

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.