



**GRAND
LAKE
RETREAT**

JULY 7–12, 2019



LIGHTHOUSE
WRITERS WORKSHOP



Join Lighthouse Writers Workshop in the scenic mountain town of Grand Lake, Colorado, to immerse yourself in writing, reading, and creative discovery with a community of like-minded writers.

Each day you're invited to attend workshops and activities, sit in on craft talks, and share your work at fireside readings, all with the goal of inspiring new ideas, new writing, and new ways of seeing.



OUR RETREAT PHILOSOPHY

In the 20 years of our Grand Lake Retreat, we've come to admire what "getting away" has to offer: a chance to focus solely on pursuits that feed our lives as writers and readers, as creative people. We also appreciate the ways in which a majestic natural landscape allows the mind freedom to wander and discover, as well as connect to sensation—an integral part of good writing, no matter what genre.

The retreat is structured to allow for extensive engagement with craft. Our dynamic courses invite a great deal of collaboration and dialogue, opportunities for sharing, and guided—or unguided—writing time. We also build in free time to allow for hikes, bike rides, yoga, journaling, and wandering through the town of Grand Lake. We value socializing, too, hanging out with other writers of various backgrounds and interests, away from the constraints and responsibilities of our everyday lives. Because sometimes what a writer needs most is other writers.

We hope you'll join us in this most inspiring place and find a little creative breathing room of your own.

ABOUT LIGHTHOUSE

Lighthouse Writers Workshop is Colorado's nonprofit literary arts center whose mission is to ensure literature maintains its proper prominence in the culture and individuals achieve their fullest potential as artists and human beings. For over 20 years, Lighthouse has offered award-winning writing workshops, author events, and community engagement programs to people of all ages and backgrounds in Denver and beyond. For more information, visit lighthousewriters.org.

INSTRUCTOR BIOS

Serena Chopra is the author of two full-length books of poems, *This Human and I*, as well as two chapbooks, *Penumbra* and *Livid Season*. A featured artist in *Harper's Bazaar*, *India* and a Fulbright Scholar, she is a multidisciplinary artist, working as a modern dancer, writer, visual and performance artist, filmmaker, and soundscape designer. Serena currently teaches in Naropa University's Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics and in the Performance Studies Department.

Andrea Dupree serves as program director for Lighthouse and teaches fiction there and at the University of Denver. Her short stories have appeared in *Ploughshares*, *The Virginia Quarterly Review*, *Colorado Review*, *The Normal School*, and elsewhere. In 2015, one of her stories received special mention in *Best American Short Stories*. She was recently honored with her second MacDowell Fellowship in fiction, which she used to work on her novel-in-progress.

Michael Henry is co-founder and executive director at Lighthouse, where he teaches poetry and memoir. His work has appeared in *5280 Magazine*, *Georgetown Review*, *Threepenny Review*, *Mountain Gazette*, and *Rio Grande Review*. He's also the author of two collections of poetry, *No Stranger Than My Own* and *Active Gods*, as well as a chapbook, *Intersection*. In 2017, he was awarded a Livingston Fellowship from the Bonfils-Stanton Foundation.

Erika Krouse is the author of two books of fiction: *Contenders* (novel) and *Come Up and See Me Sometime* (short stories). Two new books are forthcoming from Flatiron Books: *Tell Me Everything: Memoir of a Private Eye* and *Save Me: stories*. Erika's fiction has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, *Ploughshares*, and *One Story*. A Beacon Award winner, Erika is also a faculty mentor for the Lighthouse Book Project.

Karen Palmer is the author of the novels *All Saints*, *Border Dogs*, and *Flight* (forthcoming for young adults). She is a Pushcart Prize winner and the recipient of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the MacDowell Colony. Her work has appeared in *The Best American Essays 2017*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *The Kenyon Review*, *The Rumpus*, *Five Points*, *The James Franco Review*, and *The Manifest-Station*. Karen lives in Los Angeles and has taught at Lighthouse since 2004.

