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SPRING 2021



*The Writer's Way* is writing to reclaim voice and words and the power they have to change our lives.

*The Writer's Way* is a path found through writing stories, poetry, journals and essays. All that is required is the willingness to listen deeply and give words to what comes, and the curiosity to see what comes next.

*Melinda Burns, M.A., is a writer and psychotherapist in Guelph, Ontario, and a SoulCollage® facilitator. She has been leading groups in writing and creative process for over 20 years. Her stories have won first prize in the Toronto Star Short Story contest in 2001 and the Elora Writers' Festival writing competition in 2008, and her poems, fiction and essays have appeared widely in print. Her passion for writing flows into her work, inspiring and encouraging the creative spirit in each person.*

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## *On-Line Writing Groups*

In these days of social distancing, on-line writers groups provide three things writers need most: prompts to get started, deadlines, and a group of writers to inspire you and receive your work. In these groups you'll receive a prompt and an example every week. Respond with your own writing of one page or less. The responses of the group will be gathered and appear in your in-box the following week.



## *Late Spring Writers Group*

This group will receive a prompt and an example every Wednesday. The response to the prompt can be in any form—poem, story, reflection. Responses are sent out to everyone on the following Tuesday. Choose “**Plus mentoring**” for more detailed feedback on what's working in your writing and what could bring the writing out more.

April 28 – June 1, 2021  
\$50 +HST  
(for “**Plus mentoring**”, add \$25 +HST)

## *Memoir Mentoring*

Memoir is the self-discovered story of a life, combining memory and present-day reflection to realize the meaning of a particular journey. *Memoir Mentoring* will help you generate and revise the parts of the story that make up the whole.

### *Option I—Individual*

Submit three pieces, connected or not, each 1500 words or less, and receive detailed feedback on each, with suggestions for revision and for putting them together.

April – June, 2021  
\$150 +HST

### *Option II – On-line Group*

Receive a prompt every Friday. Respond with 500-1000 words and receive feedback from me on revising and expanding/deepening. Responses will be sent out to the group the following Thursday. For the final week, you can develop one of your pieces to 1500 words for more detailed feedback.

April 9 – May 14, 2021  
\$125 +HST

*For information contact:  
mbeburns@sympatico.ca  
www.melindaburns.ca*

## *About the On-line groups:*

*I have really enjoyed these four weeks of memoir writing. The prompts have helped me discover the process and pleasure of storytelling - of giving words to moments of experience so they are not lost forever.*

*--Judy Myers Avis*

*Having a focus in a sea of sameness helped to ground me. The deadlines made it matter what day I was living. You open up my mind and create writing possibilities from things that are right in front of me.*

*--Cathy Jelinek*

*It's been a treat, to get the prompt each Wednesday, mull it over, begin to write, finish it off, and then finally send it away to you and all the others in the group. The writing group makes me feel connected to something bigger than my own little world, and also to some hibernating part of myself.*

*--Kathleen Corrigan*

*This has been a great experience! I enjoyed the prompts and reading everyone's writing. Being a part of the group got me writing almost every day, which was what I was hoping for.*

*--Kate Robinson*

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- groups
- workshops
- retreats
- mentoring

*For information and  
registration, contact  
mbeburns@sympatico.ca  
www.melindaburns.ca*



*Gift certificates available for  
all on-line groups*

*"The mere act of writing anything is a help. It seems to speed one on one's way."*

*--Katherine Mansfield*

*with Melinda Burns, MA*



*Late Spring  
Writers Group  
on-line ~ April 28 ~  
June 1, 2021  
\$50 <sup>+HST</sup>*

*For this on-line group, you will  
receive a prompt for five  
Wednesdays with an example.  
Respond with a poem, story or non--  
fiction piece, one  
page or less, inspired by the  
prompt. The responses from the  
group will appear in your in-box  
on the following Tuesday.*

*For more detailed feedback on  
your work, choose "Plus  
mentoring" and add \$25<sup>+HST</sup>.*

*To register, e-mail  
Melinda Burns at  
[mbeburns@sympatico.ca](mailto:mbeburns@sympatico.ca)*