



**GRAND  
LAKE  
RETREAT**

**JULY 10–15, 2022**



**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 more than 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 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

The mission of Lighthouse Writers Workshop is to provide the highest caliber of artistic education, support, and community for writers and readers in the Rocky Mountain Region and beyond. We strive to ensure that literature maintains its proper prominence in the culture, and that individuals achieve their fullest potential as artists and human beings.

## INSTRUCTOR BIOS

**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. She's been honored with two fellowships from MacDowell, several Pushcart nominations, and a distinguished mention in *Best American Short Stories*.

**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. A book of his nonfiction, *Over the Mountains There Are More Mountains: Bikepacking the Colorado Trail*, is forthcoming from Bower House press in early 2023.

**Erika Krouse's** memoir, *Tell Me Everything: The Story of a Private Investigation*, was published in March 2022 by Flatiron Books, and has been optioned by Playground Entertainment for TV adaptation. Erika is also the author of *Contenders* (novel), and *Come Up and See Me Sometime* (short 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.

**Juan J. Morales** is the son of an Ecuadorian mother and Puerto Rican father. He is the author of three poetry collections, including *The Handyman's Guide to End Times*, winner of the 2019 International Latino Book Award. Recent poems have appeared in *Crazyhorse*, *The Laurel Review*, *Breakbeats Vol. 4 LatiNEXT*, *Acentos Review*, *Collateral*, *terrain.org*, *Pank*, and *Poetry*. He is a CantoMundo Fellow, a Macondo Fellow, the editor/publisher of Pilgrimage Press, and Professor of English and the Associate Dean of the College of Humanities Arts & Social Sciences at Colorado State University-Pueblo.

**Karen Palmer** is the author of the novels *All Saints* and *Border Dogs*. She is a Pushcart Prize winner and the recipient of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Colorado Council on the Arts, Yaddo, and the MacDowell Colony. Her work has appeared in *Best American Essays 2017*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *The Kenyon Review*, *The Rumpus*, *Five Points*, *The James Franco Review*, *Arts & Letters*, 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*, *Lit Hub*, and elsewhere. She is recipient of a Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers Award, a Pushcart Prize, and the William Peden Prize.

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## 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.

### Revision Clinic: Digging for Life

Led by Andrea Dupree

Whatever genre we write, we want our work to be alive on the page. In many ways the “life” of a work is subjective, but the most important pulse to be quickened should probably be our own. This generative workshop will take multiple approaches to detecting the heat in our work, and then using that heat detector to help us revise and develop our work. Each writer should bring a draft of something that feels stuck or depleted of energy to work on.



### 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.

### Story Engine

Led by Andrea Dupree

For our narratives to work, they need to have their own propulsive elements—but those elements need not be the same for each work. We'll discuss some fiction and nonfiction that are propelled by plot, by ideas, by emotion, and the combinations of each. Then we'll try out some techniques for drafting our own new essays and stories.

## Find Your People: Speed-dating for Writers

Led by Karen Palmer

All writers need readers, but not all readers will be right for you. Artistic sensibility, familiarity with your genre, patience, honesty, openness, and honorable intent all make for an excellent writing friend. Sometimes, however, the least likely people turn out to be the most helpful. In this workshop, we'll brainstorm various creative conundrums, then do some in-class speed-dating (it will be fun, we promise!), working through a series of questions. Mutual discovery will help clarify what you value most in "your people."

## Stop Making Sense

Led by Michael Henry

They say a sentence is a complete thought, but what if some of the most interesting writing comes from fragments, notes, word-sound patterns, and odd juxtapositions? What if, by not trying to make sense, we end up approaching a deeper level of meaning, emotion, and connection? We'll try several exercises that don't make sense, creating, locating, and uncovering those pieces of language that seem to want to coalesce around another, but not in a simple 'this means that' sort of way. Think collaborative exercises, cut-and-shuffle writing, dream journals, nonsense writing, and more. In the time we'll have together we'll write some very weird, interesting, reverberant, and memorable work.



