

The Flowers Paradigm

The Writing Process

A Splendid Suggestion ...

■ Betty S. Flowers

- Director, Lyndon B. Johnson Library
- Former Director of creative writing for the English Department at University of Texas, Austin

■ Bryan A. Garner

- *A Dictionary of Modern American Usage*
- *A Dictionary of Modern Legal Usage*

Writing has 4 primary components ...

1. Idea
2. Structure
3. Craft
4. Edit



The Starting Point

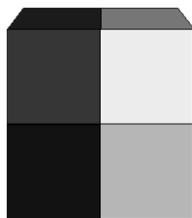
- Topic
- Format
- Purpose
- Audience



The Process

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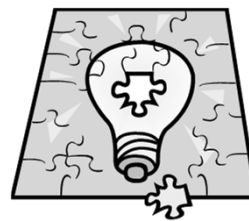
- Madman
- Architect
- Carpenter
- Judge



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The Madman

- generates ideas
- works without inhibition
- maintains spontaneity
- believes all things are possible



Doing the Madman Thing

- Capture the ideas when they come.



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The Madman

- spouts spontaneously
- usually when you least expect it

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The Madman

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The Madman

- spouts spontaneously
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Truth through freewriting?

"If you write to discover just what the essence of the problem is ...



be willing to discard everything you've written up to the threshold of discovery."

Bryan A. Garner

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The Architect

- creates order from the madman's chaos
- structures
- envisions the whole



The Architect



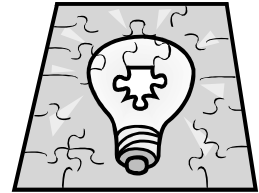
- Your reader should never wonder where you're going – or worse, *make assumptions* about where you're going.
- **Your direction must be clear.**

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The Madman

- invariably interrupts

let him run



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The Carpenter

- crafts sentences and paragraphs
- considers tone and audience
- makes the logic explicit

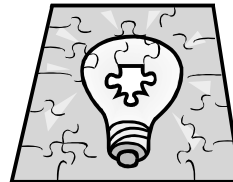


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The Madman

- has one more idea ...

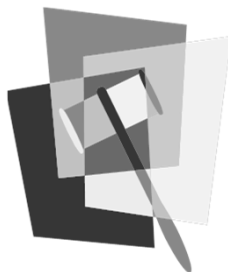
let him run



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The Judge

- nitpicks
- considers every detail
- applies rules and signposts



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The Madman

- just thought of something else ...

stop him cold

