Raymond Noonan

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**THE WORLD WITHIN US: WRITING EVERY DAY**

*“The really important kind of freedom involves attention, and awareness, and discipline, and effort... The trick is keeping the truth up-front in daily consciousness.” —* David Foster Wallace

*“The world about us would be desolate except for the world within us." —* Wallace Stevens

**Assignments:** There are five writing exercises per week. Each exercise must be at least one to two paragraphs long and may be no longer than a page (single-spaced hand-written, or double-spaced in Times New Roman, twelve-point font, typed). Please do not spend more than an hour at the desk on each exercise.

**S-Themes:** Each class we will discuss some interesting themes, or “S-Themes,” by your peers from the previous week. These will be shared anonymously. If you do not want a piece to be a potential S-Theme, let me know.

**Word of the Week:** Words have stories. I’d like you to tell them. Each week, I want you to come to class with one new word you encountered: one that struck you, that you couldn’t pronounce, that you thought sounded funny. Be prepared to tell us how you met the word, and what struck you about it. We’ll share these stories at the beginning of every class.

**Yearbook:** As the course progresses, you will write many beautiful pieces. By the end of the third week, I’d like you to send me one. I’ll compile all of your beautiful pieces into a book that I will give each of you. That’s right: by the end of this course, each of you will be a published writer. This is an opportunity to reflect on your month’s work and soak in the writing of your peers.

**Schedule:**

Jul. 6 Things, People, Places

Jul. 13 Voice, Storytelling, Memory

Jul. 20 Beginnings, Endings

Jul. 27 The Duty of a Writer