



The Art of Writing and Other Essays

Robert Louis Stevenson

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Essays in the Art of Writing Robert Louis Stevenson examines the techniques of writing, and gives insights into the writing of "Treasure Island" and "The Master of Ballantrae." CONTENTS On Some Technical Elements of Style in Literature, The Morality of the Profession of Letters, Books Which Have Influenced Me, A Note On Realism, My First Book: "Treasure Island," The Genesis of "The Master of Ballantrae"

Robert Louis Stevenson Stevenson's life was almost as adventurous as the stories he created. He spent much of it as a traveler, writing about his exploits in such exemplary travel books as TRAVELS WITH A DONKEY IN THE CEVENNES. He studied law but never practiced he always wanted to write, and gave himself what amounted to a writing course, studying and copying the style and techniques of his favorite writers. His attempts paid off: his first published novel, TREASURE ISLAND, brought him money and fame. At 29 he fell in love with a married woman--alienating his family--and pursued her to California, where she divorced her husband, after which the couple married and traveled extensively in the U.S., visiting various spas and health resorts in search of a cure for the tuberculosis from which Stevenson suffered all his life. After extensive travel in the South Seas, he finally settled in Samoa, where he became involved in the lives and politics of the islanders. During all his wanderings, he continued to write, producing a total of 12 novels, many short tales, three plays, poetry (including the classic A CHILD'S GARDEN OF VERSES), and dozens of books of essays and travel pieces. He died in Samoa at 44--suddenly, of apoplexy, as he was making a salad for dinner--leaving his last book, THE WEIR OF HERMISTON, unfinished. Keywords: Style, Literary -- Literature, Arts etc British Writers, English Literature Keywords: Robert Louis Stevenson Master Of Ballantrae Treasure Island Travels With A Donkey Travels With A Donkey In The Cevennes Money And Fame Art Of Writing Technical Elements Married Woman Elements Of Style Realism Exemplary Travel Books Exploits Morality Genesis Profession(less)

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