Amanda Rea's stories and essays have appeared in *Harper's*, *Best American Mystery Stories*, *One Story*, *American Short Fiction*, *Freeman's*, *The Missouri Review*, *The Kenyon Review*, *The Sun*, *Electric Literature's Recommended Reading*, *Indiana Review*, *Iowa Review*, *New South*, *Lit Hub*, and elsewhere. She is recipient of a Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers Award, a Pushcart Prize, the William Peden Prize, and is shortlisted for *Best American Short Stories*.

ABCDE



WORKSHOPS

Each morning, we invite you to start the day with a choice of two engaging workshops. These classes are focused on generating fresh work and rethinking integral elements of craft. They offer a combination of writing exercises and discussion on specific topics. Because of this focus, there are no formal writing critiques.

Creative Intentions: Compiling a Plan for Grand Lake and Beyond

Led by Andrea Dupree

Whether you're coming to Grand Lake to work on a sonnet cycle, a gargantuan work of metafiction-slash-memoir, or you're showing up with a case of pens, two blank notebooks, and high hopes, this workshop will help you rough out a plan for the week. In this class, we'll start by asking: What is the wellspring from which we draw our most powerful fiction, nonfiction, and poetry? From there, we'll brainstorm and hypothesize, do some digging. We'll leave with a list of projects to tackle, scenes to write, moments to capture, and ghosts to exhume during the week in Grand Lake and beyond.

Hike and Write

Led by Michael Henry

A yearly tradition! Take a gentle hike up the North Inlet Trail, enter Rocky Mountain National Park, and write something beautiful. Michael will guide you, protect you from marmots, and provide some inspirational writing prompts to help you bring the wildness of life, and a sharp focus on detail, onto the page.

Beg, Borrow, or Steal: The Art of Literary Thievery

Led by Andrea Dupree

Literary imitation can be misinterpreted as a crutch or failure of the imagination, when in reality all writers are influenced by the things they've read, the stories they've heard, and the writers and artists who inspired them to create in the first place. In this workshop, we'll practice the art of literary thievery (not plagiarism) to sharpen, improve, liberate, and refine our own writing.



Using Narrative Rhyme and Echo

Led by Amanda Rea

As writers, we instinctively create patterns in our work. The question is whether we're going to guide them to symmetry and significance. In this workshop, we'll refer to Charles Baxter's essay "Rhyming Action" and the work of Nobel Prize-winning writer Alice Munro (among others) to examine narrative echo, dramatic repetition, visual rhymes, and other internal structures that can help create meaning in our work. Participants should bring a draft or chapter of a work in progress.

Fight! Fight! Fight!

Led by Karen Palmer

Conflict is a seed stuck in the tooth, a lie stuck in the craw, a crop failed, a job lost, love betrayed. Our writing lives in moments where risk escalates and a character's awareness turns. How we fight exposes who we are. In this workshop, through readings and exercises, we'll look at how to create scenes that vibrate with believable conflict—those places where people really have it out—using meaningful action, dialogue, and interiority.



"Spending a week amid a community of writers truly restored my spirit, imagination, and commitment to my creative work. So many elements combined to make the retreat the true highlight of my year so far: a beautiful, natural setting; an insightful, accessible, and caring faculty; a supportive, hilarious, and brilliant bunch of people; morning hikes; afternoon rains; chipmunks; chocolate cake; stomachaches caused by laughter."

- Laura Bond

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WORKSHOPS (Continued)

How You Sound

Led by **Serena Chopra**

Understanding language, and specifically the poem, as a kind of anatomy, we'll investigate the work and impact of sound and rhythm on the whole expressive system. Observing how different writers utilize sound, we'll identify sonic and rhythmic patterns and their effects on a composition's significance and its sensuous articulations. We'll then spend time working with sonic and rhythmic concepts through in-class writing and discussion, discovering modes of effectively "choreographing" sound and rhythm in language. Though we'll learn the concepts mainly through poetry, writers of all genres have much to gain from focusing on sound.

