

# WRITER'S INK

## THE WRITER'S WORKSHOP OF BLOOMINGDALE

### JULY 2009

Our July workshops will be on July 11<sup>th</sup> and July 25<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 a.m. until noon.

Format rules are: Minimum, 12-pt. font and double spaced with one-inch margins on all sides.

The submission deadline for the 2010 calendar is September 15, 2009.

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#### SIMILE SPOTLIGHT

“Slowly, **like a hollow tree that could withstand the wind no longer**, Holly leaned sideways, farther and farther to the right...”

“Vinyl and dust and the sweet smell of aviation fuel went to my head **like Dom Perignon.**”

“Maybe it was the bright moonlight or the coldness of the bed or the crowds of unwelcome thoughts scratching about in her mind, **like cockleburs down leather hiking boots on a long trek.**”

“The warm wind that had blown the entire day and night before their meetings had stopped sometime on the morning of the 22<sup>nd</sup>, leaving a steely-grey wall of cold pressing down on the countryside, **like the grip of a selfish old man** (her husband).”

Source

Cahill, Mary, *Carpool*. Fawcett Crest. 1991. pp. 41, 70, 110, and 115.

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#### COLUMN TWO PERSONALS

Congratulations to Chris Aument, Marjorie Lee, and Mary Ann Lufkin, who will be published in the 2009 *Blood and Thunder: Musings on the Art of Medicine!* Chris' essay is titled, "Life and Love." Marjorie's essay is titled, "He Taught Me to Walk: A Story of Love and Caring". Mary Ann's crostic poem is titled, "Catwalk Chic". Marjorie's and Mary Ann's submissions were critiqued by the Bloomingdale Writer's Workshop.

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#### MANGLING MODIFIERS

Do your clauses end up in the wrong part of the sentence? You are not the only one:

“Yoko Ono will talk about her husband, John Lennon, who was killed in an interview with Barbara Walters.”

“After years of being lost under a pile of dust, Chester D. Thatcher III found all the old records of the Bangor Lions Club at the Bangor House.”

“As a baboon who grew up wild in the jungle, I realized that Wiki had special nutritional needs.”

Source:

Lederer, Richard. *Anguished English/An Anthology of Accidental Assaults Upon Our Language*. Wyrick & Company. 1987. pp. 101 and 102.

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### NONFICTION: VOICE

Before submitting freelance work to a publication, determine its voice by perusing several issues until comfortable with its tone and style. Also answer these questions and make sure your voice is in tune to their pitch:

- ✚ How seriously does it take itself and its subject?
- ✚ Is it more scholarly or popular?
- ✚ How smart is the publication?
- ✚ Is it a red or blue state? (politics, demographics)
- ✚ What is the core appeal?

Source:

Fryxell, David A.  
“Nonfiction:Voice/Hearing Voices.”  
*Writer’s Digest*. Nov-Dec 2006. pp. 92 and 93.

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### KEEP WRITING!

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