**"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)

### Frankly, My Dear: Writing Antagonistic Relationships

Led by Erika Krouse

Our friends are close, but our enemies are uncomfortably closer, and the protagonist-antagonist relationship is often the most intimate one in a story. For this reason, it's important to tailor the protagonist and antagonist closely to each other, so the torture can begin. In this hands-on, exercise-driven class, we'll craft that antagonistic relationship to hit as many trigger points as possible, creating story-propelling conflict and change.

### Writing at the End of the World

Led by Amanda Rea

It can be difficult, when faced with ecological/economic/epidemiological devastation, to sit down and write. What is the point? What good will it do? How do we tackle such large and annihilating subjects, and what if we're not interested in tackling them at all? In this generative workshop, we'll discuss the value of writing during times of crisis, examine how artists in history have responded to great upheaval, and explore ways of responding meaningfully and originally to the issues we care about.

### Reimagining the Nature Poem

Led by Juan J. Morales

Whenever we're in nature it's challenging to get past the excitement and to articulate the significant connections and wisdom we feel upon seeing a bald eagle nesting in a long dead tree, the dance of a rattler across a dirt road, or the view of glacier lakes below the 14er we just climbed. In this generative workshop, we'll give ourselves time to wander on the page and in the fresh air while we refine how we can use poetic devices to enshrine the unforgettable paths we promise to house in our memories.



## 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.

### ***Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead*** **Led by Amanda Rea**

Called "marvelously weird" by the *New York Times*, Olga Tokarczuk's 2009 novel combines a murder mystery with wry feminist comedy and the poetry of William Blake. (Oh, and there are horoscopes). In this class we'll look at how Tokarczuk gleefully crosses boundaries, creates an unforgettable narrator, and absorbs us in her particular world, applying these lessons to our own work.

**Recommend Reading:** *Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead*, by Olga Tokarczuk (translated by Antonia Lloyd-Jones)

### ***Writers Watch Movies: Hearts of Darkness— A Filmmaker's Apocalypse*** **Led by Erika Krouse**

If you think your writing is a mess, at least you're not Francis Ford Coppola. *Hearts of Darkness* records the fraught making of *Apocalypse Now*: monsoons struck, the star had a heart attack, rebel forces fought ten miles away, they went \$17.5M and six months over budget, and the script still had no ending. In this talk, we'll watch non-spoiler clips demonstrating the creative process, the event horizon of artistic despair, and the obsessive vision that sees us through. After the discussion and dinner, there will be a full screening of this award-winning documentary in the Chapel.

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## CRAFT TALKS (Continued)

### The Poetics of Dreamscapes

Led by **Juan I. Morales**

Dreams have a way of giving us the courage to leap into deep imagery or the surprising turns that make for a good poem (or prose!) and in this talk we'll explore dream writing as a root of contemporary poetry. We'll immerse ourselves in lyrical examples, process, and testimonials to enter the dreamscape, where the poem allows us to channel our ancestors, family, and mentors in guiding us toward breakthroughs in our own writerly voices. Open to writers of all genres.

