

## **Location, Location, Location: And how to make the most of it in your writing**

Marie Powell - <https://www.mariepowell.ca>

### **Selected resources:**

“8 Ways to Find Your Creative Style” – Crystal Tan Art (video 12:37)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xWJAcqdrTZ4>

“A Change of Scenery Would Do You Good” – Jessca Stawser, *Writers Digest Magazine*: July/August 2025, p. 34-37

Adobe Creative Types and quiz - <https://mycreativetype.com/the-creative-types/>

“How a trip to Wales inspired a medieval fantasy series” – Marie Powell, Nov 1, 2021, *Books N Buzz Magazine*

<https://booksandbuzzmagazine.com/2021/11/01/how-a-trip-to-wales-inspired-a-medieval-fantasy-series/>

“How Important Is It for Authors to Do On-Location Research?” – Bryan Wiggins, Feb 6 2015, Helping Writers Become Authors website: K. M. Weiland

<https://www.helpingwritersbecomeauthors.com/important-authors-location-research/>

“How to finally find your unique artistic style” – Jenna Rainey (video 12:34)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PcG-6Y04F3Q>

“Rebecca Makkai on the Most Underutilized Tool in Fiction: Setting” – Rebecca Makkai, Feb 24 2023, Literary Hub

<https://lithub.com/rebecca-makkai-on-the-most-underutilized-tool-in-fiction-setting/>

What is the setting of a story? 5 functions of setting in literature – Jack Smith, Writers.com, May 17, 2024

<https://writers.com/what-is-the-setting-of-a-story>

Why You Can’t Stop Reading: How bestsellers hook readers and never let go” – Michael La Ronn, *Writers Digest Magazine*: July/August 2025, p. 30-33

Lists of books that use setting well:

Goodreads list: <https://www.goodreads.com/shelf/show/setting-driven>

Fiction Fox: <https://www.thefictionfox.com/post/suspiciously-specific-6-books-where-setting-is-as-much-a-character-as-the-characters-themselves>

“[7 Short Story Collections That Draw From Setting to Build Characters](#)” by Ada Zhang

**Some examples of books that use setting well:\**

- *The Briar Club* – Kate Quinn
- *The Alchemy of Flowers* – Laura Resau
- *Where the Crawdads Sing* – Delia Owens
- *Jade City* (series) – Fonda Lee
- *What Moves the Dead & A House With Good Bones* – T Kingfisher
- *The Secret Garden* – Frances Hodgson Burnett
- *Lord of the Rings* – Tolkien
- *The Great Gatsby* – F. Scott Fitzgerald
- *The Night Circus* – Erin Morgenstern
- *The Martian* – Andy Weir
- *The Road* – Cormac McCarthy
- *A Darker Shade of Magic* – V E Schwab – alternate Londons have different effects on character
- *Neverwhere* and *The Graveyard Book* – Neil Gaiman
- *Midwich Cuckoos*; *The Day of the Triffids*; *The Chrysalids* – John Wyndham
- *Sarum, Rebels of Ireland* – Edward Rutherfurd
- New Crobuzon series – China Mieville
- Gothic classics i.e. *Jane Eyre*, *Wuthering Heights*

And so many more.