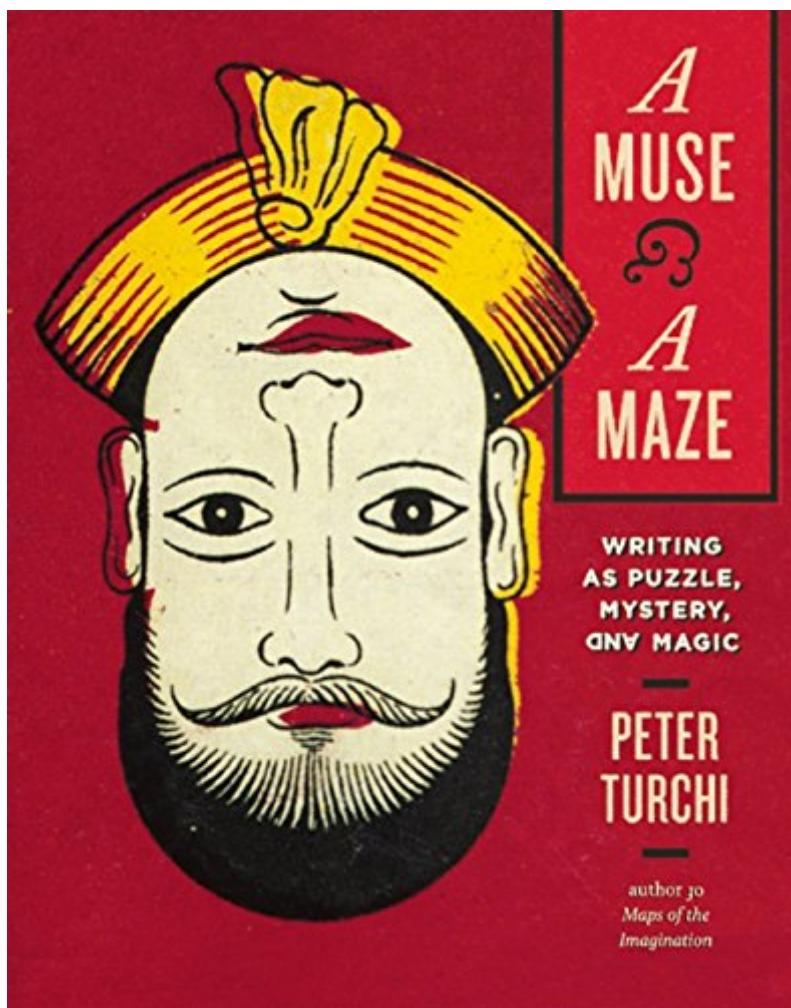


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# A Muse And A Maze: Writing As Puzzle, Mystery, And Magic



## Synopsis

With his characteristic genius for finding connections between writing and the stuff of our lives, Peter Turchi ventures into new and even more surprising territory. In *A Muse and a Maze*, Turchi draws out the similarities between writing and puzzle-making and its flip-side, puzzle-solving. As he teases out how mystery lies at the heart of all storytelling, he uncovers the magic—the creation of credible illusion—that writers share with the likes of Houdini and master magicians. In Turchi's associative narrative, we learn about the history of puzzles, their obsessive quality, and that Benjamin Franklin was a devotee of an ancient precursor of sudoku called Magic Squares. Applying this rich backdrop to the requirements of writing, Turchi reveals as much about the human psyche as he does about the literary imagination and the creative process.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Quaint book detailing the different ways in which writing literature is like a puzzle. A lot of nice examples and cross references to different types of puzzle making. Anecdotal references, analogies, simile, artistry comparison are all in this book (as well as a few interactive puzzles). This

book was useful in describing how a creative fiction writer should develop their stories like a puzzle for the reader to solve.

Great author

Excellent book for writers!

This is a brilliant book on writing craft, providing the reader with a new way to think about composing fiction. And it's also simply a delight to read--smart, well organized, and full of muscular writing and funny anecdotes. And there are puzzles and illustrations in every chapter. I plan to use this in my next graduate fiction class.

Beautifully illustrated, *A Muse and A Maze* delights as it demystifies the craft of writing, likening it to puzzles of all kinds. This has been my go-to writing book as I near the end of a first draft of my own book. Turchi's brilliance enables both writers and readers to glimpse the wizard behind the curtain.

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