

“Telling Our Tales” 2024 Writing Prompts

Use at least one of the prompts here to write a short story of your own based on your life experience:

1. In “The Sun and the Rain,” Eugene leaves the city for the countryside, where he rediscovers his respect for nature. Think about how you find value in discovering things in nature. How might nature bring different people together?
2. Think about a time you left a busy place for a quieter one. Where was it? How did leaving a busier place make you feel? Describe the quieter place.
3. Think about a time you went to a different place or experienced a different culture. What did you learn about the place you call home? What did you learn a lesson about yourself?
4. Has there ever been a time when a seemingly impossible obstacle (ex: language barrier, political differences) prevented you from getting along with/connecting to someone else? What was it? Did you find something in common that helped the two (or more) of you overcome your difference(s)? What was it?
5. The story has been described as a “here-and-gone moment,” or a brief instance of value and significance. Think about an important short event and/or encounter in your life that left a lasting impression and taught you a lesson. How did nature, or the earth’s elements or terrain, factor into this “moment?”
6. Do you have or do something you that makes you feel strong when you have it and weak when you don’t? Describe it and how you are affected by its presence or absence.