

The Invisible Cathedral: Setting and the Architecture of Memory

Saturday, October 18th
10:30 am – 12:00 PM EST
Instructor – Charity Hume

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ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

In this generative creative writing workshop, Charity Hume welcomes anyone curious about using writing to deepen memory. Writers, therapists, and clinicians are especially invited to join as we explore how childhood rooms, ancestral homes, and city streets hold the landscapes of memory and shape our identity. Together, we will look closely at masterpieces of literary setting—touring scenes from Homer to Virginia Woolf—to see how setting establishes mood, character, and conflict. We will then turn inward, mapping our own geographies of memory through a psychoanalytic lens. In the space between the "you then" and the "you now," these landscapes can be reclaimed with greater understanding and self-acceptance, offering integration between our internal and external selves.

Participation is limited to 15 people (with a waitlist). Yet the work of memory and writing is an ongoing process, much like the slow reveal of analysis. Those curious about the doors creative writing can open are warmly invited to continue the journey with me — through one-on-one coaching or future workshops at charityhume.com.

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Optional Donations Welcome

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ABOUT CHARITY HUME

Charity Hume is a former director of the NYU Graduate Creative Writing Program and coaches writers of all ages. She has led workshops on grief, memory, and identity, including “Writing into the Hidden Meaning of Childhood Artifacts” for PCOP. Her essays have appeared in Ms. Magazine, HuffPost, Writers for Democratic Action, and Cultural Weekly. She holds a Certificate in Memoir from Pacifica Graduate Institute and is a Fellowship Associate Member of the Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia.

Optional Readings for Participants

- *Cathedral* — Raymond Carver
- *Goodbye to All That* — Joan Didion
- *A Disturbance of Memory on the Acropolis* — Sigmund Freud
- *The Place Where We Live* — D.W. Winnicott

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Use setting as a portal to personal memory and identity
- Develop writing tools that access the unconscious through image and tone
- Explore childhood places, family homes, rooms, and landscapes as psychic spaces
- Recognize how both grief and joy are encoded in place, and how exploring setting in writing offers re-integration and congruence