How to Tell a Great Story: the Narrative Arc

Led by **Erika Krouse**

Are you wondering what this Freytag business is all about? Or do you just want to kill it at your next dinner party? In this class, we'll cover the major elements of the narrative arc (exposition, inciting incident, rising action, crisis, climax, falling action, and resolution), using Plato's Allegory of the Cave as our teaching narrative. We'll also investigate what makes stories great, and sometimes even life-changing.

Bored, Waiting for the Bus: Finding the Profound in the Pedestrian

Led by **Michael Henry**

In the best writing, the most powerful moments aren't in the high drama but in the everyday. The reaction between boredom and creativity often helps us find meaning in the mundane, the familiar, the human. In this workshop, we'll explore examples from all genres which expand into the daily, the often ignored, and then experiment with ways to find the profoundly beautiful, or profoundly surprising elements of who and where we are.



CRAFT TALKS

After lunch, we'll gather each afternoon to hear from our Grand Lake instructors on a variety of topics. Meant to engage and inspire, these craft talks will consist of a 45-minute lecture followed by a Q&A session. Each talk centers on a book or text, although many will incorporate other readings as well and, while we do encourage it, you need not read the recommended book in order to participate.

The Summer Book

Led by Amanda Rea

In the seclusion of the mountains, let's take a look at Tove Jansson's dreamy island novel *The Summer Book*. Written in 1972, the book follows a little girl and her grandmother over a series of summers on a remote Finnish island. Praised for its poetic understatement, dry humor, and deep love for nature, the book has a lot to teach us about imagery, clarity of prose, perspective, and plot (or Jansson's fundamental disregard of it). **Recommended Reading:** *The Summer Book*, by Tove Jansson

The Human Heart

Led by Karen Palmer

In Tayari Jones's brilliant novel, *An American Marriage*, three first-person narrators each possess (as William Faulkner famously said) "a human heart in conflict with itself." The plot: A young African-American couple is separated by the criminal justice system, the husband falsely accused of a crime, and an old friend steps in to fill the void. Tensions built into this situation—physical, emotional, and sociological—play out over five years, culminating in the husband's release from prison and return home. In a series of powerful final scenes, the characters are laid bare, revealed for who they truly are. Jones layers concentric circles of conflict throughout, the wider world informing the secrets of each human heart, yet nothing ever feels shoehorned in to make a point. Together, let's figure out how she did it. **Recommended Reading:** *An American Marriage*, by Tayari Jones

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CRAFT TALKS (Continued)

Writers Watch Movies: All the President's Men

Led by **Erika Krouse**

Let's go back to a more innocent time, when all we had to worry about was the President illegally bugging political opponents' offices. This Academy Award-winning Watergate film, co-starring Dustin Hoffman and Robert Redford, is a one-of-a-kind study in narrative technique. We'll watch clips demonstrating storytelling elements such as plot, dialogue, sound, perspective, characterization, setting, and editing, and we'll study the careful machinery that makes this film work so beautifully. We'll watch clips and discuss from 4:30 to 5:30 PM and then screen the whole film uninterrupted after dinner. Popcorn provided.

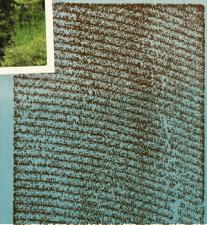
Poetic Constellations: Desire, Imagination, and Kinetic Energy in the Poetic Field

Led by **Serena Chopra**

This talk will integrate the poetics of Federico García Lorca, HD, Charles Olson, Denise Levertov, Barbara Guest, and Lyn Hejinian towards an articulation of poetic constellations, wherein the writer approaches the text with imagination and desire, translating the kinetic energy of that encounter to the reader. Poetic Constellation stresses the importance of clearing space for the reader's imagination and desire, privileging the poem as an unfixed and evolving conversation. We'll consider writing beyond its practical and technical concerns, emphasizing the importance of creative forces and visionary alchemies in composition. All writers looking to explore creative composition, regardless of genre, are welcome. **A PDF of recommended texts can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/y3hybxrm>**

Farewell

During our last hour together, participants and instructors will all gather to consolidate our thoughts from the weekend, say so long to good friends, and get a group photo on The Point.





