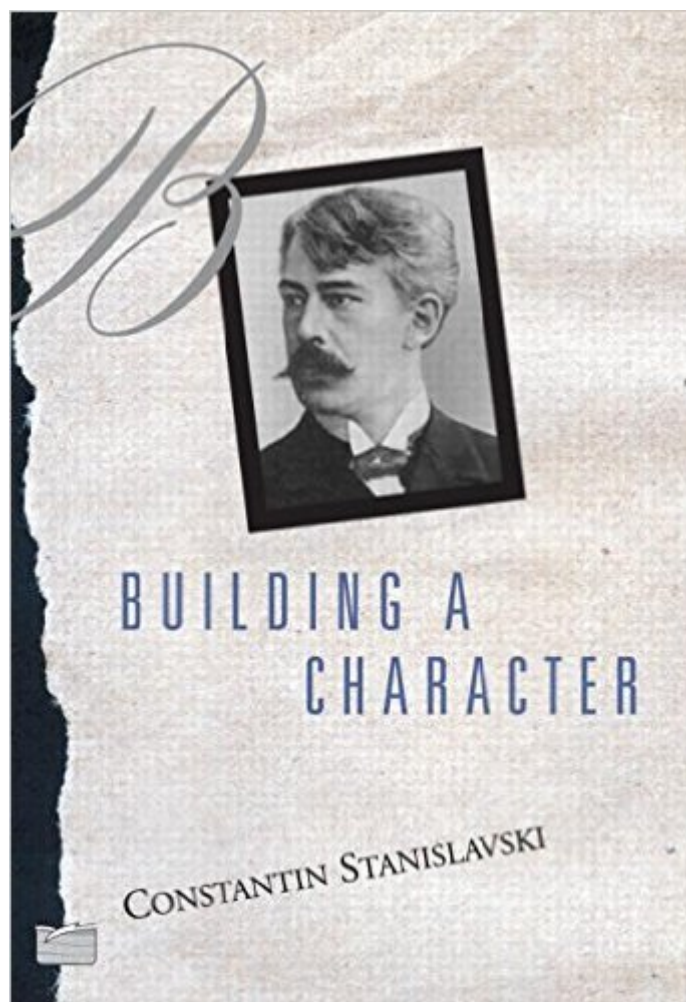


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# Building A Character



## Synopsis

First Published in 1989. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

## Book Information

Paperback: 207 pages

Publisher: Routledge; Reprint edition (April 30, 1989)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.7 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (29 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #157,323 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #72 in [Books > Arts &](#)

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[Performing Arts > Theater > Acting & Auditioning](#) #13941 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment](#)

## Customer Reviews

Stanislavki is considered a master of theatre and often called the "father of the method." In this, the second installment of his acting technique books (very wittingly alphabetically titled *An actor prepares*, *Building a Character*, *Creating a role*) he goes into the external technique an actor must use to become a character. Like *An Actor Prepares*, he uses fictional characters obviously based on the actors from the Moscow Art Theatre, with the director, Tortsov (think Stanislavski) being the one with all the knowledge. While a lot is to be learned from the book, one can't help but notice how egotistically the book is written. While there is no denying how wonderfully he lays out the principles taken in building a character, I wonder how much easier of a read it would be if he just came out and said, these are our principles. Instead he cloaks himself behind a character and we lose a lot trying to muddle through a student's undying love (Kostya, whose "journals" make up the text) for his teacher. If you can get past the text, you'll learn a lot.

This book is the second in Stanislavski's series. Deals with the "external aspects" of the System. A great read, in spite of the poor translation; this book (and the entire series) completely transformed my acting almost overnight, as if a fog had lifted from my eyes. This book/series helped me understand, fundamentally, what I should be DOING onstage. I received numerous compliments on the next role I played after reading this book and several comments on my improvement, etc. Great

advice for actors. Strongly recommended for both actors and directors.

Book came in sweet and used. I have only made it past the introduction, but I can tell I am in for quite the treat. Looking forward to dive into the rest of it so I may truly immerse my self in a whole other world like Avatar. Not Airbender. The on with Jake Sully, Neytiri and Sigourney Weaver.

"Building a Character" is certainly one of the books that you can add to your collection if you are an actor, professional or otherwise. Stanislavski discusses the physicalisations and vocalisations that are the product of a character. He also discusses some ethics and attitudes he thinks necessary to maintain in the theater. Highly recommended.

Definitely a five star resource book. Stanislavski is both articulate and inspiring. This book is a timeless piece of work!

I thought I knew what I was doing on the stage. I knew my lines, I didn't bump into the furniture, what else is there to know? Borrowed this book from a friend and it completely transformed me and everything I thought I knew about acting. Turns out I only thought I knew what I was doing.

Great product and fast shipping! Couldn't be happier.

If you are a director or an actor and wish to develop a character, this is a time tested tome to learn from. The Stanislavski methods are tried and true!

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