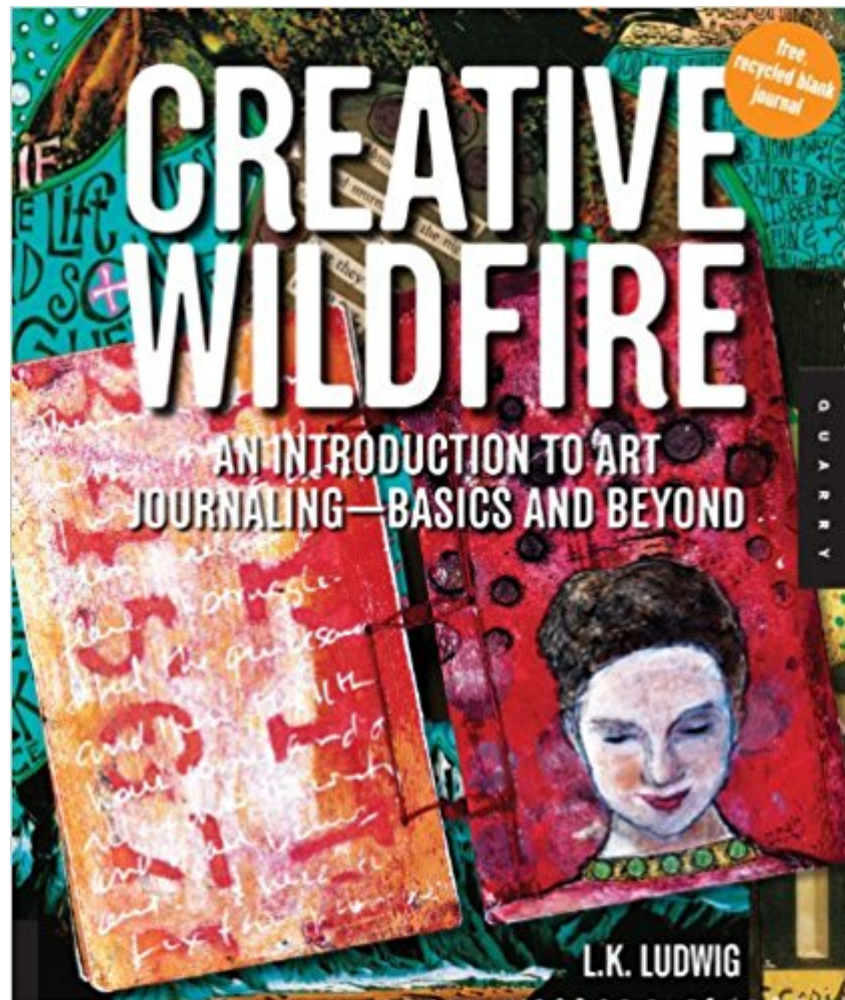




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Creative Wildfire: An Introduction To Art Journaling - Basics And Beyond



Synopsis

Art journaling is a vital activity for artists who need a place to experiment, draw, paint, document ideas, and continue an interior dialog. This lush, visual book is a must-have volume for both beginning and experienced art journalers. Each chapter presents crucial, basic information for how to get started, and is layered with in-depth sidebars and activities covering advanced techniques, approaches to working, as well as interviews with well-known journaling artists. The book comes with a beautiful blank journal in a take-along size (made from paper upcycled from the printing process), ready to catch your daily inspirations.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The fire analogy rages throughout Ludwig's new book *Gathering the Fuel* (How to Get Started) through *Keeping the Fire Burning* (Expanding Your Journaling Repertoire), we are taken on a blazing hot voyage through art journaling that does indeed go beyond the basics and into the nitty-gritty techniques. Art journaling junkies will enjoy its gleaming inspiration. The free recycled blank journal is the added kindling to help fan the flames for both new and experienced art journalers. **- Book Review by Jenn Mason, Editor, "Cloth, Paper, Scissors" May/June 2010**

LK Ludwig creates art and chases her three small children around in a Victorian Four-square in a very small town (pop. 4,023) in western Pennsylvania. She is the author of *Mixed Media Nature*

Journals, True Vision, and Collaborative Art Journals and Shared Visions in Mixed Media. She teaches workshops throughout the U.S. and maintains her blog at <http://gryphonsfeather.typepad.com>.

