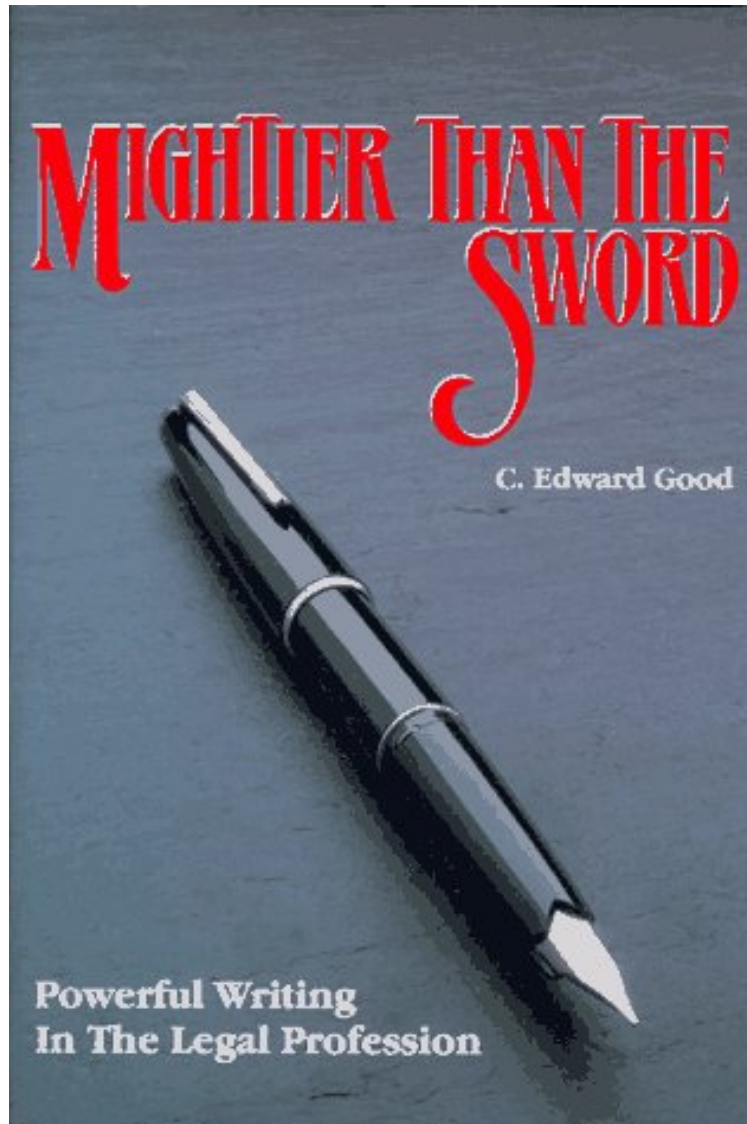


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## Mightier Than the Sword: Powerful Writing in the Legal Profession/Legal

*C. Edward Good*

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committed by lawyers. Legal writing is inflicting too much damage on American public. The damage is irreversible. The damage is irreparable. A legal writing, such as contract, is often filled with complicated legal terminologies. The central concept of a legal writing is often deeply buried in a jungle of words. The words in a writing may be crafted cleverly to favor the party who wrote it. For example: contract languages are often written poorly with heavy legal words intentionally lengthened to confuse laypersons instead of clarifying to them. Law students are taught in school to write clear words without misleading readers. But when they enter practice, their writing is often plagued with legal jargons that are very poor in rendering a clear meaning. Legal jargons include heavy nounification, clausification, complex adjective and adverbial phrases and so forth. Such jargons may appear strong to a layperson, but they are weak underneath. Such jargons are insecure. They play a hide-and-seek game. They are destructive. Good legal writers are direct and clear. Their writing is packed with action verbs, direct subjects and direct objects; all of which clearly establish the intent and meaning of the words being used. Weak legal writers surround their writing with heavy legal jargons. Legal jargons are then fortified together in a chain to construct a defensive shield. Being threatened by the public, weak legal writers rest inside the defensive shield of legal jargons that act like a cocoon, inside which they feel safe. They love to creep inside the cocoon so that the public cannot see them. A weak writing is easily achieved by using prolix and heavily interlinked phrases and clauses. The meanings of such prolix and interlinks intersect each other so closely that a biased interpretation could fabricate and re-fabricate a new meaning or intent of the writing, thereby, leading to any evil direction when needed. Such languages do more harm than good to the public. They spark public distrust to legal professionals. They put the entire legal industry to shame. C. Edward Good is a guru of American legal writing. He has written a beautiful book 'Mightier Than the Sword: Powerful Writing in the Legal Profession'. I thought that it is important to summarize what I learned from his 250 page book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. All lawyers should read this book. By M and M Mom. Excellent book. The concepts are invaluable for attorneys and others who want to write clean and crisp materials. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Simple and Direct. By in a new york minute. Unlike most Legal Methods books, this one is complete without getting caught up in the unnecessary minutiae. Very practical and realistic.

Provides grammatical basics for the writing of clear, concise, and efficient prose for the legal mind.