

Wish You Were Here: Writing about Place

A 3-hour workshop with Author Ayelet Tsabari

Evoking a profound sense of “being there” in writing is one of the most important elements of prose, and a way of immersing the reader in what John Gardner called “the fictional dream”. Mastery of place involves more than just using descriptive words. Vivid setting emerges as much from the character’s point of view, actions and voice as it does from imagery, sensory details, metaphor and simile.

Participants will learn new techniques to approach writing about place, and will begin thinking of place as a potential character in their work. Drawing from examples by successful practitioners of the craft, and through guided hands-on exercises, attendees will be able to use setting as the basis for creating dramatic and engaging stories.

- This workshop is designed for both fiction and creative nonfiction writers of all levels
- **Optional:** Send one page (double spaced) of your work by October 30th to ayelet@ayelettsabari.com for feedback. The sample should engage with place in some way. Examples from participants’ work may be discussed in class.



Ayelet Tsabari’s short fiction collection, *The Best Place on Earth* (HarperCollins), was longlisted for the Frank O’Connor International Short Story Award. Her nonfiction won a National Magazine Award and a Western Magazine Award, and she is a two-time winner of *Event’s* Creative Non-Fiction Contest. A graduate of the MFA program at Guelph University and SFU’s Writer’s Studio, Ayelet teaches creative writing through the University of Toronto, and offers manuscript consultations and private mentorship. She was named as one of ten Canadian writers to watch by CBC. www.ayelettsabari.com

“I truly felt as though I was “away” when reading this collection.”

—Buried in Print

“Tsabari is excellent at atmosphere and representing a very real sense of place.”

—Pickle me This

“The landscapes are varied, from the buoyancy of the Dead Sea to the heat and noise of Tel Aviv, to the silent darkness of Hornby Island BC, to the white winter landscape of Toronto. The attention to detail in the stories – of scenery, smells, food, plant life, music –places the reader firmly in the setting of each.”

—AbeBooks

When: Saturday, November 2nd, 2013, 9:00am-12:00pm

Where: Trout Lake Community Centre, 3360 Victoria Drive, Vancouver, BC, V5N 4M4*

Registration Fee: \$70

Registration Deadline: Please RSVP to ayelet@ayelettsabari.com by October 30, 2013

*This event is not sanctioned by the Trout Lake Community Centre, Grandview Community Association or the City of Vancouver.