

1987

THE FLIGHT OF THE MIND



Fourth Annual Summer Writing Workshop for Women
July 26–August 2, 1987

Workshop leaders: Judith Barrington, Barbara Wilson and Evelyn C. White



Participant, left, with Johnette Banks, 1987

Explore and strengthen your writing skills in a community of women.

This workshop offers formal instruction, time for work in a room of your own, and the opportunity to exchange ideas with other writers. There will be a serious focus on writing, but you can also relax, take hikes, soak in hot springs, and enjoy the surroundings.

In previous years the workshop has attracted women from many cultures and lifestyles, ranging in age from early twenties to over eighty. The workshop leaders bring a feminist philosophy to their work as writers and teachers, and encourage the creation of a group that is cohesive and supportive while at the same time recognizing diversity.

Evening programs will include readings and presentations by the workshop leaders and open-mike readings.

This year, for the first time, there will be two different kinds of programs. We are again offering the morning

group sessions in non-fiction, fiction and poetry, where you will work on specific writing techniques and discuss one another's work. Each group will have approximately 10 participants.

We are also offering manuscript critique groups in fiction and poetry, designed for the more experienced writer. These groups will meet in the late afternoons, and will each be limited to six participants, who will be selected by the workshop leaders on the basis of work submitted. If you wish to be considered, send in the registration form and fee, along with no more than 6 pages of poetry or 15 pages of fiction. Your deposit will be refunded if you are not selected, unless you register for a morning class as your second choice. The deadline for application is June 1. You will be notified no later than June 15.

NON-FICTION



Evelyn C. White is a general assignment reporter for the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the Bay Area's largest circulation daily. She has also reported for the New York bureau of *The Wall Street Journal* and has contributed feature articles, book reviews and essays to many publications around the country. Her book, *Chain Chain Change—For Black Women Dealing with Physical and Emotional Abuse*, was published in 1985. She holds degrees from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism and Wellesley College.

POETRY



Judith Barrington is a poet whose work has appeared in many publications in the U.S. and Britain, and is the author of *Trying to be an Honest Woman* (1985). Among the anthologies in which her poems are included are *The World Between Women* (1986), *Beautiful Barbarians* (London, 1986) and *Virago's forthcoming Naming the Waves* (London, 1987). She has taught creative writing and women's studies at Portland State University and Reed College, and currently makes her living as a freelance writer and teacher in the Poet-in-the-Schools program.

FICTION



Barbara Wilson is the author of three books of stories, and three novels, including the feminist mysteries, *Murder in the Collective* (1984) and *Sisters of the Road* (1986). She is the translator of Norwegian writers Ebba Høland (*Nothing Happened*, 1987) and Cora Sandel (*Cora Sandel: Selected Short Stories*, 1985, winner of a Columbia Translation Award). She is a co-founder of Seal Press, a feminist publishing company in Seattle, where she works as an editor and publisher.



McKenzie River from terrace, 1987



Participant and Ila Suzanne, 1987

Participant and Ila Suzanne, critique group, 1987

Accommodation and Meals

The workshop will again be held at the Dominican Order's rustic retreat center, St. Benedict's, on the scenic McKenzie River. It is located in the foothills of the Cascade Mountain Range, about 50 miles east of Eugene, Oregon. The facilities overlook the river and pine forest, with an immense terrace by the water's edge. It is a camp-like setting, with hiking trails and a swimming pool.

You will have a small room of your own with a single bed and desk. Bathrooms are shared. Each room has an electric outlet, so you can bring your typewriter if you wish. There are a few double rooms. You may request one if you wish to share with someone.

Our own cooks will provide delicious and healthy meals. You can choose a regular or vegetarian diet, and we will do our best to accommodate any special requirements.

Scholarships

Three scholarships of \$175 will be awarded. One has been donated specifically for a woman of color. The other two are available for all applicants. To apply, fill out the registration form and send it with a letter discussing the difference that being given a scholarship would make to you. Include one or two samples of your writing. Include information about your class and ethnic background if you wish. Do not send any money. Applications must be received by June 1. All applicants will be notified by June 15, at which time those receiving scholarships must pay the balance of their registration fee (\$200).

College Credit

You can get up to three hours of college credit for the workshop through Clackamas Community College. Their fee is \$60. If you want to enroll for credit, check that box on the registration form, and the appropriate forms will be mailed to you.

Cost and Registration

\$375 before May 15
\$400 after May 15

The registration fee includes tuition to either morning or afternoon sessions, all evening programs and full board and lodging. The cost of college credit is extra.

Transportation is available from Eugene for \$20 roundtrip.

To register, fill out the enclosed registration form and return it, together with a deposit of \$75. The balance is due by June 15.

In the event of cancellation before July 15, the full amount paid, minus a \$20 processing fee, will be returned.

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622 Southeast 28th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97214 (503) 236-9862



Elizabeth Ross and Karen Brummel-Smith in class, 1987

Some comments from previous summer workshops:

"We bounced off each other and the juices flowed. It was a wonderful knit of creativity, humor and sharing."

"Our morning workshop group was truly fine: lively enough, safe enough, critical enough, kind enough. Judith set the mark and we rose to it."

"Barbara has such a clear eye—her comments right after we read what we'd just written were always excellent and insightful."

"I left with a clearer sense of myself as a writer and with deeper knowledge of my craft."

"My words started coming faster, my smile came faster, and part of me long buried came alive."

"Musica Femina was incredible—and it was a nice change to have one planned activity that didn't involve writing."

"As a 'resident' I had everything I wanted here—an environment to write, community, atmosphere of support, a sense of being cared for made most graphic in abundant and excellent food. . . . I leave with a clear vision of my work and a deeper confidence in myself as a writer."

"I liked being able to take a break from intense work and go hiking, to the hot springs, rowing at Clear Lake . . ."

"Bring back the cooks! They could hibernate at my house for the winter!"

"The retreat center was 'heaven on earth' for me. I love the woods and the wonderful river made it perfect. The atmosphere felt safe and cozy."

"All that's gone on this week has extended the boundaries of my thinking—both as a woman and as a writer. It's such a luxury to be with women—such a diverse group, the stories we have, the lives we lead—nothing ordinary!"

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

day

evening

Please reserve space for me in the:

Non-fiction group

Poetry group

Fiction group

Poetry manuscript critique group

I have enclosed no more than 6 poems

Fiction manuscript critique group

I have enclosed no more than 15 pages.

Please reserve space for me in the _____ group if I am not selected for a critique group.

Enclosed is my \$75 deposit toward fees. The balance is due June 15.

Enclosed is my full payment of \$ _____.

Enclosed is an additional \$20 for roundtrip transportation from Eugene.

Dormitory accommodation

Smoking

Non-smoking

College Credit Option

I will enroll for credit.

Scholarship

I am applying for a scholarship. (Enclose a letter of application.)

Transportation

I will be flying there and need to be met at the airport.

I will be taking a train and need to be met at the train station.

I will be driving and have room for _____ riders.

I would like to ride with someone and share expenses.

Other _____

I don't know yet.

Special dietary requirements _____

Needs with respect to physical condition _____

Mail to: 622 S.E. 28th, Portland, Oregon 97214



Above, starting at lower right: Theresa Corrigan, Barbara Wilson, Molly Martin, Trudy Kosower, Judith Barrinton, Louise White, 1987

Right: Participant writing at the pool

