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The Writer

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The Writer

A writer must first learn to listen to themselves, for they are not only their first reader/audience, but usually the harshest critic. Everyone has their own unique perspective on life in general, and are the experts on their own life experience. When a writer realizes this truth, it produces a wonderfully authentic and authoritative voice in the words they compose. This "voice" will not always be the same, as the writer draws from experiences throughout their lifetime, from childhood through old age, but it will always carry the authority or ring-of-truth when written from the heart.

A writer must also learn to listen to the world, for not only does it give the writer a greater perspective, but may spark creative ideas, good works of literary art and characterization. The art of being able to step out of oneself to listen and appreciate the words of others' voices or in print is key to growth as a writer.

A writer must learn to share their works in a safe and nurturing environment where they can receive the encouragement to continue expressing themselves. The courage to present one's work to others is the means of providing the unparalleled pleasure of recognition.

A writer is a creative artist whether they are painting a broadsheet for newspaper publication, or their canvas is lyrical, poetic verse to serenade a lover. Ideas, words, thoughts and images blend on the writer's palette with every stroke of the pen or keyboard. Whether simple self-portraiture, complex abstraction, sweet nostalgia or clinical commentary the aesthetic is wonderfully unique and masterfully heartfelt as every word portrays a new, vivid world for the reader/listener from the writer's viewpoint. The soul is the source of artistic wealth and healing, as it is the warehouse of wounds and grief. The writer/artist who is encouraged and therefore empowered can tap into that wealth of healing to release a balm of refreshment and wholeness.

-Lindsey Grant