

Writing the Self: Memoir Writing II

by Susan Amy and Sundara Rajan

COURSE OBJECTIVES

A good memoir captures and frames fascinating moments and experiences in our lives. This participatory workshop, made lively with discussion, examples and group sharing, will help you write good and readable memoirs. The trainers will also do some interviews and role plays to help develop focus and character.

COURSE OUTLINE

1. Developing the Memoir so far

- Art & Memory – enquiries into truth and fiction
- Creating rounded characters
- Fuller description – providing sensory input
- Good word choice to good effect
- Creating realistic dialogue
- Use of plot and time techniques
- Creating and controlling sub-themes

2. Editing Pointers

- Reviewing your first draft - editing principles and stages of revision
- Critique your own writing
- Editing exercises with clumsy writing.
- Eliminating wordiness
- Correcting viewpoint and insight (playing 'god')
- Finding your voice
- Plot and pacing – exploring the development of the memoir and its unfolding

3. Moving on and Completion

- Developing discipline: Keeping to a schedule and making writing a fixed feature of each day.
- Discussion and review of chapters written so far
- Writers reflect on feedback experience
- Searching for publishers

Note:

This workshop is a continuation of the *Writing Memorable Memoirs* workshop that was conducted on 30 Nov 07. Participants should bring along their first 1-2 chapters. Preferably if they could send in the soft copy beforehand to allow the trainers to demonstrate detailed editing.

Those who have not attended the first workshop are encouraged to register. However, it is recommended that you would have already written 1-2 chapters of your memoir.

WORKSHOP LEADERS

Ms Susan Amy, originally from the United Kingdom, has lived and worked in Singapore for the past 22 years. In this time, she has been teaching language and communication to various organisations and in most Southeast Asian countries. She has written several books on a variety of topics, and has also worked on a number of cultural and heritage projects. Susan edited and proofread for several publishing companies including Simon & Schuster and Prentice Hall. She has a passionate interest in oral and local history.

Mr B.R. Sundara Rajan has over 45 years' experience in English Language Teaching and Language Teacher Education at the Specialist Certificate, Bachelor's, Post-Graduate Diploma and MA levels. Mr Rajan formerly worked as Language Specialist at SEAMEO Regional Language Centre (RELC) for 22 years. Sundara Rajan has conducted courses, workshops and seminars on *Language Teaching Methodology*, *Language Testing*, *Syllabus and Materials Design*, *English for Specific Purposes*, *Report Writing for Management* and *Business Communication Skills* in all the Southeast Asian countries as well as in India, Iran, Taiwan and Papua New Guinea. He has also co-authored several books and been the General Editor for a dictionary for children.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Anyone, including experienced writers, who is interested in writing memorable memoirs and improving your writing skills.

DATE and TIME

21 June 2008 (Sat), 9.30am to 5.30pm

VENUE

Agatha Room, Level 3,
Toa Payoh Community Library

Organised by



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COURSE ADMINISTRATION

Registration Fees

S\$230 per person includes 2 tea breaks and course materials.

S\$190 for Early Birds who register by 23 May 2008.

Ways to register

1. Register online by visiting www.bookcouncil.sg/clap.htm
or
2. Complete the form below and fax it to **(65) 6742 9466**.

Cancellation & Substitution

Fees paid are non-refundable but transferable. Requests for substitution must be made on/before 13 June 2008. A cancellation charge of 25% of the full course fee is applicable for cancellations made after 13 June 2008

Payment

Payment is required before the workshop commences or within 30 days of receipt of invoice, whichever is earlier. Payment to be made in Singapore Dollars, by cash, cheque or bank draft, payable to "NBDCS" and mail the payment together with your form to us. Alternatively you may deliver your payment, with your name and contact details attached, immediately after you have faxed/emailed/submitted your online registration.

Mailing Address

National Book Development Council of Singapore
c/o Geylang East Community Library
50 Geylang East Avenue 1
Singapore 389777

Enquiries

Email : clap@bookcouncil.sg
Tel : (65) 6848 8290

ABOUT THE ORGANISER

NBDCS is a non-profit umbrella body inaugurated in 1969 to promote storytelling, reading, writing and publishing, with a current objective to establish and develop Singapore as the Asian centre for publishing and the literary arts. NBDCS brings Singapore book industry and literary community together through industry events, courses, seminars, conferences and author lectures. NBDCS has been organising the prestigious Singapore Literature Prize since 1990 and also manages the Centre for Literary Arts and Publishing and Singapore Writers Centre

Registration Form – Writing the Self: Memoir Writing II

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Dr _____
Organisation: _____
Designation: _____
Address: _____
Tel: _____ Mobile: _____ Fax: _____
Email Address: _____
Signature: _____