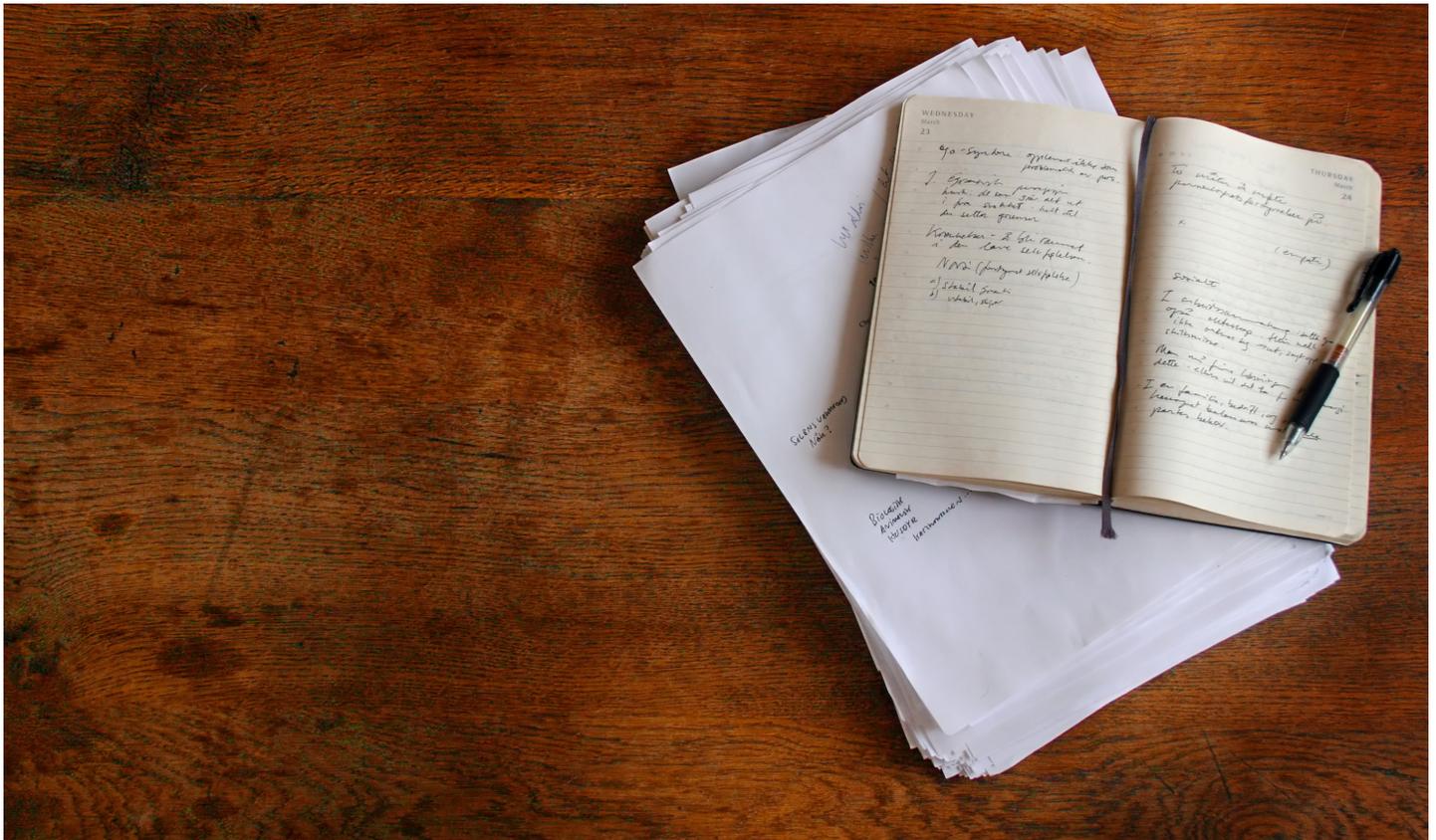


Novel-Writing Workshop



January 17-19, 2014: Eastham, Cape Cod, Massachusetts

Come and be inspired by the nature and environment that has inspired so many other writers!

When: January 17-19, 2014

Where: Penny House Inn, Eastham, Cape Cod, MA: www.pennyhouseinn.com

Cost: \$150 registration, plus cost of inn (varies depending on room)

What's It About?

You're a novelist. You have a novel in progress but not completed. Perhaps you're stuck. Perhaps you need some perspective. Perhaps you just need some time apart to work on it.

The novel-writing workshop is a combination of traditional round-robin workshopping with other participants, talks on technique (characterization, dialogue, etc.), consultation with the workshop facilitator, and time set aside to write.

We're providing this structured time for you to come away from the world and your busy life and the demands that are placed upon you and ... write. Be inspired by the natural beauty of Cape Cod.

At the Penny House Inn, there will be plenty of opportunities to get yourself and your novel on-track. There's a spa onsite, as well as an artist-in-residence, and there will be ample time for walking, hiking the dunes, birdwatching, and drinking in the atmosphere of this very inspirational place.





Who Can Participate?

This workshop will be the most useful to you if:

- You have a novel started but not completed—the first 30 pages is ideal
- You have a solid working outline or synopsis
- You have a particular challenge that's keeping you from moving forward
- You have an open mind and a willingness to accept criticism

What Will Be Happening?

