

# Prompts, Inspiration and Motivation

**DECEMBER 2021**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
			<p>Tim Vine: "I sit in places like Costa Coffee in Banstead and write rubbish. I need a deadline." Give yourself deadlines. One chapter or number of words or pages.</p>			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<p>Turn on the radio. Write something using the title of the song or a lyric as the theme.</p>			<p>Ron White: "The harder you work as a writer, the better you get at it. It's like anything else. It's a muscle you have to exercise." Get some exercise today!</p>			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<p>Use the words "aardvark," "zymurgy," and "measly" in a poem or short story. You have 10 minutes.</p>			<p>Samuel Johnson: "A man will turn over half a library to make a book." Have you done enough research? Too much? Make sure you don't have an "info dump."</p>			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<p>Think of one of the museums you've visited. Find a photo if you have one of the most intriguing thing you saw there. Write about that object from its point of view.</p>			<p>Anton Chekhov: "Don't tell me the moon is shining; show me the glint of light on broken glass." Do your descriptions create images in readers' minds?</p>			
26	27	28	29	30	31	
<p>Write about a prom date that doesn't go well. Or write about a blind date that seems to be going too well.</p>			<p>F. Scott Fitzgerald: "There's no 'Safety First' in Art." Are you playing it too safe? Find something you've written and rewrite it, taking a bigger risk with it.</p>			

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**JANUARY 2022**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
			<p>F. Scott Fitzgerald: "There's no 'Safety First' in Art." Are you playing it too safe? Find something you've written and rewrite it, taking a bigger risk with it.</p>			
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<p>Write about a place you visited in your travels, but change what happened in one major way.</p>			<p>Stephen King: "The road to hell is paved with adverbs." Go through a manuscript and cut every adverb. Use active verbs instead.</p>			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<p>Write something beginning, "If you look back far enough, you can see..."</p>			<p>Jerzy Kosinski: "Inspiration is the product of an emotionally adventurous life." Get away from your keyboard. Try something out. Live a bit. Now write about it.</p>			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
<p>Write about the best meal you can remember eating. Or write about the best meal your main character remembers eating.</p>			<p>Maya Angelou: "Making a decision to write was a lot like jumping into a frozen lake... If I survived at all, it would be a triumph. If I swam, it would be a miracle." Swim and don't stop!</p>			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
<p>Write about an invitation someone didn't want to send and the receiver didn't want to get – and what happened.</p>			<p>George Carlin: "Have you ever noticed? Anybody going slower than you is an idiot, and anyone going faster than you is a maniac." Write a story about the weirdest thing you've seen on the road.</p>			
30	31					
<p>Write an inscription for a senior yearbook.</p>						

# Prompts, Inspiration and Motivation

## FEBRUARY 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
		Annie Dillard: "One of the few things I know about writing is this: spend it all, shoot it, play it, lose it, all, right away, every time." Are you saving something back? Let it go!				
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Write a poem or story using the letters "FEBRUARY" in that order over and over until the poem or story is done.			Jean Luc Godard: "A story should have a beginning, a middle, and an end... but not necessarily in that order." Have you started in the best place?			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Create a monster with a heart of gold. Put the monster in a situation where no one sees its kind spirit.			Stephen King: "If you don't have the time to read, you don't have the time or the tools to write." What are you reading? How is it helping your writing?			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Write about an overheard conversation.			Antoine de Saint-Exupery: "A rock pile ceases to be a rock pile the moment a single man contemplates it, bearing within him the image of a cathedral." What cathedral is hiding in your rock pile of words?			
27	28					
Two people who hate each other are stuck in an elevator for six hours. Write what happens.						