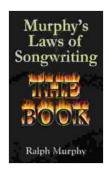
# Murphy's Laws of Songwriting: A Comprehensive Guide for Aspiring Musicians

Songwriting, like any creative endeavor, is a complex and often unpredictable process. While there is no magic formula for writing a hit song, there are certain principles and pitfalls that every songwriter should be aware of. Murphy's Laws of Songwriting is a collection of these principles, observations, and warnings that can help songwriters avoid common mistakes and increase their chances of success.

#### 1. If a chord sounds good, it's probably wrong.

This is one of the most important laws of songwriting, and it's one that many beginners struggle with. It's easy to get caught up in the excitement of a new chord progression and forget about the overall structure of the song. However, it's important to remember that the chords in a song should support the melody, not overwhelm it. If a chord sounds too busy or out of place, it's probably best to reconsider.



#### Murphy's Laws of Song Writing "The Book" by Michael Shaw

**★** ★ ★ ★ 4.9 out of 5

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Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.13 x 11 inches



2. The more time you spend on a song, the worse it will get.

This is another common pitfall for songwriters. It's easy to get bogged down in the details of a song and lose sight of the big picture. However, it's important to remember that a song is a finished product, and the sooner you can get it to that point, the better. The more time you spend on a song, the more likely you are to overthink it and ruin it.

#### 3. If you can't play it, you can't write it.

This is a simple but important rule of songwriting. If you can't physically play the chords or sing the melody of a song, you're not going to be able to write it effectively. It's important to have a basic understanding of music theory and guitar playing before you start songwriting.

#### 4. The best songs are the ones that you don't have to think about.

This is the holy grail of songwriting: the ability to write a song without any conscious effort. When a song flows effortlessly from your pen, it's usually a sign that you're onto something special. Don't try to force a song; just let it come to you.

#### 5. If you're not happy with a song, don't give up on it.

Every songwriter experiences writer's block from time to time. It's important to remember that even the most successful songwriters have had to deal with this dreaded phenomenon. If you're struggling with a song, don't give up on it. Take a break, come back to it later, and see if you can approach it from a different angle.

#### 6. The more songs you write, the better you will become.

Practice makes perfect, and this is especially true for songwriting. The more songs you write, the more comfortable you will become with the

process and the better your songs will become. Don't be afraid to experiment and try new things. The more you write, the more likely you are to find your own unique voice.

#### 7. Don't be afraid to ask for help.

There are many resources available to songwriters, including books, websites, and songwriting workshops. If you're struggling with a song, don't be afraid to ask for help from a friend, mentor, or professional songwriter. A fresh pair of ears can often provide valuable feedback and help you get over a creative hump.

#### 8. The best way to learn songwriting is by listening to great songs.

The best way to learn how to write great songs is by listening to great songs. Pay attention to the structure, melody, and lyrics of your favorite songs. What makes them special? How could you improve them? The more you listen to great songs, the more you will learn about the craft of songwriting.

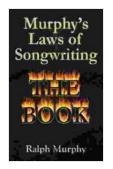
#### 9. Don't compare yourself to other songwriters.

Every songwriter has their own unique style and voice. Don't try to be someone you're not. Just focus on writing the best songs that you can. The more you compare yourself to others, the more you will discourage yourself.

#### 10. Don't give up on your dreams.

Songwriting is a difficult business, but it's also one of the most rewarding. If you have a passion for music and a desire to write songs, don't give up on your dreams. Keep writing, keep practicing, and keep learning. With hard

work and dedication, you can achieve your goals and become a successful songwriter.



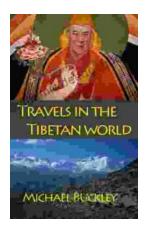
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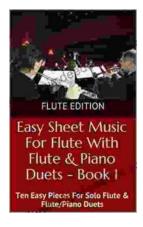
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