We will use the traditional novel workshop technique of reading and commenting on each other's work. Being able to deconstruct problems is an important part of producing a novel and requires an outside perspective. In addition to the workshop sessions, we offer individual consultation with the facilitator, a published author and experienced writer, who can help with particular problems not addressed in the workshop. The facilitator will also offer optional talks on various parts of the novelist's toolkit: dialogue, pacing, description, characterization, and so on. We'll do writing exercises, small-group discussions, offer caring feedback, and give you the best gift of all—time—so you'll be able to challenge and nurture your inner muse.

Part of the time will be unscheduled. We want you to be part of the landscape that inspired all the other Cape Cod writers; we want you to see whales and seals, to start your mornings with a walk on the beach, to check out Mayflower passengers' graves at the local cemetery, to get a massage at our spa, to spend time in the wilds of Salt Pond.



How About Some Specifics?

You'll arrive at the inn on Friday afternoon or evening and, depending on your timing, may be able to schedule a massage or Reiki treatment in the spa to get your weekend started (you can even schedule spa-time when you register). We'll have cheese and wine available after 5pm, and we'll gather after dinner for our introductory session and first writing assignment.

Saturday morning breakfast is served at the inn, and then we'll meet as a group for workshopping the material you've brought with you. You're on your own for lunch (we'll let you know what's open!) and you'll have free time in the early afternoon to explore the area, schedule a massage, do some writing ... whatever works for you. We'll meet again in the late afternoon. Dinner is on your own, and we'll have a final Saturday session after dinner.

Sunday morning, breakfast is served at the inn and we'll meet for a final wrap-up session at 10:30, after which you're free to visit the spa, continue to explore the Cape, or begin your journey home.



Frequently Asked Questions

Is it really worth it, to just do a weekend?

Yes! You can get a lot done in two or three days. And the focus you have in a quiet place will let you work out thorny issues like plot pacing, a conclusion, point of view, or any other sticking point that has kept you from progressing, so you can keep chipping away at it when you get back home.

What will I get from the novel-writing workshop?

You will absolutely get renewed energy to carry your novel to its conclusion, no small gift. You will have the opportunity to work with other novelists who can give you a new perspective on your work, and to learn about writing the novel. Individual consultation may range from syntax problems to suggestions for publication possibilities. And you'll get some writing done!

Is every moment scheduled?

Not at all. In fact, part of the workshop experience is taking breaks: that's why we hold it here on Cape Cod! A significant part of writing involves thinking and daydreaming, and we think there's no better place to do that.

What about food?

Breakfast is provided along with your room, and there will be wine and cheese in the early evenings on Friday and Saturday. If you'd like to snack during the day, you can purchase food locally or bring something along with you. We'll be providing lists of restaurants in the area for lunch and dinner choices, which are on your own.

Workshop Rules

1) Set goals and share them

You need to come to the retreat with some goals. They can range from “finish outlining chapter nine” to “figure out who killed Fred” to “decide if I want to use the first or third-person narrative.” In the questionnaire we’ll send you after you register, you’ll be telling everybody a little about what you’re working on, so the rest of the workshop participants can be as supportive of each other’s goals as possible.

2) Keep communication lines open

During the workshop, check in with the facilitator at least once in the morning and once in the evening to make sure you’re doing all right, to bring up any problems, clarify goals again if need be, etc.

3) Pick a spot to work

It doesn’t have to be the same place every day, but you need space that you consider yours. For some of you, that will be your bedroom. For others, one of the inn’s common rooms. Still others may be hardy enough to go outside, or even to a local coffee shop. Just remember to try and respect others’ work areas. Writers need mental, physical, and emotional space when working, and you and everyone else will write better if you can create such separate work zones.

4) Set and respect work time

If there’s “writing time” between 10 and noon, please don’t interrupt other participants or play music. If you can’t focus, go for a walk, head to a bedroom and read, but respect work time.

5) Relax!

Working is the focus of this experience, but relaxing has to be part of it also. Take advantage of the spa at the inn. Go for walks on the beach. We'll have wine and cheese available in the evenings for social time together. You can work a long day and be very productive if you take time out to rest and refuel your body—and your muse.

6) Food is on your own

The focus of this writing retreat is writing, but you may want the occasional snack; bring that with you (or you can go shopping on the Cape: we do have one or two markets open year-round!) We have a list of local restaurants so you can relax and let someone else do the prep and clean up. Go out to meals with other participants and you can talk about what you've written!

Workshop Facilitator

Jeannette de Beauvoir is an award-winning novelist, poet, and playwright who lives and writes on the Cape. Her work has been published in 15 countries and has been translated into 12 languages. More at www.JeannetteAuthor.com

She is the founder and owner of Customline Wordware, through which she has worked with countless writers to find their voice and their style. She has worked with authors to obtain representation and offers critiques that help new writers develop storylines and seasoned authors create even more effective material.



Application form

You may either print this form, fill it out, and mail it to us at PO Box 484, North Truro MA 02652, or scan it and email it to jeannette@customline.com. We require a \$75 deposit (nonrefundable after December 20th) to hold your place in the retreat; please pay the deposit to the inn when you make your reservation there.

- 1) Name:
- 2) Email address:
- 3) Telephone number:
- 4) Address:
- 5) Area(s) of interest:
- 6) Experience / successes:
- 7) Challenges:
- 8) Why do you want to come here this weekend?

Visit Penny House Inn's site at <http://www.pennyhouseinn.com> to choose your room and make your reservation. Special rates are available to participants, so be sure to tell them you're attending the novel-writing workshop!

Once you've registered, we'll send you a more detailed questionnaire to fill out and return along with the material that's to be workshopped. Thank you!