How to Write Like Hannah Gadsby

“There is nothing stronger than a broken woman who has rebuilt herself” -- Hannah Gadsby



Background:

Hannah Gadsby has been doing comedy for 16 years. She rose to notoriety in Australia in 2006, when she won the National Final of the Raw Comedy Competition, Australia’s largest comedy competition.

In 2017 she wrote and produced a show called *Nanette*, that drew raves and criticisms. It got a 100% on Rotten Tomatoes from critics.

Primary Techniques for Hannah Gadsby:

- Storytelling
- Callbacks
- Puns (Clever)
- Benign Retaliation Takes on Critics and comments by using simple truth
  Hannah Gadsby - 2017 Opening Night Comedy Allstars Supershow
- Asides (comments)
- Informs (Take-aways)
- Talks about lessons from previous shows
- Uses her critiques in her act.

Hannah Gadsby is one of my favorite comedians. She's raw. Honest. Flawed. A great joke writer and an even better storyteller…

https://youtu.be/oBZhLZAA434

Hannah Gadsby Gives A Surprise Lesson On Female Anatomy | Netflix Is A Joke

I'm going to do something in this course that I've not done yet. I was sort of saving it for the right moment and the right comedian. Some comedians have very identifiable techniques and structures they use repeatedly throughout their act, but Hannah Gadsby is a storyteller / comedian. She's of very high intellect and is not afraid to tell her story.

I think Gadsby is a solid comedian. She's extremely good at what she does.

- She has more haters than the typical comedian (haters are critics that think they can inject personal attacks because they have zero ammunition to otherwise critique and by zero ammunition, I mean brains.

- She uses the callback masterfully and also subtly. She'll just slip it in.
  - Study how she uses it
  - Start applying it to your storytelling.

- Her **Tazmanian / Australian accent** does two things:
    - Gives her a type of authority
    - Really makes us listen

- Gadsby is acutely aware of the demographic she attracts (most comedians even ten years in don't have any clue. They're still just trying to get up every night and be funny).

- **She's Found a Niche**
    - Developing Your Niche helps you to identify a throughline, POV or angle
    - Think about your own angle
        - Identify
        - Corner it
        - Nurture it

- Gadsby scares a lot of people
    - Primarily Men
    - A lot of Conservatives / Christians
    - Challenges the Status Quo
    - Takes on her haters

- Get your facts in order if you're going to go deep on a specific topic.
    - Picasso
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