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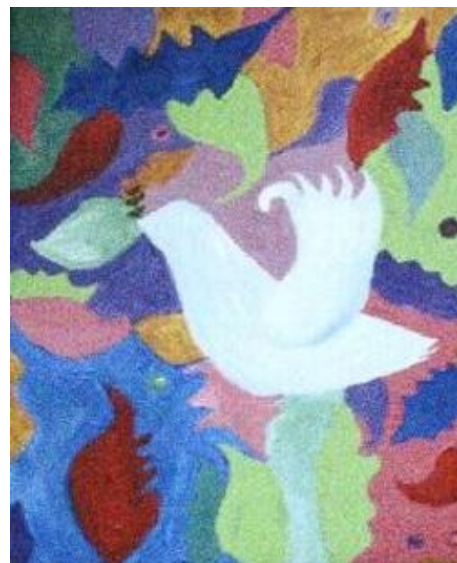
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Come in...and be captivated...

Welcome to ***the write place at the write time***. Imagine that you are seated comfortably in a chic café with the décor of your choice. In the time it takes you to consume the generous warm mug of coffee or tea cradled between your hands, you can step into another world, abandon your senses and delve into another space and time. You do this by allowing a mysterious stranger to pull up a chair across from you and tell you a story. Close your eyes, listen to the words in your mind and be swept away...



"Peace" NMB Copyright 2007

The Nine Year Summer Anniversary Issue

In this issue we are working from the inside out. It is about writing (righting) and reclaiming our inner individual stories because that's where the constructive action to affect the outer world begins. There is a quote by George Bernard Shaw that reads: "Those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything." It is an issue that aspires to conscript change as an amiable accomplice in life's adventure, to draw attention to personal awareness and acknowledgment, to introduce

flexibility to the seeming solidity of self "story," and to recognize the discovery of simplicity in complexity.

We chose the auspicious date of July 3rd for this anniversary issue's release as it coincides with the magazine's official debut date (July 3rd, 2008). We noticed the numinous (the "divine will" or "nod") in the numbers. Last year there was particular attention paid to the significance of the number eight involving that former anniversary issue. This year, we couldn't help but be sensitized to the fact that the numerology of the new release date matches that of our debut for the first time in nine years, coming out to a two. Let's be together in our solitude, partners in a pact to care more compassionately for ourselves so we may care more compassionately for others. In keeping with an inherent paradox of the issue, a deeper outward union is achieved by attaining alignment of the inner self.

Whereas anniversary issues are typically devoted to reflection, this one is an open invitation to "now," the personal power of the moment. In a time when many around the world, coming from different viewpoints, feel little is in their control, it is an opportune season to look within at what we can control. We are being tried and tested about our values and what affects us close to home, what holds the most meaning for us. What better way to uncover the larger answers than to look at our daily lives and discover what empowers us, what compels us to strive for greatness. The season of self has arrived. It is available to us in this moment and every moment. Handwriting the notes for this paragraph, "here and now" was unintentionally written as "here and new." We don't feel this was a coincidence. We are here and ever-present in the possibility of new.

We are, after all, creative creators. We understand the concept of creating something new, yet we rarely utilize the exhilarating gift of innovation in our personal lives. The story we cultivate doesn't have to be cumulative. Circumstances of an hour ago, a decade ago, don't have to dictate the present. We choose what we keep and how and when we keep it. Let's seize and salvage the best, finding ourselves again at the starting line.

Remember—this is our time. Let's take it. Let's make it.

Welcome to the empowerment issue.

In this issue, we meet Marc Lesser, author, Zen teacher, businessman and professional consultant, in the meditative space where mind and spirit converge. In the pursuit of authenticity, we are called to be awake and aware, taking stock of what *is* to understand what we want to be or where we wish to go in our lives. We are reminded of the necessity of being present as we travel the path. With pen acting as sword, we cut through to the true heart of storytelling that breathes through us in every word we feel, think, and act. We are prompted to discover the transformative influence of improvisation on life's stage. In being cognizant of the adaptive merits of our survival instinct, we find liberation amongst former limitations. We take comfort in the assertion that we are not alone. Unlearning our learning, we come to realize how not knowing becomes a gateway to openness, love, and confidence. Finally, we find there is comfort, genuineness, and a clarity beyond clarity in the apparent contradictions that surround us.

Marc Lesser is the author of *Know Yourself, Forget Yourself, Less: Accomplishing More by Doing Less*, and *Z.B.A.: Zen of Business Administration—How Zen Practice Can Transform Your Work and Your Life*. He has served as an executive coach to business leaders of corporations—including Google, Twitter, Facebook, and Genentech—as well as non-profit organizations across the country and around the world. He is a Zen teacher and cofounder of the Search Inside Yourself Leadership Institute where he is presently a master-level teacher and consultant. His numerous experiences in the roles of founder and CEO inform his coaching, consulting, and writing. Lesser received his MBA from New York University, and from Rutgers University, he received his undergraduate degree in psychology.

