

## ChatGPT Prompts I've Used for my Explorations – March, 2024

Write a playful children's story about an egret with no regrets

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Write a piece with the style and tone of these opening sentences: The thing I'm most concerned about is affordable housing for billionaires. Many of them do not have a regular paycheck. They subsist month to month on passive income that flows into their bank accounts like the Niagara River after a heavy rainfall. Many of them have no idea where their next \$100 million is going to come from.

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write a story about a cantaloupe that can't elope. The cantaloupe is deeply in love with a watermelon, but it has too many ties and tendrils to its siblings and family. The watermelon urges the cantaloupe to "Climb on back, we're gonna bust out of this town." Sprinkle Bruce Springsteen's lyrics throughout this story. At the end of the story, the watermelon says, "You're a sweet thing, but I'm going to make fruit salad with someone else."

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Write a story about an elderly widower whose wife passed away 20 years ago. He derives joy from visiting the public library and loves sitting on his favorite couch. His current challenge is that his Saturdays are rather lonely. Not being able to drive safely any more, some library staffers pick him up and drop him off. He still feels lonely, though, and is looking for a purpose in his life.

He previously loved playing the piano, so one of the library staffers suggest he practices a few pieces and give a piano recital at the library. He is hesitant at first, not wanting the pressure of a public performance. The library staffer suggests that he give a small concert just for library staff, after hours at the library. He agrees to this.

Over the next few months he practices a few piano pieces and develops greater confidence in giving a private piano recital. As the time approaches for his piano recital, he develops greater hesitancy. Then, a library staffer contacts him and says that a refugee family of musicians has moved to town and they love the piano. The library staffer asks the widower if this refugee family could join as an audience for his recital. He agrees to that and finds new strength and confidence to put on the performance.

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write a story about a lemming who advocates for greater critical thinking skills. when other lemmings ask where they can gain such skills, the lemming advocate explains that critical thinking skills can be developed at a public library. the other lemmings ask, "yes, but where should we start learning critical thinking skills?" the advocate lemming explains, "start with Thoreau's Walden, which will give you a

grounding in thinking for yourself." the lemmings are so thrilled at gaining this knowledge that the clap in non-unison.

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Write a story about a talented artist who loves sketching. Her sketches sold for hundreds of dollars at art exhibits around town. One day, when she was driving through a highway toll booth, she realized she had no money on her. She spotted one of her sketches sitting on the passenger side seat -- and grabbed it to hand to the toll keeper for the \$2.50 toll. Then she remembered she had \$5 in her glove compartment and passed that along to the toll keeper, too. From that day onwards, whenever she drove through a toll station, she would hand one of her sketches to the toll keeper. Her husband could not understand it and asked her, "Why are you handing hundreds of dollars of art to the toll keepers each day." She answered, "They deserve to have art in their lives. And one of them might have a child or friend who wants to take up sketching. Besides, I can easily make more sketches. I have an infinite number of sketches inside of me -- so why not share the bounty?"

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write a story about an impetuous impala that meets a modest monk who helps him settle down and make decisions more carefully and wisely. in the advice the monk gives the impala, include Buddhist wisdom and aphorisms.

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Write a story in the theme of The Old Man and the Sea, about a young tech worker and his old lost sock. The tech worker goes looking for his lost sock and finds it behind his couch. He pulls on the sock, but the sock fights back. A struggle ensues that last more than two days, with the sock being reeled in and then let out. The tech worker becomes exhausted, but doesn't give up. Eventually, the sock gets reeled in, but there are just a few threads remaining on the sock. The sock struggle has taken everything out of the young tech worker. He collapses exhausted in the middle of his living room, while an old Cuban fisherman saunters by on the street.

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write a version of the story charlotte's web, but with the central characters of a giraffe (instead of spider) and hyena (instead of pig)

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Some bonus ChatGPT prompts

write a play set in 1450 where public library workers are advocating vigorously for purchasing faster fountain pens rather than purchasing a guttenberg press. in this play, there should be no characters advocating for the guttenberg press.

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write a story about an ordinary taxpayer who is petrified that the IRS is going to garnish one of his entrees. in this story, mention several different kinds of garnish. also, describe some of the taxpayer's other culinary fears.

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write a story about a lion cub that wants to become vegan. within this story, explain the many benefits of a vegan diet.

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write a story with the same theme as les misérables, set in contemporary silicon valley

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write me a story about a birch tree that wants to be a pine tree. the mood of the story should be very sappy.

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write a science fiction story where every legislator is a librarian, explaining why this is a good idea.

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write a story in the style of moby dick, but about a great white mosquito

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Stories located on the web at

<http://philshapirochatgptexplorations.blogspot.com>

Phil Shapiro

[pshapiro@his.com](mailto:pshapiro@his.com)

<https://www.youtube.com/user/pshapiro>

