

## Day #16, Activity #16

### The Tuesday List: All the Things You Love in the World

*“The ear is the only true writer and the only true reader.”*

—Robert Frost, poet

All poets know the pleasure of writing a list poem. There are many ways of course and lots of freedom to experiment as you go. For today’s writing activity let’s work up a list poem about all the things you love in the world.

This writing activity allows anyone to write about what they love. What makes the poem interesting is the way the writer continually surprises us with new patterns and imaginative variations. Long and short lines, general and specific details (most should be specific), various subject material, and other word and line maneuvers that delight and surprise the reader. Have fun with this exercise, for it is a joy to write down what we love in the world – to stake our claim to it with words and rhythms on the page.

In addition to the pure pleasure of the writing, this activity will help the writer build skills in pattern and variation, using specific detail, repetition, juxtaposition of phrasing, improvisation, variation of line length, the power of examples and naming, listing and listening, reading and thinking aloud and of course, using the five senses to convey sensory imagery.

#### Some Ideas for your poem:

Song	TV Show
Dessert	Breakfast
Writers	Smells
Scientists	Store
Actors	Gestures
Feelings	Motions
Movements	Music
Specific types of foods	Activities
Season	Holiday
Restaurant	Ice cream flavor
Instrument	Month
Day of the week	Historical figures

Landscapes	Tools
Countries	Scientists
States	Sounds
Athletes	Games
Objects	Artists
Animals	Insects
Moments in sports	Tiny moments
Favorite Places	Etc.

As an example, here is part of the poem I wrote:

### **Things I Love in the World**

Long walks in the woods on Sunday afternoons  
Strong coffee  
Carnival music  
Starbursts – the red ones  
Riding on trains in the summer through unknown places  
Merrill Shoes  
Newspapers  
Flea markets  
The sound of rain on the roof at night  
A cup of tea  
A wood fire  
A medium point blue Bic pen  
Wide Pine wood floors  
Reading before bed  
Grasshoppers