



Starting Somewhere

November 2008

All Great Novels have to start *somewhere*. Either at the beginning or the end, perhaps with an idea which expands to create writing which becomes chapters either side, or a heart beat that inspires the curious writer and reader to explore on paper the enigma of a half-sculpted tale.

This morning I didn't know where to start with this worksheet so put it off and put it off, until 12.58 - 2 minutes before I had to leave to meet my daughter - the first time I have seen her in 7 months...

She only lives up the road, and we talk frequently - when we remember - but we have busy lives and somehow we never seem to be in the same place at the same time... One of us had to start somewhere to make the arrangements to meet today, so I picked up the phone - I started "somewhere". It wasn't difficult because we have an easy understanding and relationship, but as time passes it becomes easier to put off the meeting - oh I can just finish that, I need to do... next week perhaps.... And suddenly it is 7 months ago...

It is now 13.06 and I am running late - because I am now 5 minutes late, I have written the above - I wouldn't have done if I had all the time in the world. I used the energy of the artificial deadline to inspire... I shall come back to this and edit at about 4 this afternoon, with a different mindset and the events of the afternoon inspiring and perhaps altering my perspective, so I will change and tweak words around - or perhaps not.

This could equally work as a metaphor for our writing worlds... pick up the pen and just write - now this minute... don't stop to let your inner editor guilt you into perfectionism... nurture an easy relationship with your paper and you will find that all the things you should be doing won't have the ability to overwhelm you. Anyway who gave them the label "should"? If you are a writer, all you should be doing is writing...

This intro is just a series of words, very raw writing which will be read out next week. Hopefully thought about and considered... nothing wrong or right about it - the words just exist on a piece of paper and someday might become an essay, or a prologue if nurtured appropriately - or nothing - just existing as a piece of writing in its own right, marking the time I spent at the computer today and becoming a part of social history.

Shani

It really doesn't matter.

I had to start somewhere.



Consider: Let us start somewhere...

Using the writing, picture and word association table – transport yourself into an unfamiliar world and write.....

"Balancing on the windowsill - looking into a somewhat over-ornate garden, with her head resting on her arm - the world looked a little skewed.

She allowed her eyes to roam – empty of thought and purpose.

Sighing gently to herself she straightened up ready to leave. She had to start somewhere..... "



Word Associations (use the word at the top of the column to inspire first thought word associations)

<i>Gravel</i>	<i>Arcadia</i>	<i>Topiary</i>	<i>Music</i>	<i>Marble</i>
<i>stone</i>				
<i>sand</i>				
<i>Light brown</i>				
<i>shoe</i>				

Who?

Why?

Where?

What?



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www.nanowrimo.org – Novel Writing Month of November is an excellent website for hints and tricks – along with a chance to start the “habit” of regular writing. This is now in full-flow.

Go to the website to join – it is free. My name is **Phethean** if anyone wants to link with me and have a “word war”

Writers without access to computers are not excluded, 1,667 is the word count a day.





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CONCEIVE, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE

PROJECT PLANNER FOR NOVEMBER 2008		
Projects in Progress	Submissions	Inspirations to convert into Projects
Resolution:		

Next Group Meeting:- No Meeting in December – Start again 2nd Monday in January...
The Bristol Central Library Café 5.30 pm – 7.00 pm

Email: shani@writinginthemargins.co.uk or phethean@aol.com for further details or contact the Bristol Central Library

The On-Line Group and blog can be found at:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/greatwesternwriters>
<http://myspace.com/greatwesternwriters>
www.greatwesternwriters.com

For hints and tips on join us at: www.writinginthemargins.co.uk



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