

Title: *Crafting Your Memoir*

Instructor: Melissa Hart

Dates: April 4-8, 2024

Arrival: Thursday, April 4, 2024

Departure: Monday, April 8, 2024

Skill Level: All skill levels welcome

Mobility Level: Easy Mobility, no field trips

Materials List: Paper and pen or laptop and charger

Workshop Description:

This fun and lively workshop will help writers to organize their memoir from life events and themes. Using excerpts from published memoir, participants will look at literary elements, including characterization and setting, dialogue and pacing, narrative arc and structure. Writers will complete daily warm up exercises, share and workshop parts of their drafts in a safe and supportive setting and meet with Melissa 1:1 for questions and feedback.

Agenda + Meals:

We will start the day at nine am with a half hour warm up, followed by a talk about craft. From two to four pm, we'll talk further about craft and workshop short drafts. I will also meet with students to answer their questions one-on-one in half hour meetings.

- Day 1: Thursday, April 4: 2:00-5:00 pm Arrival | Evening on your own
- Day 2: Friday, April 5: 9:00 am Morning Warm-up and Craft Talk | Independent Writing Time | Afternoon Workshop short drafts | Evening on your own
- Day 3: Saturday, April 6: 9:00 am Morning Warm-up and Craft Talk | Independent Writing Time | Afternoon Workshop short drafts | Evening on your own
- Day 4: Sunday, April 7: 9:00 am Morning Warm-up and Craft Talk | Independent Writing Time | Afternoon Workshop short drafts | **Group dinner provided by PLAYA + Group Share**
- Day 5: Monday, Oct. 9: Depart by noon

Bio: Melissa Hart is the author of eight published books, including the memoirs *Wild Within: How Rescuing Owls Inspired a Family* and *Gringa: A Contradictory Girlhood*. Her short memoir has appeared in *CNN*, *High Country News*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Real Simple*, *HuffPost Personal*, and numerous other publications. She teaches for Southern New Hampshire University's MFA program in Creative Writing. When she's not writing, she loves to hike and run and bike long distance, kayak and Nordic ski and explore the outdoors.

www.melissahart.com and Instagram @WildMelissaHart