

YES, YOU ARE A WRITER!

5 HABITS THAT MAKE YOU A WRITER...

EVEN IF YOU'VE NEVER WRITTEN A
BOOK.



YOU'RE A WRITER IF...

1.

You journal...

Whether you write by hand in a leather-bound journal, you blog, or you jot down random thoughts on your computer, the act of reflecting and recording your thoughts makes you a writer. Many memoirs were inspired by journals!



You email...

2.

Remember when we used to send page-long emails? While those are rare these days, we still depend on email to communicate. There are many types of email, and you might be surprised to learn that email is often a form of storytelling. If you take the time to personally connect with others via email (anything that goes beyond confirming a meeting time), you're a writer!



3.

You share stories on social media...

Whether you use Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, TikTok, or any other social media network, if you take the time to share details and feelings in your posts, you're a writer! Some published authors have actually been discovered via their social posts. Consider social media a form of instant publishing!



You create scrapbooks / photobooks...

4.

You might think of scrapbooking/photobooks as more of a visual art, one that would be considered more crafting, less writing. You would be wrong! These are still a form of storytelling, and whether you include written captions or not, the thought process that goes into creating these mementos is similar to the ones used to create written records. Looking for a writing prompt? Pick up your scrapbook, choose one memory, and let the memory flow onto the page.



ROSEMOUNT

5.

You love to tell stories...

So many stories originated in the oral tradition of storytelling. If you like to provide entertaining conversation at dinner parties or you find people captivated when you relate a particular event, you are a natural storyteller—the essential quality needed for all writers.




ROSEMOUNT

YOU HAVE A STORY IN YOU



Memoir: a story about a particular period of a person's life.

A memoir is penned by the person who experienced the story (or their ghostwriter). It could tell a story of a short time period (days) or it could span decades, depending on the focus.

Memoir is one of the best-selling genres in the publishing industry right now, and readers are hungry for the stories of everyday people.

YOU ARE A WRITER

Here are some tips to pull stories from what you've already written.

Journal



Review previous entries and identify common themes (e.g., love, health, financial) to identify a possible focus for your memoir.

NEXT STEP: Compile a document with just those specific entries & start to create a narrative around it.

Email



Start by picking one person you frequently email personal stories.

NEXT STEP: Print all of those off or copy/paste them into a separate document. Look for areas of your life you shared the most and see if those stories can become its own story (e.g., processing divorce, a memorable trip).

Social Media



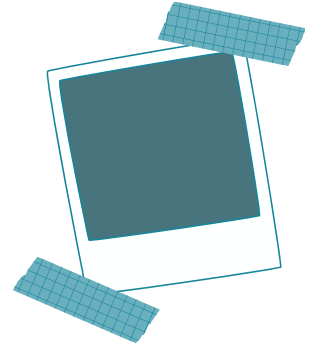
Identify posts with the most comments/engagement. What type of comments are people making? Do they want more information?

NEXT STEP: See if there is a common theme for the posts that resonate most (e.g., personal win, grief). Use the post as a Table of Contents for your draft.

Choose a specific scrapbook or photobook that chronicles a moment in time that you'd like to write about.

NEXT STEP: If you write captions for your photos, start by copying/pasting those captions into a separate document. This can form your timeline for your story's draft. If you use all visuals, open a blank page and create a basic timeline by looking at the items you included (e.g., a theatre program, a train ticket).

Scrapbook or Photobook



The first step is becoming aware that you are a storyteller. Once you realize you can capture people's attention, you can begin your journey to turning those oral stories into written ones.

NEXT STEP: Depends on your memory! If you can, write down a story you've previously told at a party or gathering. If you need help with details, you can bring a recording device with you to your next social but only if it'll allow you to remain natural.

Storyteller



If you write, you are a writer.



Writing can sometimes feel like an overwhelming and isolating process, but I'm here to tell you:

You're not alone!

I offer the following memoir coaching and editing services:

1:1 Coaching
Professional Editing Services
Memoir Writing Class

Consider me your guide along the writing journey.
Please reach out or visit my website for more resources and details on my services.

I value: Honesty, Trust, Dependability, Authenticity, & Connection

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“Christine is the editor, collaborator and friend we all dream of having in our lives. During my initial conversation with Christine, I knew immediately that I could trust her with my imagination and manuscript. Through her detailed structural edit, Christine has driven my creativity and writing competence to its highest capability and has given me the confidence to continue my dream of being a published author.

—Stephanie Hynes, Writer, Toronto, ON