Lodging

Shadowcliff Lodge, our retreat site, borders Rocky Mountain National Park and the roaring North Inlet Stream. It's perched on a cliff overlooking Grand Lake Village and the Colorado Great Lakes area. The food at the lodge is homemade and delicious, and the rooms all have spectacular views. Participants share a room with one or two other writers (the rooms can sleep six comfortably). The number at Shadowcliff is 970.627.9220; their website is shadowcliff.org.

PLEASE NOTE: Shadowcliff is a rustic mountain lodge; that's why the room prices are so reasonable. Think shared bathrooms and periodic shared meal setup/cleanup responsibilities. It's all part of the camaraderie and charm that Shadowcliff has to offer. We keep coming back every summer for one reason: we love the place.

Of course, you might prefer other nearby lodging options: We recommend the Rapids Lodge, just down the hill from Shadowcliff. Phone: 970.627.3707. Web: rapidslodge.com.

For more options, check out the Chamber of Commerce website: grandlakechamber.com.

RETREAT COSTS

FOR THE WORKSHOPS: On or before May 31 = \$500

After May 31 = \$550 (Lighthouse membership is required to reserve a space; standard membership is \$60 for one year.)

STAYING AT SHADOWCLIFF: We have double shared rooms available at \$525 per person, for the week, and single rooms available for \$700. There are two triple rooms available at \$450. All meals are included in the cost.

Not staying at Shadowcliff, but want to eat your meals with us? For the week, the cost for all meals is \$210. (Single meals may be purchased directly through Shadowcliff.)

Payment plans are available. Please call us at 303.297.1185 to arrange.

CANCELLATION POLICY: If you need to cancel your reservation for any reason, the following applies:
\$50 cancellation fee if you cancel on or before June 1.

\$200 cancellation fee after June 1.

No refunds available for any cancellations after July 1. All cancellations at this point are responsible for the full cost of workshops and room and board.

To register, please visit lighthousewriters.org or call 303.297.1185.

SCHEDULE

	SUNDAY, JULY 7	MONDAY, JULY 8	TUESDAY, JULY 9	WEDNESDAY, JULY 10	THURSDAY, JULY 11	FRIDAY, JULY 12
<p>MORNING WORKSHOPS</p> <p>9:00 AM - to - 11:30 AM</p>	<p>CHECK IN</p> <p>3:00 PM - to - 6:00 PM</p>	<p>Creative Intentions (Dupree) CHAPEL</p> <p>Hike and Write (Henry) MEET IN REMPEL LODGE</p>	<p>Using Narrative Rhyme and Echo (Rea) CHAPEL</p> <p>Beg, Borrow, or Steal (Dupree) CLIFFSIDE</p>	<p>Fight, Fight, Fight (Palmer) CHAPEL</p> <p>How You Sound (Chopra) CLIFFSIDE</p>	<p>How to Tell a Great Story (Krouse) CHAPEL</p> <p>Bored, Waiting for the Bus (Henry) CLIFFSIDE</p>	<p>Farewell (Grand Lake instructors and participants) CHAPEL</p> <p>*9:00 to 10:00 AM</p>
<p>AFTERNOON CRAFT TALKS</p> <p>3:00 PM - to - 4:30 PM</p>		<p>RECEPTION & READING</p> <p>7:30 PM - to - 9:00 PM</p>	<p>The Summer Book (Rea) CHAPEL</p>	<p>The Human Heart (Palmer) CHAPEL</p>	<p>Writers Watch Movies (Krouse) CHAPEL</p> <p>Craft Talk: 4:30 to 5:30 PM, full viewing after dinner</p>	<p>Poetic Constellations (Chopra) CHAPEL</p>

UNLESS NOTED ABOVE, READINGS WILL BE HELD NIGHTLY IN THE CHAPEL, 7:30 TO 8:30 PM. PLEASE NOTE: COURSE SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Join us for a week of writing, workshops, and engaging conversation in the inspiring high country of Colorado!



Limited to 40 participants.
Spots fill fast, so register now!

Call 303-297-1185,
or visit: lighthousewriters.org.



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WRITERS WORKSHOP

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