

I JUST WOKE UP

WRITING PROMPTS FOR WHEN YOUR MUSES ARE
SLEEPING.

H.D. SCOTT



HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

Sometimes writing comes easy. The muses speak to us, and ideas flow seamlessly with little thought. That's what happened to me at 3:30 a.m. when I wrote most of these prompts instead of falling back into a much-needed sleep. Thanks, brain.

Other times we find the right time, the right place, and the right mood; only to stare at the page with minds as blank as the page itself.

That's where writing prompts come in. Often it just takes a nudge in a new direction, a little thought on an alternate topic, or just a different point of view to give the creative juices some momentum.

This book contains a prompt on each page along with space to write. There are no rules, no requirements, just a free space and a first step to get you started. What you write doesn't have to be

in your usual genre, or involve your current work in progress. It can be anything. You can write it sideways, upside down, or in a square if you like. You can spell like a goblin, or write it in pictographs. No rules. Just creativity. Free your mind.

It may help to think about the prompt and read it several times before starting. To get in the mindset of the character, each prompt starts with “I just woke up”. But who is saying this? Where are they waking up? What exactly is happening? Are there different ways to interpret it?

These questions act as a catalyst to help flesh out a short scene. Give it a try and get that creative engine primed and ready to go.

For example, let’s try the following prompt:

“I just woke up, and my teeth were gone.”

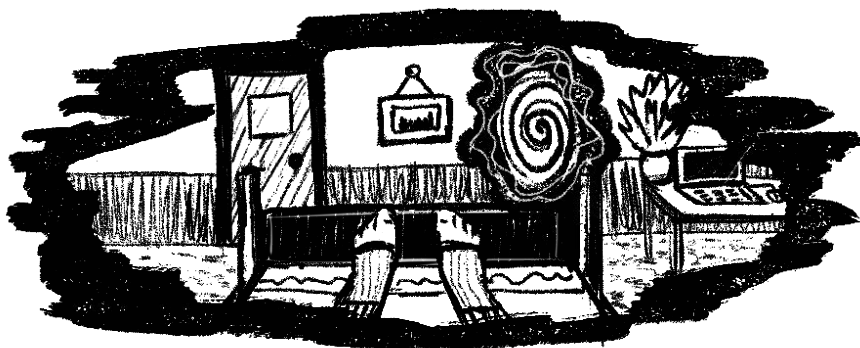
Maybe “I” am an old man (who), and my dentures have disappeared again. I’m at my home (where), and I know my grandchildren love to play with my fake teeth (what). From there I can write about flexing my stiff joints and hobbling down the stairs to see what the little whipper snappers have come up with for my poor fake chompers this time.

OR, maybe “I” am a daring adventurer in a haunted forest, and I’ve fallen victim to the evil tooth fairies. How will I track them down and reclaim my stolen teeth before they use them in their dark ritual to summon the bone demon?

OR, maybe “I” was a tarnished fork, and I just woke up to my new life as a spoon after being sold as scrap to a smith.

The ideas that come up may be ridiculous, but that's fine.
No rules. The purpose of this is to help start the creativity.
Time to begin.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



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