

## Becoming a Writer

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Becoming a Writer, by Traci Gardner, for Bedford Bits	<a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/crespoluigi/3334034628/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/crespoluigi/3334034628/</a>
I have always wanted to be a writer.	<a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/scottrettberg/1709281/in/photostream/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/scottrettberg/1709281/in/photostream/</a>
But somehow I feel like more of a pretender.	<a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/78764920@N04/7054355671/in/photostream/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/78764920@N04/7054355671/in/photostream/</a>
A writer stares knowingly into the distance, imagining worlds no one else yet sees.	<a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/juliejordanscott/6953692852/in/photostream/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/juliejordanscott/6953692852/in/photostream/</a>
She surrounds herself with the necessary tools, pours a cup of tea, and writes.	Joseph Conrad's writing desk and typewriter <a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/bensutherland/4513141346/in/photostream/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/bensutherland/4513141346/in/photostream/</a>
She pens heavy, well-loved books that inspire conversations.	<a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/breatheindigital/7167144980/in/photostream/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/breatheindigital/7167144980/in/photostream/</a>
She is remembered in monuments.	<a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/nebraskahelen/4295929352/in/photostream/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/nebraskahelen/4295929352/in/photostream/</a>
Her words are displayed on the walls for all to read.	<a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/kylerconk/2312983595/in/photostream/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/kylerconk/2312983595/in/photostream/</a>
Audiences listen to her read her works.	<a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/mikecogh/7294890780/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/mikecogh/7294890780/</a>
People want her autograph.	<a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/randomecho/30601115/in/photostream/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/randomecho/30601115/in/photostream/</a>
She scribbles away in the attic, like Jo from <i>Little Women</i> .	<a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/nostri-imago/5223922465/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/nostri-imago/5223922465/</a>
While I struggle like the daughter in Richard Wilbur's "The Writer"	<a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/seamusmh/3920843962/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/seamusmh/3920843962/</a> The poem: <a href="http://www.poets.org/viewmedia.php/prmMID/15487">http://www.poets.org/viewmedia.php/prmMID/15487</a>
And the symbolic, trapped bird, trying to fly free.	<a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/ladytaz/3198391586/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/ladytaz/3198391586/</a>
Desperate, I search for the instructions to be a real writer.	<a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/angelshupe/2271954048/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/angelshupe/2271954048/</a>
I gather ideas in journals.	<a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/puukibeach/3784412518/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/puukibeach/3784412518/</a>
But nothing ever works.	<a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/42931449@N07/5263540555/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/42931449@N07/5263540555/</a>
Progress is slow.	<a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/guldfisken/2580250041/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/guldfisken/2580250041/</a>
The task is large.	<a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/photoverulam/36138977/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/photoverulam/36138977/</a>
I never seem to get it right.	<a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/nicmcphee/2756494307/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/nicmcphee/2756494307/</a>
But I have to keep trying.	<a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/agfanclub/7510096612/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/agfanclub/7510096612/</a>
That's what makes me a writer.	<a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/anonymouscollective/4263193267/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/anonymouscollective/4263193267/</a>
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