This is a book aimed at folks making thickly layered art journals and self-constructed art books. There are instructions for making your own journal, or converting a store bought one, OR using an old book as the base. No doubt about it, there's a lot to look at; if you order the print version, you'll even receive a recycled paper journal in a pocket in the back of the book. In Creative Wildfire, the books themselves (as objects) are much the Art Journal as the art within their pages. Books as art and as expressions of art. There's a spectrum of art journaling books out now. There are the ones that feature sketching. Then layering artwork on the pages. And this book takes it to the next level, where the book is inseparable from the art because it IS the art. If you're starting out, this may have intimidating content, but it has wonderful examples of how far and where you can take your journal if you want.

Contrary to the title this is not a true beginners book. But it is wildly inspiring! It certainly is not victoriana scrap booking. Think artsy with journals ranging from messy cool to constrained cool by a wide array of artists. Each page has one to two full journal pictures. The photography is clear and detailed. Techniques are discussed but the few step-by-step instructions are brief and not as detailed as some will prefer. Nevertheless you cannot go wrong buying this book. I'm sure it will spend a great deal of time on my studio table for the inspiration and encouragement it provides. Good luck with your own journals!

An intelligently-written, curiosity-growing volume that not only gives you the lowdown on the How-To's And Why-Do-It's for those pursuing Art Journaling as a new pasttime, but it provides you with a full arsenal of what you will need in list form. Also includes an ample amount of mixed media art techniques and aggravation-preventing tips to take your experience in art journaling to another level. The talented artists and gorgeous photos chosen for the enjoyable read will be as fulfilling as the uncrowded layout of the book. Terrific resources lists included in the back!

Thought the author offered very clear, basic instructions, suggestions and ideas for art journaling, not only from her but by so many other wonderful artists who I am already familiar with. Interviews with the artists give this book a more personal feeling in that they share why they create or why they

feel drawn to art journaling. I also thought it was wonderful that tucked in the backcover held a blank journal for the reader to use. Ludwig explains that the pages in the blank journal were basically left overs made from the printing process that would ordinarily be discarded. To me it was a wonderful treat not only to be gifted something extra but also it was being recycled. I would recommend this book to anyone wanting to begin or who already has a passion for art journaling.

My son really liked this book. After I bought it for him, he consistently worked on his art journal every day. Or at least until he filled it. Once he finished the journal, he didn't really start a new one. But the book inspired him to try and find creative ways of documenting a few important events from each day. And he was able to make his own art journal using directions in the book. There are many many how to books on drawing and painting which might help develop technique. But, at least in my experience, there are not that many good books that help develop a sense of creativity. But I can suggest two that I think are quite good. The first, and the one I would definitely recommend starting with is *Drawing Lab for Mixed-Media Artists: 52 Creative Exercises to Make Drawing Fun (Lab Series)*. It gives lots of ideas that will help fill a sketchbook over a year if you want to. The second is *Experimental Drawing*. The latter book is a little dated and definitely much more serious than the former, but it is another book filled with ideas to help you become more creative in drawing. So, overall, the strength of this book is the fact that it is filled with ideas for creativity. And it did inspire my eleven year old son to create his own art journal that I think was quite proud of

This book is vibrant and filled to the brim with inspiration and eye candy. I've loved all of LK's books but this might be her best yet. In the interest of full disclosure two of my journals are included but even if they weren't I would love it. LK's genius is teaching you how to create deeply personal content using your own photos and words. She has provided clear, detailed instructions on binding your own journal, creating painted pages with her amazing scraped painted surface technique, using your photos, reductive stenciling and so much more. In addition to the in depth instructions, to get you started she's included loads of what she calls fire starters and tips. The interviews with other art journalers and photos of other artists journals are my favorite parts. I love the peek into artists journals. You'll find some old favorites along side some new names throughout. The final treat is the small journal included in the back. She has used scraps from the printing process to create a unique, portable journal for you to play with.

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