



Beyond Reason

Songwriting for a Purpose

Jane Ross Fallon

*"You don't write because you want to say something,
you write because you have something to say."*

F. Scott Fitzgerald

Most people begin with a "reason" for writing and feel that much songwriting comes from the personal; we think of songwriting as something sacred, stemming from deep revelations and providing personal or communal healing.

This is often the case. But there are times when the message of the song, the purpose, is the true goal. To write purposefully requires going beyond the reason and utilizing specific skills that make sure that purpose is accomplished.

We are all pretty much shaped by ages of traditions; they permeate our everyday existence, whether we know it or not, and thank goodness for that. With those tools available to us, we can concentrate on the job of communicating much more readily. These tools help songwriters especially when they are writing "on purpose" – when they have a specific point that they hope to consciously make. Building on established literary conventions that go back to the ancient Greeks, *Beyond Reason* encourages the songwriter to use form to shape inspiration.

In *The Courage to Create*, Rollo May said, "When you write a poem, you discover that the very necessity of fitting your meaning into such and such a form requires you to search in your imagination for new meanings. You reject certain ways of saying it; you select others, always trying to form the poem again. In your forming, you arrive at new and more profound meanings that you ever dreamed of."

Is songwriting art? Is it inspiration? Is it craft? Is it alchemy and mystery? It is all of those things. But your inspiration is wide and expansive and creative expression needs a big toolbox.

After all, what is a great song? For most of us, it is one that achieves what it is we want it to do.

Beyond Reason: Songwriting on Purpose is available in print and e-book editions on Amazon.com

Music for Jane's songs that are used as examples can be streamed at <https://janefallon.bandcamp.com/album/songs-on-purpose>

A CD is available at <http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/janefallon3>

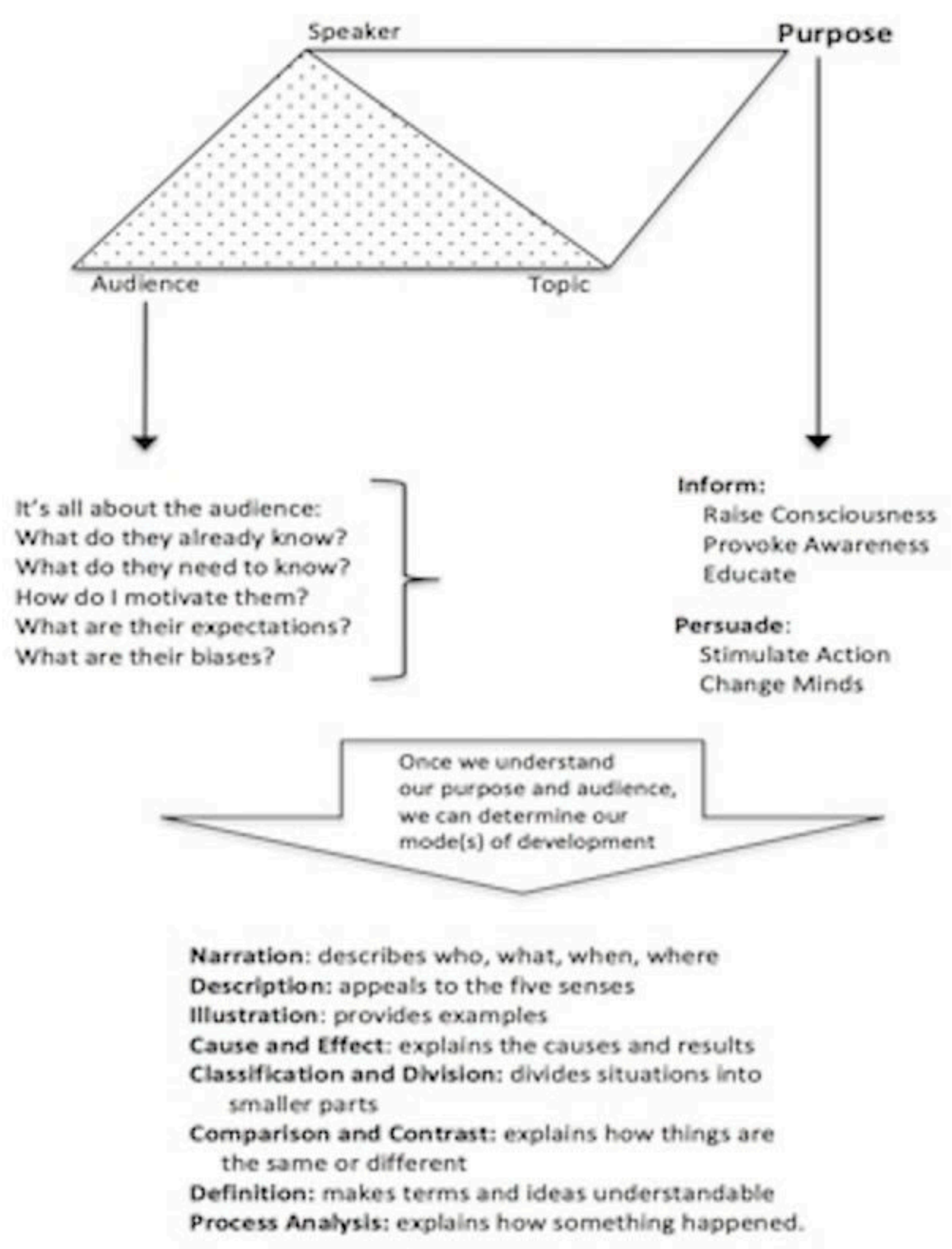
Reader Reviews:

This is such a great book! Really makes a difference on what kind of a songwriting vision you want to create as a songwriter! So much different than other books on the topic! I really enjoyed reading it and will read it again and again!

This is a unique approach to songwriting with fascinating explanations along the way. Use of specific examples of techniques is quite helpful.

Great foundation for writing with purpose expressed with multiple and great examples. Really good inspiration!

THE RHETORICAL RHOMBUS AND THE MODES OF DEVELOPMENT



SONGWRITING ON PURPOSE