**Recommended Reading:** A packet of poems will be emailed to participants a few weeks prior to the retreat

### The Intimate Voice

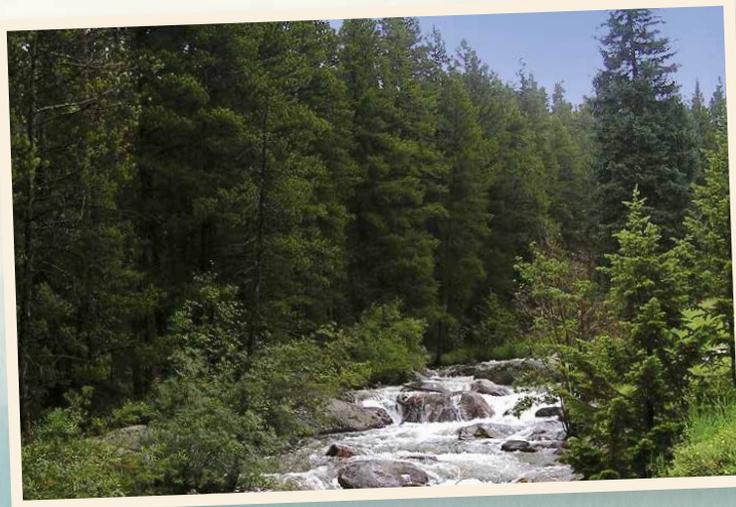
Led by **Karen Palmer**

In Katie Kitamura's 2021 novel *Intimacies*, the unnamed heroine works as an interpreter at the International Criminal Court, translating legal proceedings for the genocidal former head of state of an (also unnamed) African country. The protagonist's job is much like the author's: to be effective, she must be simultaneously precise and invisible. Voice is always crucial in fiction, but the hotter the topic, the more treacherous a writer's choices. Let's examine together how Kitamura develops her story, and how she uses a cool, intimate voice to devastating effect.

**Recommended Reading:** *Intimacies* by Katie Kitamura

### 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](tel:970.627.9220); their website is [shadowcliff.org](http://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](tel:970.627.3707). Web: [rapidslodge.com](http://rapidslodge.com).

For more options, check out the Chamber of Commerce website: [grandlakechamber.com](http://grandlakechamber.com).

## RETREAT COSTS

**Single Rooms:** \$1,500 members/\$1,560 nonmembers

Workshops: \$550 (after May 31: \$600)

Room and board: \$950

**Double Rooms:** \$1,150 members/\$1,210 nonmembers

Workshops: \$550 (after May 31: \$600)

Room and board: \$600

**Meals and Workshops Only:** \$865 member/\$925 nonmembers

Workshops: \$550 (after May 31: \$600)

Daily pass to Shadowcliff: \$75

Meals at Shadowcliff: \$240

**Workshops Only:** \$625 member/\$685 nonmembers

Workshops: \$550 (after May 31: \$600)

Daily pass to Shadowcliff: \$75

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** If you need to cancel your reservation for any reason, the following applies:

- \$100 cancellation fee for cancellations before May 10.
- After May 10, we are unable to refund the cost of room and board, and a \$200 cancellation fee applies.
- After June 10, we are unable to provide any refund or credit. At this point, you are able to donate your space to a writer who wouldn't have otherwise been able to afford it, or seek a replacement.

To register, please visit [lighthousewriters.org](http://lighthousewriters.org) or call [303.297.1185](tel:303.297.1185).

# SCHEDULE

	SUNDAY, JULY 10	MONDAY, JULY 11	TUESDAY, JULY 12	WEDNESDAY, JULY 13	THURSDAY, JULY 14	FRIDAY, JULY 15
<p><b>MORNING WORKSHOPS</b></p> <p>9:00 AM - to - 11:30 AM</p>	<p><b>CHECK IN</b></p> <p>3:00 PM - to - 6:00 PM</p>	<p><b>Revision Clinic</b> (Dupree) CHAPEL</p>	<p><b>Story Engine</b> (Dupree) CHAPEL</p>	<p><b>Stop Making Sense</b> (Henry) REMPEL</p>	<p><b>End of the World</b> (Rea) CHAPEL</p>	<p><b>Farewell</b> (Grand Lake instructors and participants) CHAPEL *9:00 to 10:00 AM</p>
<p><b>AFTERNOON CRAFT TALKS</b></p> <p>3:00 PM - to - 4:30 PM</p>		<p><b>RECEPTION &amp; READING</b></p> <p>7:30 PM - to - 9:00 PM</p>	<p><i>Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead</i> (Rea) CHAPEL</p>	<p><b>Writers Watch Movies</b> (Krouse) CHAPEL Craft Talk: 4:30 to 5:30 PM, full viewing after dinner</p>	<p><b>Poetics of Dreamscapes</b> (Morales) CHAPEL</p>	<p><b>The Intimate Voice</b> (Palmer) 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.



**“The Grand Lake Retreat gave me the opportunity to dig deeper into my writing and to tap into my creative flow. To wake up each morning already warmed up to write and to learn from excellent instructors—this was the best gift I could have given myself. And to spend a week in a beautiful mountain retreat with a supportive community of writers—what more could a writer ask for?”**

**~ Sumi Lee**



**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](http://lighthousewriters.org).



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