



DISTRICT ONE StoryMasters

Stories at The StoryMasters Club's Program

Stories on September 10, 2023

Lin Van Gelder The Intrepid Adventures of Lin Van Gelder—Spain, 1980

Lee Amatangelo The Sexy Hypotenuse

Ashton Cynthia Clarke Alaiyo B Younger—1996



We welcome new members; Arlynn Page, Jessie Haugabook, Jim Somerville, and Penny Post. Our next program is Sunday, October 8, 2023 @ 3-5pm. [Please RSVP](#) and join us! (*Members do not need to RSVP*)

Storytelling Stub

Three-in-One Storytelling Tip

by Penny Post

When I lived in Los Angeles, I had business cards printed on the back with three things to remember about telling a story. When you want to choose one and when you want to learn one, whether it's your story or someone else's, try these tips..

First, try to tell your story in three sentences. That will tell you what is essential and what you can leave out. (And it's amazing how much you can leave out.) Then tell it, at whatever length it works for the story, three times. Just three different people.

You can ask for feedback or not, but the experience of actually having the words come out of your mouth will change the story as well. This will guide you towards what you want to keep in and what you need to leave out, and maybe what more the story needs.

I'll add a third suggestion. Try telling your story from one-third of the way in. What does that mean? It means you can lop off all that introductory stuff. We don't care how you got to the intersection where the accident happened. We just want to hear about the accident and the results. As we used to say about my mother, ask her what time it is and she'll tell you how the watch is made. We don't need that. So cut to the chase. And that will help with the 3 sentences too.

You may be wondering, should you lop off the introduction and just jump right into the story, or is this tip a way to get a better feel for how you might condense the beginning? It's both of those. Remember, you can always do a flashback and put what you really need in the introduction, but you don't need to start off with an introduction.

Storytelling Tips by Penny Post

1. Try to tell your story in **3 sentences**
2. Tell your story **3 times to 3 different people**
3. Try telling your story from **1/3 in.**

STORYMASTERS BOOK

The Storytelling Bistro

Fifteen diverse StoryMasters offer true personal stories, fanciful fiction, poems, and thoughts in this captivating collection of short works, perfectly sized for tossing into your bag to read at the beach, park, waiting in a business lobby, or enjoying a few quiet moments at home. We hope you enjoy these stories as much as we do!

Copies are available on Amazon: <https://a.co/d/7XPoTcT>



UPCOMING STORYTELLING EVENTS

Many enchanting storytelling events keep coming up. Check them out on [our event page!](#)

Oct 14 Adults ONLY Stories

<https://www.artistsstandingstrongtogether.net/event-details/october-2023-adults-only-stories>

6:00 PM PT

Category: Storytelling Concert

Location: Online

Cost: Free

Adults ONLY Stories, produced by ASST! Put the kids to bed and enjoy an evening of storytelling and poetry for adult ears! **Jon White** and **Cara Lopez Lee** are among the storytellers, and **Ashton Cynthia Clarke** is the Tech Host.



Oct 14 Strong Words

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/strong-words-oct-14-2023-tickets-729439722847>

7:30 PM PT

Category: Storytelling Concert

Location: St. Francis Center

Cost: \$10

Join them for an all-star lineup of storytellers, one fabulous poet and the epic return of our favorite Americana band Swedish Knightingales.

It promises to be a beautiful evening in their glorious outdoor courtyard.



Oct 14 BackStory ~ The Shining

<https://thevictorytheatrecenter.org/tickets-events/backstory>

7:30 PM PT

Category: Storytelling Concert

Location: Victoria Theatre or

Zoom

Cost: \$10

Using the title of a classic stage play or movie as inspiration, storytellers and poets write poems and stories to be read aloud. The theme for the month is *The Shining* and our friend **Vicki Juditz** will be telling a story!



Oct 21 You Say What! ~ Coming to America

<https://miyo.net/you-say-what>

3:00 PM PT

Category: Storytelling Concert

Location: Santa Monica

Playhouse, Main Stage

Cost: Free

"You Say What" is a storytelling extravaganza with five immigrant storytellers who came to America, produced by **Miyo Yamauchi**. Get ready to redefine your boundaries and challenge your perceptions.



