NARRATIVE POEM ASSIGNMENT

STEP ONE: In order to better understand the idea of the narrative poem, your first part of the assignment is to read the following poems and answer some questions.

1. Who are the characters in the poem?

2. What do you know about the speaker in the poem?

3. What character traits does each of the characters have? What evidence in the poem shows this?

4. What is the setting of the poem? (time and place)

5. What type of conflict occurs in the poem?

6. What is the mood of the poem?


Now, you are ready to create your own narrative poem. Writing a narrative poem can be a lot of fun, but, as you know, this type of poem requires certain requirements. It must tell a
NARRATIVE POEM ASSIGNMENT

story and include characters, setting, conflict and a plot, but it also must have the elements of poetry we have been discussing in class. It should have rhythm and rhyme and must include some of the other sound devices we have discussed in class. Narrative poems, like stories or novels, have a problem that must be resolved. These type of poems have characters and settings as well. That is a lot to think about when writing your poem.

It is probably best to break down this assignment in steps. First, brainstorm events from your own life that you could tell a story about. Think about a moment with a younger sibling or a grandparent that was special. Perhaps a funny memory of a vacation could be told as a narrative poem. Maybe a first in your life would work as a narrative poem. Think of your first ball game, your first time playing an instrument or riding a bike. These simple events may make a great poem.

BRAINSTORM IDEAS FOR YOUR POEM HERE. Which scenario would be the best and most interesting for a poem. You should have enough details to be able to share the story as a poem.

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Review your scenarios. Which do you think you could write more about? Remember not only must a narrative poem include the sound devices and elements of poetry we have discussed, it must also tell a story.

Answer the following about your selection.

1. Does your example have characters? Who are they?

2. Does your example have a setting? What is it?

3. Does your example have a problem that must be solved? Explain it.

4. Who will be the speaker in your poem?

Once you have answered these questions see Mrs. Flanagan for her initials.

You are ready to move on to write your poem. __________________________________________

BEFORE YOU MOVE ON

READ THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS POEM
NARRATIVE POEM ASSIGNMENT

NARRATIVE POEM REQUIREMENTS

- Your poem must be at least four stanza of four-eight lines in length
- Your poem must include characters, setting, and a clear plot
- Your poem must have a clear rhyme pattern.
- Your poem must include poetic devices as we have discussed in class.
- Your poem must include two examples of figurative language BESIDES the poetic devices of alliteration or onomatopoeia.

This is the first of several poems you will write for this unit. You should complete the poem as a typed pages or Google Doc. You will be responsible for holding onto each poem to add to your final portfolio in your BookPress Poetry book.

I will be grading the poems as a unit. I will be reviewing your poems and offering suggestions to spelling, form, accuracy of the poem, etc. It is your responsibility to make those corrections before it appears in final form in your poetry portfolio.