June 2024: Writers Block



We all, as writers, face a common and often frustrating obstacle known as writer's block. The symptoms can vary from mental blocks to a loss of creativity, feeling burnt out, or an inability to focus. I'm confident that many, if not all of you, have experienced this at some point. After some extensive reading, I've come to understand that writer's block can be a psychological condition unique to each individual. So, how do we overcome it? Masters Class suggests that the experience of being blocked is subjective to each writer. Here are some strategies that might help you navigate this situation.

Shonda Rhimes, a renowned writer, offers some strategies for overcoming writer's block. She suggests that taking a break or engaging in a different activity can be a game-changer. Additionally, she recommends making your writing process visual. These strategies have proven effective for her, and they might just work for you.

Margaret Atwood tells writers to keep writing and make the waste paper basket your friend. Just write through it.

Stephen King has said that amateurs sit and wait for inspiration while the rest of us get up and go to work. In other words, write through it.

Jerry Jenkins believes writer's block can be a manifestation of your inner demons. Self-doubt, fear of not being good enough, the need for perfectionism, or too many distractions can cause the problem. He suggested that if you need more time to get started, pick up a book that you admire and copy a chapter that you find particularly well-written. Use a pen and paper or a Word document. The familiar action of putting words on paper can stimulate your creative process.

When I am unable to move ahead with a story, I take a break and go out into nature. If that's not enough, I will use Jerry Jenkins's suggestions and copy a few paragraphs or pages from an article or book I admire. Better yet, I watch a political debate. Before long, I'm angry at the stupidity of the political mind. Once angry, ideas flow.

If you've successfully overcome writer's block, I encourage you to share your strategies and experiences. Your insights could be invaluable to others currently grappling with this challenge.

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