Overview: The summer anniversary issue is both question and answer, internal and external. An interview that is deeply accessible and accessibly deep broadens our thinking on fundamental levels. The poetry section is an ode to the second glance, encouraging us to dispel initial impressions and take a look at how we look at things. The fiction section speaks of truth—whether or not one chooses to face it, and the way they can be defined by how they choose to handle it if and when they greet it on their own terms. The Our Stories non-fiction page demonstrates having courage in spite of fear, finding blessings in extreme adversity, growing across generational boundaries, appreciating simple pleasures, and breaking free to pursue one's own destiny.

Our Craft Box page features a Q&A about an empowering women's organization that has contributed a chapter to national culture, an essay

about the giving of cathartic credit to self-triumphs, and words on a collective win for the Writers' Challenge where everyone gets a vote. The artwork is plentiful in this issue—with multiple paintings or photos interspersed with the written content of a given page, as well as a video capable of eliciting deep-seated response, this collection of diverse pieces is sure to stir the soul.

Highlights:

The autumn-winter issue is scheduled to be released on 9/22. 1/22, 5/22, and 9/22 will be our publication schedule going forward with reminders and updates sent out accordingly.

We have a Writers' Craft Box which is a section dedicated to giving writers tools, essays, features, and contests to enter. Think of it as an arts and crafts box full of colors and inspiration, or an old toy chest discovered in the attic on a rainy day... In this edition of Writers' Craft Box, we have a Q&A with Virginia Franklin Campbell, President of the National League of American Pen Women which is "the oldest women's arts organization in America." As the nation celebrates its independence, we celebrate an organization of independent women. It is the 120th anniversary of this organization whose members have included dynamic figures such as Eleanor Roosevelt, Maya Angelou, Georgia O'Keeffe, and Pearl S. Buck who was the first woman in the US to be awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature.

We have an essay about acceptance of self-accomplishment. Our own Noelle Sterne, PhD was recruited to write a piece exploring where and why we fall short in standing tall about our successes. We have words from the editor on how this Writers' Challenge proved a challenge indeed, speaking to the needs of the issue and the time. Due to its outcome, we have chosen, in the spirit of togetherness transcending the individual, to have everyone share in the win by casting their vote on what worthy cause or charity we at the magazine will donate \$50 to this summer. Make your mark by helping us make a difference.

We have an Archives page where readers and writers can trace our artistic journey from the beginning and re-read the philosophies of past interview subjects, including Janet Fitch, Alice Hoffman, Erica Bauermeister, Tracy Chevalier, Dennis Lehane, Joanne Harris, Frances Mayes, Arthur Golden, Jodi Picoult, Mona Simpson, and many, many more!

We also have the Scrapbook page which celebrates the magazine community with commentary from our contributors for each year and also has a list of countries we've reached. *Read the latest reflections on our nine year anniversary!

Please send in new announcements to appear in the next issue by August 15th for the return of the Announcements page. We encourage all contributing writers and artists to tell us of their news. We love to support our WPWT veterans as they accomplish great things on their creative paths. We wish to showcase the amazing diversity of activity that takes place amongst the members of our magazine realm, and we also like to give news of our publication to our readership. Announcements can be sent to our submissions e-address.

We have a presence on Facebook via our fan page which offers insights, quotes, tools, resources and updates. Visit Facebook.com and stop by The-Write-Place-at-the-Write-Time-literary-journal page. Follow our Twitter account through @WriteplcWritetm. ***You can also join our e-mail list by providing your e-mail address along with the words "ADD ME" through our feedback form on the Feedback and Questions page.

Inscribing Industry is our associated blog, featuring exercises, articles, book giveaways, special features, reviews, and interviews. *We will be putting up various new features this summer, so be sure to stay tuned! Click on the Inscribing Industry tab to go there directly or visit: <http://inscribingindustry.blogspot.com> and become a follower!

We are a triannual publication (published three times a year), established in July of 2008. We are listed on the *Poets & Writers* site (www.pw.org) under literary magazines. Clicking on our listing describes our publication, past issues, and our editorial focus. We are also listed on Newpages.com, EWR, Duotrope Digest, Agentquery.com, P&E and *The Review Review*. To read more about our philosophies and approach, you can read the interview of our Editor-in-Chief in *The Review Review*: <http://www.thereviewreview.net/interviews/there-blending-culturesgenerations-and-countries>

Our next issue will be our autumn-winter issue due out 9/22. If you have any questions, please write to: questions (at) thewriteplaceatthewritetime (dot) org.

Tweet

"As human beings, our greatness lies not so much in being able to remake the world . . . as in being able to remake ourselves." —Mahatma Gandhi

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