

# Writing from Pictures

*Teacher's Resource*

Second Edition, August 2010  
Institute for Excellence in Writing, L.L.C.

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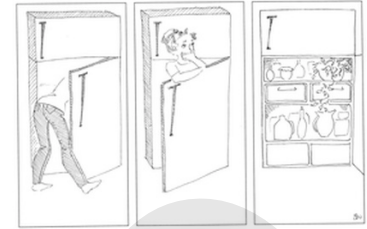
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**Picture 1: Woman in Fridge**Renegade Salad

- I. For Mrs. Annette Baker it was an average Saturday.
1. sleeps in, gets up barely awake
  2. comfy jeans, stocking feet, worn T-shirt
  3. kids watching cartoons, makes coffee
- Clincher:** Toast and strawberry jam had always been part of traditional Saturdays, so Mrs. Baker opened the 'fridge and began to rummage around.



- II. Something odd caught her eye. Her mouth opened. She was shocked.
1. strikes worried pose
  2. leaning on 'fridge hand over mouth
  3. thinks, "When did I last cook?"

**Clincher:** Annette realized she had not cooked for a whole month, but could that explain this shocking discovery?

- III. Standing by the 'fridge, she suddenly realized the implications of no homemade, family meals; she had been neglecting her kids.
1. goes to hug kids, 'fridge swings open
  2. reveals huge growing salad, roots, leaves, etc.
  3. Annette's family grows up
  4. loving, kind, honest godly citizens

**Clincher:** So the story ends peacefully, all because a renegade salad reminded one woman of the importance of motherhood.

**Picture 2: Man and Woman at Table**Freak Soup

- I. Jamie and Justin sat silently contemplating nothing in particular.
1. toddlers being baby-sat, night alone
  2. candles, glass bowls, flowers
  3. not sure what to say
  4. waiting for soup to heat up
- Clincher:** Their meditative stillness was broken by a loud energetic knock on the door.



- II. Amazingly, it was their mutual childhood friend Mark and his beautiful, raven haired wife, Sapphire.
1. chat, then embarrassing long silence
  2. waiting for soup to be ready
  3. timer goes off, Jamie serves everyone

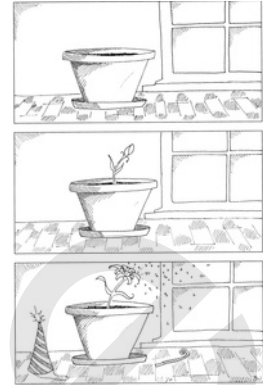
**Clincher:** Luckily, Sapphire had an intellect to match her beauty, and she quickly jump-started the conversation with her wry, witty humor.

- III. As the words and smiles flowed easily around the table, Mark took a moment to analyze his soup.
1. celery, carrots, chicken, mushrooms
  2. Mark part-time cop, taken first aid
  3. recognizes mushrooms as poisonous
  4. everyone rushes off to the hospital

**Clincher:** After having their stomachs pumped, everyone thanked Mark profusely for his lifesaving observation and then added mushroom soup to their mental list of freak accidents about which they must warn their children.

**Picture 3: Empty Pot by Window**Perpetual Psychology

- I. Lifeless and lonely, the small desolate flower pot sat in the kitchen by the window.
1. Jack had cruel babysitter, distorted fairy tales
  2. now bean phobic, gets counseling
  3. got pot, too scared to plant
- Clincher:** As Jack walked through the kitchen, his eye rested on the forlorn pot which he had purchased many months ago, and in his heart he vowed to plant a flower.
- II. During the next meeting of Plant Paranoid Anonymous, he boldly announced his daring and defiant intention.
1. goes to store, randomly buys seeds
  2. fearfully plants, faithfully waters
  3. tiny green stem appears, then grows
- Clincher:** Eventually, he was beaming and boasting over his budding flower.
- III. One sunny spring morning the moment of truth dawned as Jack reached for the corn flakes and saw out of the corner of his eye a brilliant splash of color. His flower had bloomed! (bonus vss)
1. has party with support group
  2. confetti, streamers, party hats everywhere
  3. no more writing obsessive compulsive hate mail to Miracle Grow
  4. suddenly, rock through window, calls People for Ethnical Treatment of Plants
- Clincher:** As Jack dropped the receiver and reached protectively for his beautiful blooming flower he realized he would need years of counseling to get over this terrible experience.

**Picture 4: Woman with Mixing Bowl**The Young Saboteur

- I. Mrs. Frigg Asgard was as frugal as she was beautiful.
1. making zucchini eggplant bread
  2. side dish to “What Ya Got Stew”
  3. everything from thrift shop
- Clincher:** As the lithe, attractive Mrs. Asgard was stirring the last chunks of eggplant into the dough, the mailman arrived with the latest edition of *The Tightwad Gazette*. (vss) She rushed to read it.
- II. While she was absent, her son Loki quickly and mischievously devised a plot of treachery and sabotage.
1. makes exploding concoction from book
  2. *101 Cheap Science Experiments*
  3. dumps into bowl, stirs
- Clincher:** Swiftly and stealthily, he darted from the kitchen to establish an alibi before his mother would discover the sabotaged bread.
- III. When Mrs. Asgard walked into the kitchen, the bowl erupted into a frothing foaming monster.
1. screams, drops mail on floor
  2. has suspicions, finds son
  3. big brown eyes, “Who me?”
- Clincher:** It was not long till the young saboteur was sopping up the greenish purple batter, but that was certainly better than eating it.



**Picture 5: Two Kids Looking in a Window**The Laughing Detectives

- I. During the time Jatshuwa and Timothy had been detectives, they had experienced an emotion: boredom.
1. no demand for preteen crime fighters
  2. practice covert intelligence on Marcus
  3. Marcus goes in house
- Clincher:** As they guiltily peek over the window sill, the adrenalin rush destroyed the last clinging remnants of boredom. (vss) Suddenly Marcus glanced up.
- II. Fortunately, he was too preoccupied to notice them, and he remained completely oblivious to their presence.
1. Marcus dances with broom, sings
  2. kisses broom, makes fool of himself
  3. Timothy turns red trying not to laugh
- Clincher:** Jatshuwa and Timothy, who did not want Marcus to notice them, successfully suppressed hysterical laughter for about ten seconds.
- III. Then giggling, guffawing and gasping, the two staggered away from the window.
1. Marcus hears, rushes out, embarrassed
  2. yells, threatens, but Jatshuwa and Timothy laugh harder
  3. realizes how funny he looked
- Clincher:** Marcus surveyed the pathetically hysterical pair, then sat down and laughed with them.

**Picture 6: Royal Woman Riding on Elephant**The Walking Queen

- I. Queen Rebecca reclined on her elephant, Omni, with all the royal dignity that was expected of a powerful and prominent leader.
1. Rebecca = beauty, wealth, power
  2. on the way to peace treaty
  3. is not worried, elephant knows way
- Clincher:** As she cooled herself with a peacock feather fan, she discarded her aura of regal dignity and relaxed.
- II. Unbeknownst to her, in the tall grass there was a small rodent searching out food for his family.
1. Rebecca daydreaming, distracted
  2. rodent smells dinner, changes direction
  3. queen and rodent collision course
- Clincher:** For a long moment the tan grassland mouse and the giant gray elephant stared at each other with horrified fascination. Then they both bolted.
- III. In the sudden confusion the elephant dropped both saddle and rider onto the dusty grassland plain.
1. tries to coax elephant back
  2. but he runs for home
  3. she retrieves veil and headband
- Clincher:** As she brushed off her purple gowns the elephant vanished into the horizon, leaving her to find her own transportation. So she began to walk.



