

LINGUA INGLESE I

028LM



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI TRIESTE

28.10.2022

Karoline Steckley

Lesson Title: Tiny Love Stories

Today's lesson starts with a Free Write and a discussion and continues with a writing exercise to get us thinking about writing tiny.

What's on your mind? (5-minute free write)

Rules of the Free Write (adapted from Natalie Goldberg's rules for writing practice)

1. *Don't think.*
2. *Keep your hand moving.*
3. *Don't correct yourself.*
4. *Quantity is better than quality.*
5. *Go crazy.*

Tiny Love Story.

Write a love story of 100 words or less. If you don't feel comfortable writing a love story, make it an adventure story! The important thing is keeping it short.

Tiny Love Stories Introduction

"Tiny Love Stories" is a column in the New York Times. Featuring reader-submitted stories of no more than 100 words. They are often accompanied by a photo. Here are three examples.

'Go All In'

I sit next to my 5-year-old, Jacob. He draws dinosaurs. I draw, too. A lifetime of self-doubt escapes onto the page. I worry my drawing is unrealistic, "bad." He tells me, "It's OK!" I smile but struggle to believe him. I can't remember when I became so self-critical. Jacob draws a splendid dinosaur, shows me, then swipes the paper to the floor. Placing his drawing in the recycling bin, I realize that I have always been too concerned with end results. His lesson for me: Go all in. What matters is the joy. — *Shelby Ritter*

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/04/style/tiny-modern-love-stories-you-are-unmatchable.html>

Send the Old Stuffie



I moved about 1,600 miles with four suitcases filled to the brim. No room for the old: my childhood stuffed animals, Arizona memorabilia or generalized anxiety disorder. As the plane departed for Tennessee, I rewrote my identity; an ideal list of traits, starting with "super chill," ending with "very extroverted." But that first night, as I unpacked boxes in an empty room, my chest tightened. Anxiety had slipped itself into my carry on. Between gasps of air, I texted my mother, "Mail Bearie NOW." My search for independence is ongoing. It now exists amid new and old: new state, old stuffie.

— *Marissa Reaves*

Empty Pages

As I helped my son move out of the apartment he had shared with his girlfriend, I found a birthday gift she had left for me. On it, a note: "I don't know if your mom will still want this." I smoothed my hand over the rich texture of the journal cover, emblazoned with a vibrant astral theme. How well she knew me. A year has passed, yet the pages remain blank.

As my only connection to her, I keep the journal pristine. Fresh with possibility. He broke up with her. I wish I didn't have to.
— *Judy Harju Galliher*

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/08/23/style/tiny-modern-love-stories-i-rewrote-my-identity.html?action=click&module=RelatedLinks&pgtype=Article>

In class, we wrote one tiny love story before reading anyone else's story. Now that you have read three examples (and you can find a million more on the internet, write two more. Try to write one "love story" and one "adventure" story. They can be true or invented.

Bring a copy of two of your tiny love stories to our next class.

We will not have class on November 4, 2022 as the University will be closed. Bring a copy for peer review the week after!

November 11, 2022.

Have fun!

By the way, the book I referred to today was:

The Artist's Way by Julie Cameron

[http://englishonlineclub.com/pdf/Julia%20Cameron%20-%20The%20Artist's%20Way%20-%20A%20Spiritual%20Path%20to%20Higher%20Creativity%20\[EnglishOnlineClub.com\].pdf](http://englishonlineclub.com/pdf/Julia%20Cameron%20-%20The%20Artist's%20Way%20-%20A%20Spiritual%20Path%20to%20Higher%20Creativity%20[EnglishOnlineClub.com].pdf)

Her "Morning Pages" are part of my 1,000 day plan.

The Elite Ultra athlete who inspired the 1,000 day plan was Gordo Byrn and this is a link his interview on the Rich Roll Podcast I told you about.

<https://www.richroll.com/podcast/gordo-byrn-713/>

I hope you had a chance to order this book, but in the meantime, here is the pdf for Eric Hayot's *Elements of Academic Style*. We will start talking about it the next time I see you, so getting a head start is a fantastic idea!

<https://www.ucsiuniversity.edu.my/sites/default/files/the-elements-of-academic-style.pdf>

Finally, here is the link to this week's feedback form! The last question asks you to share one of your Tiny Stories. Don't worry if it's not perfect. I'm just curious.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1N6jYMPmbYenwI0OXFurUIT6IAkIUggwgEfMDcOE4Y78/edit>

See you on November 11, 2022! Bring printed copies of your Tiny Love Stories for peer review!