

## Book Excerpt: Museum of Creativity and Inspiration for Writers

### Casting a Net for the Next Story Idea

As writers, we are always on the lookout for story ideas. Once we find an idea we can use, or that sets our imagination alight, we begin to form that idea into either a poem, article, or story. Where do you cast your net when looking for a story idea?

If you want to set your story on a beach, then cast your net onto the beach. This would mean that you start to visualize a beach, and see all that makes a beach so scenic and fun. Notice all the visual elements of the beach, from the sand, the children making sand castles, the swimmers, the waves lapping the shores, and everything that makes a beach a beach. Now, look at the same scene from a new perspective and let your imagination do the work, as it notices the sea shells, the starfish on the sand, the person sitting and looking out to sea, the elderly couple holding hands and walking slowly and romantically, as the sun starts to set. Also, pay attention to the young boy who appears to be on his own, making a sandcastle. His parents are not around. There are so many possibilities and ideas to create stories from just visualizing a beach scene.

If you would like to create a story set at the local zoo. Visualize a zoo, or watch a video of a zoo, or just visit a zoo. Observe all the elements of a zoological garden that make it so unique, from the cages, the animals, the zoo keepers, the visitors, and the other special features like fountains and caves for the animals designed to make it resemble the habitats of the animals. Look around the zoo and notice the young family and the large group of schoolchildren sitting on the grass and sketching the chimpanzees or the colorful parakeets. A child is seen feeding a zebra, while another is stretching dangerously over to look into the large circular pit, where the alligators are kept. There are so many stories waiting to be told by you the storyteller. Where will you cast your net for the next story idea? Remember, ideas are precious and the next one could change your life.

### He Saw his Doppelganger Today

He looked across the train,

He blinked his eyes in disbelief.

He saw himself standing ten feet away,

The man looked like him in every way.

She could not believe the face she saw,

The person was an exact duplicate of her.

Sue was struck by the amazing similarity,

She wondered if her double had the same personality.

It was a day when the doppelgangers,

Stepped into our world to play.

Would they take our places here?

Have they come to permanently stay?

A doppelganger is like a twin,

An exact duplicate of us in every way.

Have you seen and met your double recently?

They are a lot more dangerous than you can ever be?

Are you feeling a bit reckless today,

Do you want to live dangerously?

Is it you or are you the dangerous double,

Out to cause mischief and create big trouble?

***Poet's Note: This poem has been inspired by a person I saw this evening in the train who looked exactly like me. I then remembered that my parents saw my double pass them by on the street several years ago, when I was a teenager. I was at home at the time and they were returning home after a cinema show.***

## The Journey of an Ordinary Book

The book was nothing special,

The topic was making writing simple.

It was all about finding your mission,

To devote your life to write something.

The book was written by someone,

Who discovered the writer within.

The book was not about telling the reader,

How they should write and be a leader?

The book was an ordinary book,  
Filled with a thousand seeds of ideas.  
The author wanted a reader to find,  
Ideas and stories of every variety and kind.

The journey of this ordinary book,  
Was so very extraordinary.  
A hundred new writers found their way,  
They walk on the Writer's Way today.

This ordinary book written and shared,  
Its words of wisdom with the world.  
It travels through a million eager hands,  
To help them write their own literary plans.

## As the Hawk Flies- The Spirit soars to the Skies

There is a state of calm in the air,  
The mind is moving to a quiet place.  
The hustle and bustle of the day,  
Is gradually dissolving quickly away.

The mind is raised to a higher plane,  
The breathing is slow and paced.  
Consciousness rises once again,  
To a calmer level in psychic space.

There are images and symbols that appear,  
Each one brighter and more powerful.

They gradually seem to disappear,  
While one appears complete and whole.

The soul rises higher and higher into the air,  
It rises as high as the spirit hawk flies.  
The cosmos and the soul combine as one,  
As the spirit soars to the ethereal skies.

## Writing Prompt: Death of a Dream

In life we are sometimes faced with tough choices. Do we keep on the path that we have chosen or do we move onto something else? In business, it is much easier to see when one particular type of work is not moving, when it is not bringing in profits. That is a clear sign, that a new more profitable project needs to be taken up, in order to make the business a success.

While in school I remember a young student, who was a very good football player. He had a bike accident and then could not play the game. He was emotionally broken by the accident, which made him walk with a crutch for a period of time. Once he recovered from his injuries, he took up computer gaming and made his life a success.

Have there been times in your life, when you have watched your dream die before your eyes? It is emotionally upsetting, but you need to find the strength to recover, find a new dream and move forward in life. Some dreams are small ones, while others could be major dreams, like switching a career or moving to a new place to reside in life. Regardless of how big or small your dreams may be, we still feel sadness inside, when we need to shut out minds to one dream and open windows to another one. Dreams are challenges in life that we need to be courageous enough to face. Find your new dream, if you are still mourning the loss of the old one.

## A Ghost of an Idea that You Never Seem to Capture

I could not remember an idea that I had a few days ago. I told myself that I would write the idea in a journal and then make it into a story or poem later. However, I forgot to make a note of it and I am unable to remember it today. Why am I not worried?

You must be also familiar with this feeling as a creator and writer when you get a brilliant idea, which you forget to write down and then it evades your mind completely. What is that ghost of an idea, you tell yourself, that simply escapes your thoughts and you have a very faint idea of it, yet it is not enough to create the whole picture.

I do not get worried when an idea I have seems to elude me. The more I try to remember the concept, it seems to fade away into space. This ghost of an idea, which could be one of those outstanding ones, has it gone never returned to my mind.

As a writer, I have found that ideas do return later when the time is right. I do not worry if I am unable to remember an idea today. I have seen tiny ideas disappear and then return months or sometimes years later, much bigger, better, and more complete. At those times, I thank my muse for keeping the idea alive, working on it in the background, and returning it to me when it was the right time to create the story, article, or poem.

A good idea will return to you, while the forgettable ones, will only return when value has been added to them, through your own life experience, knowledge, and evolution as a creator and writer.