

**LEDBURY POETRY FESTIVAL COMMUNITY PROGRAMME
SEGMENTS POETRY WORKSHOP
MARCH 2020. THEME: LIGHTING**

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EXERCISE ONE: A warm-up writing exercise - nothing too major - just a quick exercise to wake your brain and get your pens moving. It's called the **Ten-to-One Story**.

Pick a story title from the list (or choose a random number between 1 and 100, pick that title and use it for your story). See Appendix 1, below.

Write the title you are using at the top of your paper. Now write your story. But there are rules! Your story must only have ten sentences. The first sentence must have exactly ten words. The second must have nine, the third must have eight, and so on, until the final sentence only has one word.

Now choose a different title and try writing a One-To-Ten Story or even a Twenty-To-One Story!

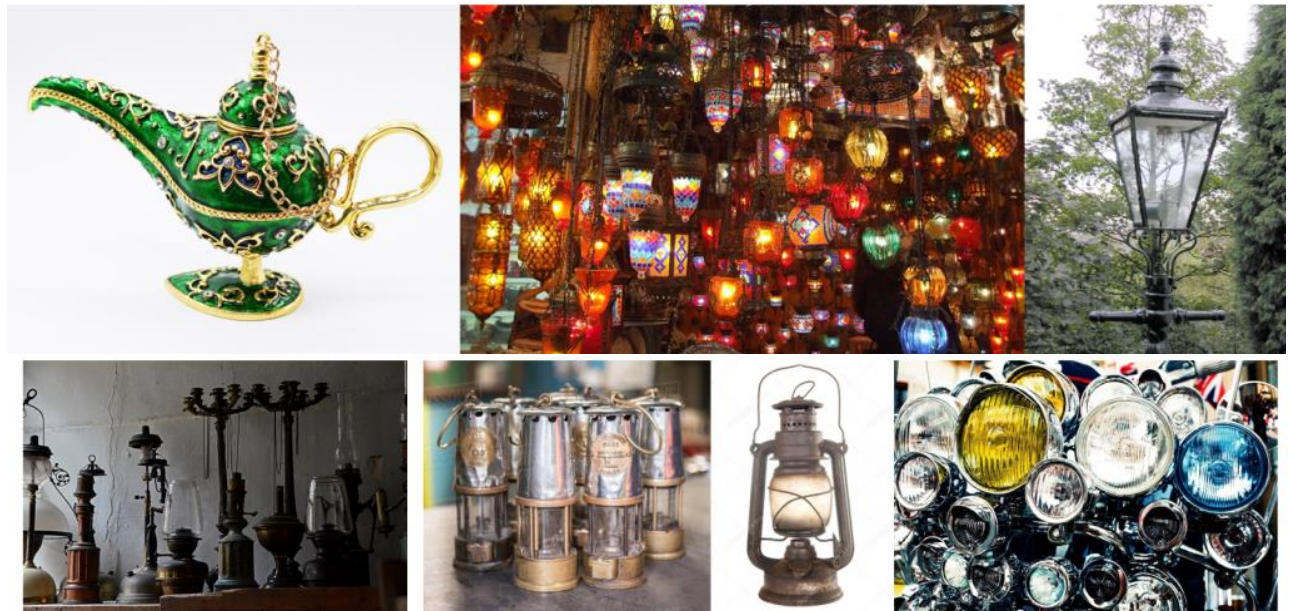
This exercise forces you to be aware of the words that you use, the impact of each one and the techniques of editing.

With thanks to *The Floor Is Lava* - Ivan Brett.

EXERCISE TWO: The theme for this poetry exercise is LIGHTING.

We would have examined items from The Butcher Row House Museum for this exercise. Instead I have attached some pictures of lighting and old lamps for you to look at and gain inspiration for your writing. Make notes about the items – your thoughts, feelings, memories that are evoked by the items and your associations with the theme in general.

Clockwise from top left: Arabian Lamp, Diwali lights, Gas Lamp-post, Scooter Lights, Rusty Kerosene Lamp, Miners' Lamps, Old Lamp



Now read the following poems:

Power Cut – Victoria Gatehouse, and *The Lights* by Miriam Nash, both on the following link:

<https://www.theguardian.com/childrens-books-site/2015/oct/08/top-10-poems-about-light>
Power Cut follows a poetic form of 8 stanzas – 3 lines in Stanza 1, 2 lines in Stanza 2, 3 lines in Stanza 3 and so on in this alternating pattern to the end of the poem.

