



You, Too, Can Write a Review!

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Organized by:

Melanie Emerson, Gabriella Karl Johnson, and Alex Provo
ARLIS/NA MultiMedia & Technology Reviews editors

Amy Trendler and Terrie Wilson
ARLIS/NA Reviews editors

Olivia Miller Piepmeier, Tara Spies Smith, and Andrew Wang
Notable Graphic Novels Review editors



The Reviewing Process

- The Call for Reviewers
- Apply to Be a Reviewer
- Before You Begin
- Review the Title
- Write the Review
- Submit the Review
- The Review is Published

The Call for Reviewers

- What to look for:
 - When would the review be due? Can you make this deadline?
 - What is the expected word count?
 - What is the review publication's audience?



Editor's tip: Don't be discouraged if you aren't selected, and don't hesitate to apply for future calls.



Apply to Be a Reviewer

- Be sure to provide all the requested information.
- Make a point of highlighting:
 - your experience with writing reviews or writing for other publications
 - your experience with the subject matter, which could include formal educational experience, experience you've gained on the job, or a personal interest in the topic

Before You Begin

- Take a look at any reviewer guidelines provided by the review editors.
- If the reviews publication uses a grammar and style guide, familiarize yourself with it before writing your review.



Editor's tip: One of the best ways to prepare for writing a review is to read reviews! Read a sampling from the publication you are writing for.

Review the Title

- Be sure to thoroughly review the title and assess:
 - style and quality of writing, design, & production
 - intended audience
 - type and quality of illustrations or reproductions
 - scholarly apparatus (indexes, bibliographies)
 - physical or digital structure (user experience, presentation)



Editor's tip: Keep in mind who you are writing for. What would your audience be interested in knowing about this title?



Write the Review

- Include an analysis of the title's content.
- Evaluate the work under review.
 - How does it compare to other works on the same subject?
 - How does it fit in the genre or the literature on the subject?
 - Does the author take a new approach to the topic?

Submit the Review

- Give your review text a last look for errors.
- Submit *all* the requested items. This likely includes a publications agreement.
- Meet the requirements specified including format, grammar, and word count.
- Be in touch with the editors *before the deadline* with questions. And don't be afraid to ask!



Editor's tip: Be prepared to get questions back from the editors or requests for revisions. There may be a quick turnaround for a response before the review is published.

The Review is Published

- Some publications notify you when your review is published, others do not. You may need to watch for the publication announcement.
- Answer another call for reviewers! Some publications maintain lists of their current reviewers, but others only post calls for each edition.

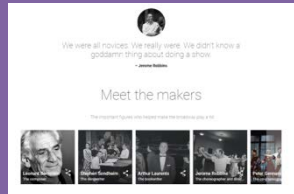
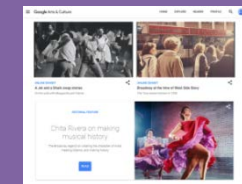
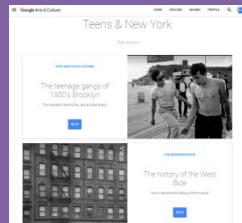
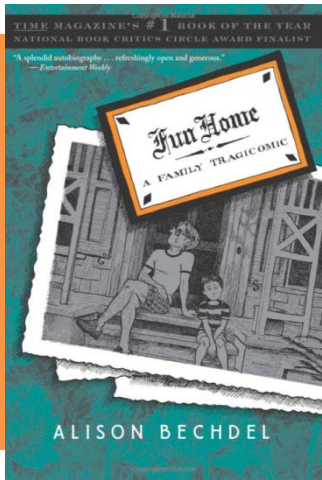
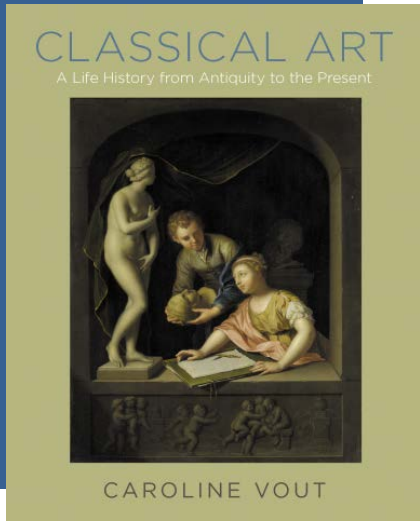


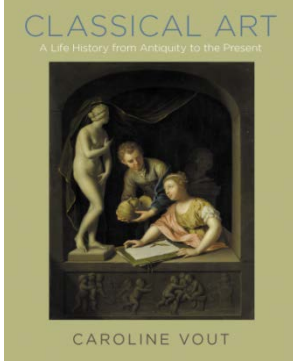
Editor's tip: You may be able to preview your review before it is published or request that you be notified of changes, but editors reserve the right to make final editorial decisions.



Resources

- Tips, Tricks & Resources
<http://bit.ly/arlisna-tips-short>
- Tips, Tricks & Resources – Expanded version
<http://bit.ly/arlisna-tips>
- Ask the editors! We are happy to answer questions.
 - Melanie Emerson, Gabriella Karl Johnson, and Alex Provo
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Questions to Consider

- What do you think was done well within the sample review?
- Do you think the review needs a lot of editing?
- What do you feel needs to be changed within the sample review?
- Are there obvious details the reviewer forgot to include?
- How well did the reviewer follow the guidelines and style recommendations?
- What was the biggest challenge in the editing process?
- Will readers of the review be able to make an informed decision about whether or not they want to purchase or promote the resource?