Oct 21 Tell It! ~ Scary/Creepy/Weird

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tell-it-personal-true-stories-told-onstage-presents-scarycreepyweird-tickets-721811837637>

7:30 PM PT

Category: Storytelling Concert

Location: Online

Cost: \$10

Get ready for a night of spooky tales! SCARY/ CREEPY/WEIRD will feature a fantastic cast of storytellers who will shock and surprise you!



Nov 4 Storytelling Festival Fundraiser for Kelly Spillman

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/storytelling-festival-fundraiser-for-kelly-spillman-tickets-726339259277>

3:00 PM PT

Category: Storytelling Concert

Location: Lyric Hyperion

Cost: \$25

The storytelling community of LA joins together to produce a festival in order to cover some of the medical expenses for StoryMasters' friend, Kelly, who has just started another cancer journey.



Check out more events at: <https://thestorymasters.org/events/>

Disclaimer: Events are posted as a service to our members, friends and the storytelling community. Posting is not an endorsement.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

The Potency of Language

“Cardi B was hit on the stage!” The incident was covered by every TV station. When I saw the headline, I thought “Another one?” Recently, some artists like Harry Styles and Kelsea Ballerini were hit by objects during a concert.

Honestly, I was not especially interested in any of those artists, so I tended not to pay them much attention. However, this instance captured my curiosity. In the footage, I saw Cardi B, who was doused with water, get mad and throw a microphone at the culprit. Her security team escorted the person out.

Although I didn’t agree with her reaction, I totally understood her anger. At the same time, I wondered why the person splashed Cardi B with water. What motivates such disrespectful actions? Who engages in such behavior? So I googled and this is what I found.

Cardi B asked the crowd to douse her with water, saying it was hot. A fan splashed her. Cardi B asked for more. Another fan obliged. She asked for even more. Then, another fan did, too. But this time, the water had ice in it, which struck the singer.

Ha! Isn’t it interesting? I could see both sides.

At such an intense moment, the artist didn’t know what hit her. She thought she was attacked by an “unknown object.” On the other hand, the fan was just responding to her idol’s plea. Her execution was flawed, but it stemmed from admiration rather than malice. In fact, after the incident, she was in tears, expressing apologies.

When weaving a story, it’s wise to think twice what aspects we emphasize, how we narrate, and the language we employ. Depending on what information we include or omit, it can be a totally different story.



EDITOR'S NOTE

Whirlwind of Emotions

The past month has been a whirlwind of emotions, filled with joy, sadness, excitement, anxiety, and everything in between.

Above all, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for the calls, texts, emails, and cards I received during this challenging period. Your unwavering support and love touched my heart and lifted my spirits as I prepared for the Vancouver Fringe Festival right after my mother's passing.

Thanks to you all, the Vancouver Fringe Festival was such a blast! The city exuded warmth and hospitality, and everyone I encountered was not only helpful but also genuinely engaging. Even the weather played its part perfectly; there wasn’t a single rainy day – zero! I didn’t even need a jacket.

One of the primary reasons I chose Vancouver was to reunite with my Canadian family, with whom I share decades of cherished memories.

Having them in the audience and catching up with them after the show was an absolute thrill. And when it comes to my Canadian family, the story wouldn’t be complete without mentioning my remarkable 97-year-old Canadian “mama,” Willa. Decades ago, I had the privilege of staying in her home through a homestay arrangement. Then, 11 years ago, when I faced a visa issue that forced me to leave America for several months, she graciously invited me to stay with her, insisting, “If America deports you, Canada will import you!” We spent quality time together, sipping sherry before dinner.

Before reuniting with her this time, I received cautious advice that Willa might not remember me, preparing me for potential disappointment. However, the moment our eyes met, it was evident that she recognized me. When I playfully asked her who her favorite student was, she replied with a smile, “Oh, I should be careful here. You sit too close to me!” Yes, her whimsical spirit remained intact, and we even discussed her upcoming 100th birthday bash.

Vancouver, thank you for yet another unforgettable memory! I look forward to returning soon.

— Miyo Yamauchi

