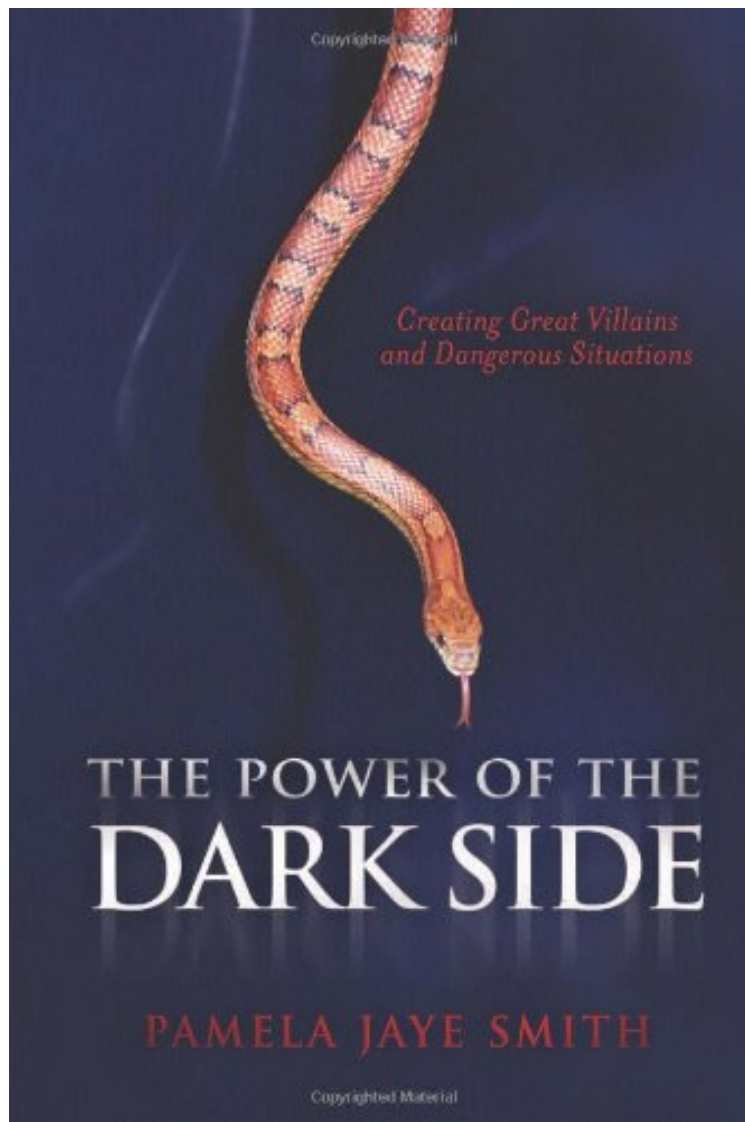


[Free and download] The Power of the Dark Side: Creating Great Villains, Dangerous Situations, Dramatic Conflict

The Power of the Dark Side: Creating Great Villains, Dangerous Situations, Dramatic Conflict

Pamela Jaye Smith

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Pamela Jaye Smith : The Power of the Dark Side: Creating Great Villains, Dangerous Situations, Dramatic Conflict before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Power of the Dark Side: Creating Great Villains, Dangerous Situations, Dramatic Conflict:

46 of 47 people found the following review helpful. Very DisappointingBy VoiceguyI bought this book with high

hopes after reading all the breathlessly enthusiastic reviews that appear here. As soon as it arrived, I set aside some serious time to read it and profit from all the promised help. I started at the beginning and pressed on, looking for all the helpful guidance that other reviewers had mentioned. By the time I got to page 37, I discovered ... there is no "there" there. Or at least, not for me. Further delving into the book did not improve things. I honestly have no idea what Pamela Jaye Smith is getting at in this book. It is a catalog of very brief observations of the most superficial nature on a bewilderingly wide array of topics from comparing American foreign policy in Bosnia versus Darfur in one section to discussing arcane aspects of Eastern medicine in another. I would concede that it is a fairly thorough collection (in breadth) of just about anything conceivably touching on the idea of "bad" or "evil" in the world, but it's like opening a Sears catalog without knowing what one wants to buy, and with only the briefest descriptions of the merchandise. It could be that someone who read all of the entries and mentally digested them might somehow be inspired to pick one particular kind of approach to use -- but what an incredible amount of work to get to that point. And once a specific approach was picked, that person would discover that the book offered only fairly shallow and self-evident suggestions on what to do with that approach. I prefer books that offer a practical approach that doesn't require learning how to build a complete watch from scratch when I just want to tell the time. For a working writer who is looking for help in making their creative process move ahead more smoothly, this book is not a good candidate, because whatever value there may be in it is just too hard to extract.

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Way too abstract

By Chad Not really a character analysis more like giving an astrology reading of your villains. I admit most of my dislike comes from misunderstand what the book was so I only gave it two stars and not one.

60 of 63 people found the following review helpful. Unexplained Terms Too Referential

By Tara E. Browne Not my favorite writing reference ever.

- 1) The author relies heavily on strings of movie names in support of her points, then fails to explain how those movies demonstrate the point in question. The examples provided are useless unless you have seen the movies in question.
- 2) The book continually references "chakra" terminology (described as "inner drive / center of motivation"), but nowhere does the author offer an overview of the chakra system for the uninitiated.
- 3) The book meanders off topic. As often as not, the author discusses how "good guys" display and/or respond to the "dark side" traits, rather than focusing on how to develop really strong villains that will drive a story forward.
- 4) Finally, one does wish her writing would be less sloppy. Sentence fragments, misplaced modifiers and other symptoms of lazy writing pepper the entire manuscript, and add to the overall impression that the work was not well planned or edited.

Conflict is the very heart and soul of drama, and Smith's latest work explores character conflict and the various ways to portray it both in scripts and on the stage.

About the Author Pamela Jaye Smith is an international speaker, consultant, writer, award-winning producer-director, and founder of MYTHWORKS.