

Broad Editing and Services WRITER'S CORNER

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Dear Writer,

Allow your mind to conjure up stories from a single photo - our exercise will tell you how. We're still looking for the right person to conduct research for us. Drop us a line if you're interested.

From

Writer's Quest Team

Writers' Corner - Solving Writers' Block: A Picture Can Tell a Story

by Mary Broadhurst © 2008

Before I share this issue's task with you allow me to tell you how this exercise came about. The other day I was asked to view some photos for a competition. There was a beautiful shot of a pier with the sea lapping at its piles, and clouds swirling above told of a storm approaching. Devoid of colour, it showed the classic black and white shot - simple, elegant and worthy to be framed and mounted on any wall. This picture was leading the rest until I turned my focus onto the next picture, perhaps not as polished as the other, but something kept me looking at it. It was a simple enough shot: a huge dog sitting at a window looking out on a rainy day and quite unaware its owner had captured him on film. What it did do was make me think. I started wondering what the dog found so fascinating - was he watching a neighbour getting pelted with rain as the person made a dive from the car to the house? Did he know that rain meant his owner wouldn't be taking him out for a walk, which would deprive him of a possible adventure? Was he waiting for another member of the household to return from an outing?

I looked at the picture again and noticed the dog's size and breed, and I started wondering what type of owner would keep such a big dog? As the possibilities flowed through my mind, I started to focus more on the owner. It didn't matter if I was right or not, what mattered was that it made me think. Talent is important, but a writer must have the ability to think, to explore, and to create, because without this first step it

FREELANCE RESEARCHER WANTED

We're looking for a Melbourne-based researcher able to research certain newspapers at the State Library and saved as pdf files

certain newspapers at the State Library and saved as pdf files.

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