

MAKE HIIT HAPPEN: WRITING FICTION IN A FLASH

with Monika Sengul-Jones | Hugo House | Write-O-Rama | December 12, 2021

Workout

- Intro (5)
- Warm-up with Mary Ruefle (5)
- Lifting with Danielle Dutton (20)
- Toning with Clarice Lispector (15)
- Cool down (5)

Warm-up with Mary Ruefle (5)

Read (2) On Twilight by Mary Ruefle: <http://flashfiction.net/2010/02/24/wednesday-therapy-words-of-wisdom-from-mary-ruefles-the-most-of-it/>

Activity (3) I'll say words, you write down what you think of when you hear them. Any form is okay, a list, a poem, another word. This is generative, a warming up of your associations.

Set 1. Lifting with Danielle Dutton (20)

Read (5) Acorn by Danielle Dutton
<https://www.newyorker.com/books/flash-fiction/acorn>

Activity (15) Write time. Offering: Write out a habit or practice from your life and what you make of it, what you take of it, what you mean of it, what it means to you, where you are at with it. This could be a special occasion or a daily thing -- the way you work, a funeral, a gift giving ceremony. Write quick and messily. Up to 800 words. Save.

Set 2. Toning with Clarice Lispector

Read (5) The Hen by Clarice Lispector, translated by Elizabeth Bishop
<https://jennymcphee.com/2010/12/04/two-stories-by-clarice-lispector-translated-by-elizabeth-bishop/>

Activity (10) Offering: Keep going, write on. And/or make a copy. Edit: Pare, hone, cut, get to the quick, down to the bone. Save what you cut in another file. Go the extra mile: Riddle what you have with fictions, change the person, shift to present tense, make a metaphor concrete, borrow time. Save.

Cool down

Further your workout

- Marie-Helen Bertino – Say goodbye to your father (flash);
<https://treehousemag.wordpress.com/2012/04/02/say-goodbye-to-your-father/>
- Sabrina Orah Mark, Wild Milk (Dorothy Project)
- Helen Phillips, Some Possible Solutions

Thank you to all. Stay in touch!

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