



Nabokov's Favorite Word Is Mauve: What the Numbers Reveal about the Classics, Bestsellers, and Our Own Writing (Hardback)

By Ben Blatt

SIMON SCHUSTER, 2017. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. An NPR Best Book of 2017: A hell of a lot of fun. --NPR One of Lit Hub's The Best Books About Books Enlightening. --The Wall Street Journal Data meets literature in this brilliant new look at our favorite authors and their masterpieces: Do literary titans follow their own writing advice (and is it any good)? Do men and women write their characters differently? What are each author's favorite words and clichés? There's a famous piece of writing advice--offered by Ernest Hemingway, Stephen King, and myriad writers in between--not to use -ly adverbs like quickly or fitfully. It sounds like solid advice, but can we actually test it? If we were to count all the -ly adverbs these authors used in their careers, do they follow their own advice compared to other celebrated authors? And do great books in general--the classics and the bestsellers--use fewer adverbs? In Nabokov's Favorite Word Is Mauve, statistician and journalist Ben Blatt brings big data to the literary canon, exploring the wealth of fun findings that remain hidden in the works of the world's greatest writers. He assembles...



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