



Creative Wordshops Dorian Haarhoff

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Storyteller Facilitator Word speaker Writing Coach Poet

The Writer's Voice A Creative Reading and Writing Course

Do you love reading and writing autobiography/ fiction /poetry? You and I can design an email course to meet your needs and help you find your voice. This one-on-one apprenticeship aims to take you further up the writing mountain and offer you a deeper engagement with your craft and your calling. My chief concern is not an academic approach to writing, but a holistic one in which a meeting of reader and writer takes place in and through the text.

The course also focuses on how to be present in your writing and engage the reader as a creative partner. It's about bringing aliveness and presence into your writing.

You will explore how to

- express yourself clearly and simply
- use images
- align yourself with the one inside who knows how to write
- start and sustain that conversation
- be thrilled by words and find your joy
- create a first and subsequent draft
- breathe life into the words and let words breathe life into you

This course is structured in the nature of an ongoing conversation with a few chosen writers, (ancestral or alive) with me and with yourself. There are 6 assignments (A1 – A6) We also talk over the phone or on skype. We meet if we can. I encourage you to keep a journal to record your observations, dreams, ideas and reflections. The journal is vital to the process. The Writer's Voice Course lasts for four months. It begins when you are ready.

The Reading Part: Month One

We begin with a month of reading for reading teaches us how to write. You choose 2 writers or poets that you are passionate about from a list (or you can come up with your own.) You engage closely with their texts. You write in your journal and talk to me while you are doing this. We enter a conversation.

A1: You copy out by hand a passage from each of your selected writers. You try to learn 2 passages/poems by heart. (not less that 10 lines each/ 20 lines for a poem) It's about getting inside the skin of a writer. Feeling their rhythms.

A2 Now you write up and present your observations of this activity in your journal. You talk to me while you are doing this.

The Writing Part: Month Two - Four

A3 A4 A5 (taken from the book *The Writer's Voice*)

Participants write max six pieces. i.e. 2 assignments per month. I respond via questions and suggestions in a feedback loop. You resubmit the assignment. These texts could be from existing work in progress though I encourage you to write fresh stories/poems. Your journal will reflect and make conscious the crafting process. i.e. raising questions about the particular bit of writing , problems encountered in the writing, insights, breakthroughs etc You can also submit this text.

A6. Finding your own writer's voice: End of course

In this assignment you will work on a presentation/celebration of your understanding of the selected writers, your own texts and journal entries. You can offer this to a group of friends as an informal oral presentation. I can guide you with questions so it could be a dialogue if you prefer it. You will be putting on the mantle of the writer. You talk to me as you prepare for this event.

The course includes my book *The Writer's Voice a workbook for Writer's in Africa* Or one of my poetry books. (If you have the book deduct R200 from the course fee)

All along the way I share my writing process with you and, as part of the learning, invite you to respond to my work if you wish.

Cost R4350

payable in two instalments - beginning of month 1 and 3

payment details: Dr R D Haarhoff
Standard Bank Current account 0828 59 248
Helderberg Branch 033 012

Dorian Haarhoff is a writer, a story-teller, mentor and a personal development speaker. Passionate about developing innate creativity and imagination, he believes in the power of stories to create new realities and free us from mental prisons. . To inspire...and surprise...bring healing . To build our belonging. A former Professor of English (University of Namibia), Dorian has also taught in a Canadian Creative Writing Faculty. His workshops are based on his text **The Writer's Voice**.

Your far reaching and profound knowledge and your generosity and calm clarity of spirit makes you a superb teacher. Not only do you share your rich knowledge and insights. You emanate a field of creativity in which we are inspired and gladly participate. (Evette Weyers, sculptor)

See below for registration form and bio (2 pages)

Writer's Voice Course

Registration Form

Name:

Email:

Physical Address:

Telephones:

Payment Details:

Please mark your payments with your surname

Any favourite poets?

Voice Biography Sheet

Bio (200-250 words on you, your passions, your writing path especially in relation to prose or poetry)

What words or phrases caught your attention in the Writer's Voice Course flyer? What you would like to learn or master about writing and hope that this course will provide?