



# Elements of Fiction Writing: Conflict and Suspense

By James Scott Bell

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## Elements of Fiction Writing: Conflict and Suspense By James Scott Bell

Ramp up the tension and keep your readers hooked! Inside you'll find everything you need to know to spice up your story, move your plot forward, and keep your readers turning pages. Expert thriller author and writing instructor James Scott Bell shows you how to craft scenes, create characters, and develop storylines that harness conflict and suspense to carry your story from the first word to the last.

Learn from examples of successful novels and movies as you transform your work from ho-hum to high-tension.

- Pack the beginning, middle, and end of your book with the right amount of conflict.
- Tap into the suspenseful power of each character's inner conflict.
- Build conflict into your story's point of view.
- Balance subplots, flashbacks, and backstory to keep your story moving forward.
- Maximize the tension in your characters' dialogue.
- Amp up the suspense when you revise.

*Conflict & Suspense* offers proven techniques that help you craft fiction your readers won't be able to put down.

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### **Editorial Review**

#### **About the Author**

James Scott Bell is the author of more than fifteen novels and a Christy Award winner for *Final Witness* in 2000. His fiction has been reviewed in *Publishers Weekly*, *Booklist*, *Library Journal*, and the *Library Review*. He's the author of *Write Great Fiction: Plot & Structure*, *Write Great Fiction: Revision & Self-Editing*, and *The Art of War for Writers*. He writes for *Writer's Digest* magazine. Bell currently teaches fiction writing courses at Pepperdine University and is a regular on the conference circuit. His website is [www.jamesscottbell.com](http://www.jamesscottbell.com). He lives in West Hills, California.

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