this time, I thought. Not this time. If I let this monster push me around again, that would set the tone of the rest of my life. At least at this school.

I waited until he was right in front of me, taller than me even though I was sitting up on the stage.

"Your ma forgot yours again, huh?"

His mother didn't forget his lunch. His mother couldn't be bothered. Everybody knew that. In a way I felt sorry for him.

"You don't talk about my mum," he seemed to grow bigger as he spoke. "You..."

This was the moment. My one chance to be me, or I'd be running and hiding forever.

I cut him off. "I got an egg-salad sammy that I don't like. You can have that. And my apple. But you gots to say please."

# The framework of writing

#### Narration

To move the story from A to B

#### Description

To give the reader a sensory reality

Dialogue and action

• To bring characters to life

Inner Thoughts

• To create empathy.

### Make it Fun





Make it Emotional

Make it Simple

Make it Fun

Make it Visual

Make it Audible

Make it Quick

Make it Do-able

Make it Fun!