

# *How to Write a Play*

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Pick an idea  
Pluck some more seeds, and  
Plant them deep in your thought compost.  
Turn these visions over in your mind.  
Fertilize them with fantasy.

Gather up some characters  
Graft them to your plot  
And water them liberally with motives.  
Sprinkle in lots of conflict.  
Pile on the problems.

Harvest your characters' roots  
And dig up their deepest secrets.  
Weed out the deadened bulbs,  
Uproot any passive deeds  
And prune the lifeless from the story.

Bring up the dirt – the more the better,  
Spread it thick over the planting,  
Trowel it over, then  
Go do something else  
And wait for it to bloom.