

## Notes received about Write in the Garden summer one-day writing workshops

You have a special gift for creating a safe learning environment and for supporting all our efforts. You seem to have this endless well of positive things to say without ever passing judgment. It was a joy to be there with you and the others. Your garden is magical and you created a magical day for me.

Ann

Thank you for providing such a rewarding experience. It's the middle of the night, and I am going to type up some of my stories and notes.

Kelsey

The wonderful writing workshop was just what I needed to get started writing again after this horrible winter. I needed to have a concrete topic and time slot. I especially liked the tray of treasures. What I came up with was completely unexpected and uncharacteristic. The variety of exercises was good. It was very interesting to hear everyone's completely different take on the same topic.

Pat

I was thrilled with the whole day, even though I felt a little intimidated by the caliber of the writers attending. However, you made me feel that I was in a safe place and therefore able to participate. I thoroughly enjoyed myself and look forward to future opportunities. This venue was good for me creatively, and I found the format to be extremely well organized and polished. I don't think there is anything you could have done better.

Kathryn

Yesterday was like a one-week holiday. I was lost in the collective creativity of everyone there. It was magic in the city. I have four or five beginning stories that have come out of it.

Brad

It was the most connected and grounded I have felt for MONTHS, and in a group of many strangers, that is a miracle. It refreshed my faith in writing as a love of mine, and something that makes me feel whole, no mean feat. I also met some new people with whom I really clicked.

Bronwen

I gained so much from your seminar, I could not begin to explain. I would like my partner Glenn to take your next garden workshop, I know he would equally gain from the experience. I would not attend the one he does as I am sure it would work better that way.

Unfortunately we have family coming from England and cannot make the August workshop. If you have one in September one of us will be there.

Charlotte

I saw a posting today at the YMCA for the 'Write in the Garden' workshop on August 24 and would like to register if there is room. I have no writing experience, just a desire to learn.

I overheard a conversation between 2 women at the Y over a year ago.

One told the other what an amazing teacher you are and how the other should sign up for a writing course you taught at Ryerson.

I was so impressed by this that I wrote down your name and carried it around with me for many months, thinking I might take the advice myself. I never did. So I was delighted to see the posting today.

Maureen