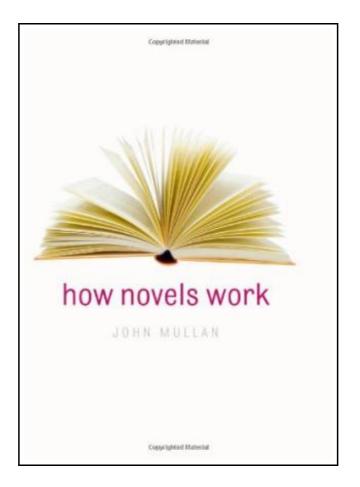
How Novels Work (Hardback)



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Reviews

Just no phrases to describe. It typically does not price an excessive amount of. It is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding, once you begin to read the book. (Felton Hessel)

HOW NOVELS WORK (HARDBACK)



Oxford University Press, United Kingdom, 2006. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 216 x 142 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Never has contemporary fiction been more widely discussed and passionately analysed; recent years have seen a huge growth in the number of reading groups and in the interest of a non-academic readership in the discussion of how novels work. Drawing on his weekly Guardian column, Elements of Fiction, John Mullan examines novels mostly of the last ten years, many of which have become firm favourites with reading groups. He reveals the rich resources of novelistic technique, setting recent fiction alongside classics of the past. Nick Hornby s adoption of a female narrator is compared to Daniel Defoe s; Ian McEwan s use of weather is set against Austen s and Hardy s; Carole Shield s chapter divisions are likened to Fanny Burney s. Each section shows how some basic element of fiction is used. Some topics (like plot, dialogue, or location) will appear familiar to most novel readers; others (metanarrative, prolepsis, amplification) will open readers eyes to new ways of understanding and appreciating the writer s craft. How Novels Work explains how the pleasures of novel reading often come from the formal ingenuity of the novelist. It is an entertaining and stimulating exploration of that ingenuity. Addressed to anyone who is interested in the close reading of fiction, it makes visible techniques and effects we are often only half-aware of as we read. It shows that literary criticism is something that all fiction enthusiasts can do. Contemporary novels discussed include: Monica Ali s Brick Lane; Martin Amis s Money; Margaret Atwood s The Blind Assassin; A.S. Byatt s Possession; Jonathan Coe s The Rotters Club; J.M. Coetzee s Disgrace; Michael Cunningham s The Hours; Don...

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