A Thousand Hours by Paul Farley:

https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=tDCYBAAAQBAJ&pg=PT12&lpg=PT12&dq=a+thousand+hours+paul+farley&source=bl&ots=8ktPIqrrKE&sig=ACfU3U25v4l1ubcMH6ouj877x9tCcrkhtg&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwizvMP_rrjoAhXUUBUIHVWTDkcQ6AEwAnoECAgQAQ#v=onepage&q=a%20thousand%20hours%20paul%20farley&f=false

EXERCISE THREE: Writing About LIGHTING

Your task is to write a poem inspired by the items and/or the theme. Here are some suggestions:

Write a personification poem from the point of view of an item. Write your poem imagining the object is 'alive' and has the same attributes as a human being. What would it say? Think about the function of the object, where it is situated, what it sees, smells, hears, touches etc. What does it think about/dream about? What are its memories? What are its ambitions?

Write a poem inspired by the theme that evokes a personal memory for you.

Write a poem in the style and form of one of the example poems.

Write a poem about the items and/or the theme in your own way and your own style!

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Have you uploaded your [Poetry of the Woods](#) on our online submission?

The Festival is grateful to Arts Council England the Garfield Weston Foundation



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Appendix 1

100 TITLES FOR THE TEN-TO-ONE STORY EXERCISE

With thanks to *The Floor Is*

Lava – Ivan Brett

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Curse | 13. Last Train South | 30. Death Of The Sun |
| 2. The Day That Lasted A Year | 14. Behind The Walls | 31. Hell Has Free Parking |
| 3. Wild Weather | 15. Sea Rising | 32. Last Breath |
| 4. Nobody Leaves Until... | 16. Rivals | 33. Simon's Claws |
| 5. Broken | 17. Grandmother's Rug | 34. Down The Drain |
| 6. Spaghetti Massacre | 18. Night Of The Wasps | 35. Revenge Of The Bananas |
| 7. Calm Before The Storm | 19. ENTER PASSWORD | 36. My Undead Family |
| 8. Mirror World | 20. Girl With A Red Hood | 37. The Crying Wall |
| 9. My Iron Eyes | 21. Ten In A Broken Lift | 38. Worst Birthday Ever |
| 10. Greed | 22. No Parachute | 39. The Man Who Climbed A Tree And Never Came Down |
| 11. The Longest Journey | 23. Meal Of Worms | 40. Jealous Of You |
| 12. Take-Off! | 24. There Is No London | 41. Stopped Clocks |
| | 25. The Missing Dagger | 42. Under My Feet |
| | 26. How Many Cats Is Too Many Cats? | 43. World Record |
| | 27. 5% Battery | |
| | 28. Alone | |
| | 29. Bridge | |

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| 44. It's Always Night In
Space | 64. A Day In The Fridge | 84. My Best Friend, The
Whale |
| 45. Let Sleeping Dogs Lie | 65. Pocket Elephant | 85. Collecting Coins |
| 46. Friend Factory | 66. Sky Pirate | 86. Angel Trap |
| 47. Hat Glue | 67. Final Challenge | 87. Lightning Shop |
| 48. Isolation | 68. Hidden Inside | 88. Around The World In
Eighty Hours |
| 49. The Magnet | 69. One Hundred Degrees | 89. Stuck In A Tube |
| 50. Poison Jam | 70. Nobody Believes Me | 90. What's Over The
Horizon? |
| 51. I Planted A Spoon | 71. Happy Death Day | 91. Noah's Ark 2 |
| 52. Chocolate Dreams | 72. Top Of The Clock
Tower | 92. The First Word Ever
Spoken |
| 53. Man On Your Roof | 73. Somebody Spat On
Me | 93. Thank You |
| 54. Downhill Race | 74. Walking Through
Walls | 94. Bent Steel |
| 55. One Character In This
Story Is A Murderer | 75. Mushroom City | 95. A Story Without
Words |
| 56. Everybody Knows
Your Secret | 76. Storm Clouds | 96. Pest Control |
| 57. No Way Out | 77. Copycat | 97. Plague |
| 58. Allergic To Air | 78. Just STOP Growing! | 98. Picnic On The
Motorway |
| 59. Last Girl On Earth | 79. Dark Days | 99. Never Touch The
Ground |
| 60. Tooth Thief | 80. One New Message | 100. Fortune-Teller |
| 61. One Roll Of The Dice | 81. Second Home | |
| 62. Nobody Knows My
Real Name | 82. I'm Not Pretending | |
| 63. A Second Me | 83. Old Smugglers' Road | |