

**FUNDAMENTALS  
OF  
FICTION WRITING**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649590414

Fundamentals of Fiction Writing by Arthur Sullivant Hoffman

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**ARTHUR SULLIVANT HOFFMAN**

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# FUNDAMENTALS OF FICTION WRITING

*By*

ARTHUR SULLIVANT HOFFMAN



INDIANAPOLIS  
THE BOBBS-MERRILL COMPANY  
PUBLISHERS

*To*

**JAMES H. GANNON**

**Whose Understanding Cooperation Has  
Made the Application of These  
Principles a Pleasant Task**





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# FUNDAMENTALS OF FICTION WRITING

## CHAPTER I

### BY WAY OF INTRODUCTION

LIVING in so complex a civilization, we generally fail to realize how complex have become our mental habits. We have come more and more to think upon complexities until, for the most part, the more elementary facts, processes and approaches are slighted or omitted as beneath the high development of our minds. However learned our thinking may be, its foundation must be elementary thinking, and, if elementary thinking is neglected because it seems too elementary for attention, the result is likely to be unsoundness of the whole structure because it has been erected on unsound foundation.

Add to faulty thinking habit the human ten-