

Writer's Block Detox

Task 3: Your Writing Dreams

Task 3: your writing dreams

If you understand what you want and why, then you'll know that the writing you're trying to do is the kind that will actually make you happy. Which is fairly important.

If you're lucky you'll find that you're already writing the thing that makes your heart sing, that's what you want to write rather than what you 'should'. If not, it's time to correct course.

Answer these:

Which book already published would you most like to have written and why?

List 3-5 books you admire. Why? What do you like or admire about them? Is it something about the way they're written? The characters? Their reputation?

Now look through your bookshelves and search your actual reading habits. What are the 3-5 books with creases and broken spines because you've read them so many times, the ones on the floor by your bed, the ones you sneakily read when nobody's around? Why do you love them? This will tell you where your heart lies in writing, about what will bring you most joy and fulfilment.

How do you like working best? Around others? In absolute silence? What's your ideal environment?

Can you do anything this week, no matter how small, to make where you write closer to your ideal? (go to a café, buy a plant, move your desk, put on classical music?) What will you do?

What would you really, secretly love to achieve with your writing? What are your secret if-only goals? Throw reality out entirely. Start with what you'd like to do in the next few weeks then work up, writing every single thing you'd love to do. Be outrageous. Be unrealistic. Dream big.

Where would you like your writing to be in one year? Think about your big goals and the kind of writing that really makes you happy. What would you like to have done and what would you like to be working on? Pick things that would make you feel great but are achievable.