



## Write Through Tough Times

Ask Melissa Greene why she teaches creative writing and she'll tell you, thoughtfully, "because writing touches the soul." Melissa, a 10-year resident of Lancaster County, is a professional fiction writer, poet and writing coach, and the founder of Write From The Heart Creative Writing Workshops for adults, children and teens.

"Her class is a totally warm, whimsical, one-of-a-kind experience—not at all like that writing class you hated in school," says one student. "It's about finding a way into your creative self."

There are no grades, tests, cell phones or judgment, providing a retreat where even the most timid writer can relax. Fascinated with writing as a therapeutic tool, Melissa began leading workshops during the 1980s. After 9/11, she created Write From The Heart to share her belief that writing has the power to console, illuminate and heal. She's been coaching writers—full-time—ever since.

"My mission is to launch writers by supporting the courage, passion and confidence to create. My classes are meant to be a safe,

gentle place where people can be themselves. Writing from the heart isn't about speed, pressure or getting published. It's about taking a deep breath, harnessing what we feel and writing without fear. Creating should be fun—a comfort—especially in today's complicated world. It can lead to a happier life."

Melissa holds classes in Lancaster County and also coaches in New York City. She offers year-round classes for men, women, children and teens, and coaches privately. She recently began classes for ages 7 and 8, and a bereavement group, using writing as a comfort to those experiencing the loss of a loved one.

"Writing from the heart isn't about grammar, spelling or punctuation, but what we long to write, deep down. It's a return to our feelings—serious, funny, whatever appears on the horizon. Writing is freedom. A relief from pain. Our inner lives matter—especially today—they calm and replenish us."

She encourages students to trust their ideas, take a break from perfectionism, and reduce tension and stress. However, she's quick to mention that, while her workshops

are therapeutic, they are not psychotherapy. "We don't analyze our feelings and life experiences; we learn to transform them into art."

Beginners feel at home in Melissa's one-of-a-kind world, and are often "reacquainted" with writing lives put on hold because of divorce, children or career. Melissa thrives on surprise and is not above mischief, which she creates while drawing people out of themselves with humor and warmth.

"Melissa has sparked a little light, tucked in the back of my mind for 30 years—my love of writing," says a student. "Finding my voice again has brought me back...to me."

Which is exactly Melissa's mission. "Society rewards speed, not reflection. And playfulness is taboo. Yet both are essential to writing and well-being. By taking time to observe ourselves and our world—relearning the art of play—our writing becomes an antidote to grief, anxiety and despair."

In good times or bad, Write From The Heart remains a safe haven where writing is fun, freeing, and a means to hope and self-esteem.



Aldo

Grace

Tom

### Not just a Writing Workshop...

Write From The Heart workshops are a retreat where creative people can share, laugh, write, and relax. Using kindness as a path to reflection and healing, these thoughtful, poetic classes are especially for those who have always longed to write, but thought they couldn't. No grades, tests, competition or anxiety. Learn how writing opens the soul and transforms our lives.

*"An amazingly powerful, soothing, and tender class."*

Beginners greatly admired.  
Contact Melissa Greene at 717-393-4713  
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or visit [www.writefromtheheart.us](http://www.writefromtheheart.us).

*Write from the Heart*

WORKSHOPS FOR ADULTS, CHILDREN & TEENS  
Lancaster County, PA

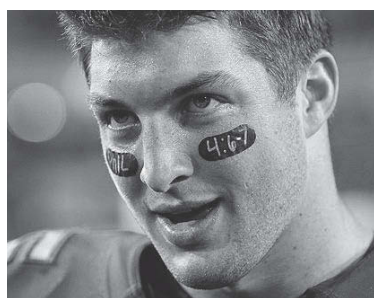


Melissa

Holiday Gift Certificates Available  
Beautiful new Lancaster studio (former offices of FIG Magazine!)

## Pam's Story

### An Amazing Quarterback's Beginnings



Tim Tebow,  
Denver Broncos Quarterback

In a recent email, I read about a woman named Pam who knows the pain of considering abortion. More than 24 years ago, she and her husband Bob were serving as missionaries to the Philippines and praying for a fifth child. Pam contracted amoebic dysentery, an infection of the intestine caused by a parasite found in contaminated food or drink. She went into a coma and was treated with strong antibiotics before they discovered she was pregnant.

Doctors urged her to abort the baby for her own safety and told her that the medicines had caused irreversible damage to her baby. She refused the abortion and cited her Christian faith as the reason for her hope that her son would be born without the devastating disabilities physicians predicted. Pam said the doctors didn't think of it as a life; they thought of it as a mass of fetal tissue.

While pregnant, Pam nearly lost their baby four times but refused to consider abortion. She recalled making a pledge to God with her husband: If you will give us a son, we'll name him Timothy, and we'll make him a preacher.

Pam ultimately spent the last two months of her pregnancy in bed and eventually gave birth to a healthy baby boy on August

14, 1987. Pam's youngest son is indeed a preacher. He preaches in prisons, makes hospital visits, and serves with his father's ministry in the Philippines. He also plays football. Pam's son is Tim Tebow.

The University of Florida's star quarterback became the first sophomore in history to win college football's highest award, the Heisman Trophy. His current role as quarterback of the Denver Broncos has provided an incredible platform for Christian witness. As a result, he is being called The Mile-High Messiah.

Tim's notoriety and the family's inspiring story have given Pam numerous opportunities to speak on behalf of women's centers across the country. Pam Tebow believes that every little baby you save matters. I pray her tribe will increase!

## Wounded Marine Aims to Go to Super Bowl



Thanks to Hope for Warriors, Lance Cpl. Kyle Moser received an amazing present on his 20th birthday. The organization arranged for the Marine to Skype (use Internet video conferencing) from Walter Reed Hospital in Bethesda, Md., with former Bears quarterback Jim McMahon. McMahon invited the Marine to the Super Bowl on Feb. 5 in Indianapolis, Ind. Though Moser has surgeries in February, he intends to be in the stands for the Super Bowl kickoff, provided he "keeps up

with his physical therapy and gets off all of his IVs," says his mother, Patricia Zander. Moser lost both his legs and part of his right hand after an improvised explosive device (IED) detonated while he was on patrol in Afghanistan at the end of November 2011. He has begun rehab and will soon be moving to the physical rehabilitation center to continue getting stronger. In the photo, Vice President Joe Biden visits with Moser on Christmas Day at Walter Reed Hospital.