

Writing in Coffee Shops: Confessions of a Playwright

I've been a playwright for over 10 years, and in that time, I've written countless plays in countless coffee shops. I've learned a lot about the challenges and rewards of writing in public, and I'm sharing my experiences here in the hopes that it will help other writers who are considering ng the same.



Writing in Coffee Shops: Confessions of a Playwright

by Ryan Craig

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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The Challenges

There are definitely some challenges to writing in coffee shops. The first is the noise. Coffee shops are often loud and crowded, which can make it difficult to concentrate. I've found that it's helpful to bring a pair of noise-canceling headphones to help block out the noise.

Another challenge is the lack of privacy. When you're writing in a coffee shop, you're surrounded by other people. This can make it difficult to feel

comfortable writing about personal or sensitive topics. I've found that it's helpful to choose a seat in a corner or at a table that's not too close to other people.

Finally, there's the temptation to procrastinate. When you're in a coffee shop, it's easy to get distracted by the people around you or by the delicious pastries on display. I've found that it's helpful to set a timer for myself and stick to it.

The Rewards

Despite the challenges, there are also some great rewards to writing in coffee shops. The first is the inspiration. Coffee shops are full of interesting people and conversations, which can provide great fodder for your writing. I've often overheard snippets of conversation that have sparked ideas for new plays.

Another reward is the sense of community. Coffee shops are often seen as gathering places, and there's a sense of camaraderie among the people who frequent them. I've met some great people while writing in coffee shops, and I've even made some friends.

Finally, there's the simple pleasure of being able to write in a public space. There's something liberating about being able to take your work outside of your home or office and write in a place where you can be surrounded by other people.

Tips for Writing in Coffee Shops

If you're thinking about writing in coffee shops, here are a few tips:

- Bring a pair of noise-canceling headphones to help block out the noise.
- Choose a seat in a corner or at a table that's not too close to other people.
- Set a timer for yourself and stick to it.
- Take advantage of the inspiration that's all around you.
- Chat with other people if you feel like it, but don't be afraid to be alone with your thoughts.
- Enjoy the simple pleasure of being able to write in a public space.

Writing in coffee shops can be a great way to get inspired, meet new people, and enjoy the simple pleasure of writing in a public space. If you're willing to embrace the challenges, I encourage you to give it a try.



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