

Piece #4 Pre-Writing

Add to the categories below. Take ideas from the lists if you want.

Bad/good first lines to stories:

- “Hey I think this dropped out of your nose.”
- I can’t believe I did it.
- “Oh god his head just exploded”
- I think I’m being watched when I look in the mirror.
- A ship drifted into port today, all the crew were missing.
- “How interesting, Rome just conquered the rest of the world”
- They were angry. Someone had pissed off the gods.
- Harry took my hand, “Tessa, just wait.”
- Niall looked at me without a care in the world...
- It was finished. The bag of chips was empty.
- “I heard some interesting news last night.”
- The morning he left was so cold, I forgot it was May
- “Are you sure OSHA is ok with this?”
- “Here, hold my beer.”
- The casket thumped as the bear shoved it.
- As I fell down the rabbit hole
- This was my last straw
- Your my mom
- “I’m not sure if i’m ready...”
- My first memory wasn't from when I was a kid.
- I could have died.
- And then we jumped.
- “I thought I would never see him again”
- “The lion had been watching me this entire time”
- “This feels like a bad decision”
- A love letter?
- Forever is a long time unless you’re me

Titles for stories/narratives:

- DJ Don Quixote
- Calling the Collapse of the Universe
- Am I my Brother’s Keeper?
- Nobody Asked You.
- The Beauty of Explosions
- That Burning Feeling
- It’s Just Called Two Brothers

- They're Here
- Laters Baby
- I hate the smell of blood
- There is no 'you' in destiny
- 30 Feet Too Deep
- Dead Angel
- Let's try that again
- Brainless insight
- Small fry
- Gimme a minute
- Go Away
- Where did that clock go?
- Vampires and menstruation
- Algebra- The Destruction of Earth
- Jeffery
- Sing for Absolution
- I Had the World

Phases people go through:

- A big crush
- Adjusting to a new school
- Moving to a new place
- Idolizing a certain musician or group
- 'What am I doing' with my life
- Hormonal teenage phase
- Anime :/
- Any sort of addiction
- Having morals proven wrong
- 1D Phase
- Being emo
- Bad Haircut :(
- Disney
- Job Interview/ New Job
- Doing charity work
- Changing religions
- Being Obsessed over one item or place
- Heterosexuality
- Puberty
- Depressive episodes
- Insecurity

Common problems—perhaps with a twist:

- Stuck in traffic—on the way to a funeral
- Lost in a city—after committing a crime
- In Nigeria, no money, broken left pinky.
- Can't sleep--Because of what's in the closet
- chest pain--Because I was shot
- No money--finding a bag of cash with a gun tucked in the pocket
- Deeply rooted chest pain--because I was shot
- Your phone cracked as you fell out of a wagon
- Being clumsy--as a tightrope walker
- Spilled coffee- on an ancient document
- Making memes - but you live in the EU
- Forgetting your lines - while delivering a eulogy
- Not enough money for rent
- Love one passes away
- Family forces you to attend a funeral - it's yours
- Hot coffee instead of iced (please get my order right people it's not hard)
- Having little to no gas--during an evacuation of the city
- Long cashier line- trying to buy a gun
- The food is too spicy- it's poisoned

Common—yet powerful--human experiences:

- A baby born
- First Love
- Divorce
- Graduation
- Rejection
- Death of a close friend or family member
- Heartbreak
- Seeing a loved one after a long separation
- Wanting to enact revenge
- Denying painful/traumatic memories
- Dinner time

- Getting your license
- Moving away from home
- Dying and coming back to life
- Discovering sexual identity
- Losing weight
- Therapy
- Self-love
- Bullying
- Weddings

Stories that people could analyze:

- ["Masque of the Red Death"](#)
- ["Death and Compass"](#)
- "Exile"
- "Azathoth"
- "Pretty Girl-13"
- "Touching Spirit Bear"
- "Breathe: A Ghost Story"

Stories that people should read for inspiration:

- ["The Bet"](#)
- ["All the King's Horses"](#)
- ["The Ones Who Walk Away From Omelas"](#)
- "The Dunwich Horror"
- "The Egg"
- "Exile"
- "Who Goes There?"
- ["The Devil's Dictionary"](#)
- "None of the Above"
- "Tell Me Again How a Crush Should Feel"

Funny, interesting or memorable stories from your life:

- A tearful good-bye in France
- Dave's Story—when he got sick
- Kerry and the Donkey
- RIP Knees
- Story of the afterlife
- The times I injured my head
- The Infamous Mr. Pebble
- Going back to Ukraine to see where I'm from (Україна - назавжди!)

- The conveyor walkway at the Pittsburgh International Airport