



## Welcome to the Creative Writing Course!

Thank you for registering to take part in this course. I hope you enjoy the content, and it is useful for you in your writing journey.

This course workbook is for you to keep, and use throughout the course. It contains the teaching notes and the workbooks where you'll write your thoughts and ideas. You will need to refer to the notes often, so please keep them in a safe place.

I hope you're excited to begin!

## **Before we proceed, let me introduce myself:**



My name is Tolulope Popoola. I'm an author, a publisher and writing coach at Accomplish Press, and I am your tutor for this Creative Writing Course.

Let me tell you a bit about myself: I have always been a writer, since I was a little girl. I remember writing my first fairy tale stories when I was six years old, in Primary 1. I thought that was cool, until I got teased by my classmates for being weird, so I stopped.

Still, I've always been an avid reader and I was addicted to books when I was growing up. In school, my favourite subjects were English Language and English Literature, and I used to win prizes for them. As a teenager, I was the weird one always scribbling things, and writing in a diary. I found that I expressed myself better with words when I write them down, so writing was my way of coping with the angst-filled teen years. But again, it was uncool, so I buried my writing skills and just focused on passing exams.

Fast forward to when I finished college and had to choose a university course, and I somehow ended up studying Accounting and Economics. Then I followed up with a Masters in Finance and Investment. After I graduated, I started working in Accounting and Finance jobs, and soon realised I was miserable.

In 2006, I discovered blogging and I was immediately attracted to the idea of writing an online diary. I started a blog, then another, and another! I wrote about daily life, about my career, I wrote about relationships, and slowly, I started trying my hand at writing short stories. Within a year, I had rediscovered my love for words, and I knew that writing was what I was meant to do with my life.

I took a few writing classes, and started writing an online blog series with a few of my friends, which was great fun. Shortly afterwards, in 2008, I decided to quit Accounting for good, and focus on being a writer as my profession. It wasn't easy, but it was totally worth it. I now do something I enjoy and find fulfilling.

I've completely changed my career path. I've written two novels, I've written and published four flash fiction collections. I founded Accomplish Press, which is my coaching and publishing company, I've coached and worked with upcoming authors, and published several books. I run creative writing classes for kids and courses to help other aspiring authors to make their writing and publishing dreams come true.

In my work, I'm often contacted by aspiring authors who have questions about how to start writing their novel. They have the desire to write, they have good ideas, but they are feeling confused, stressed and overwhelmed about the process.

That's why I created this course to help you. If you're an aspiring author who wants to write a novel, this course breaks down the process into manageable steps for you so that you don't have to be confused or overwhelmed. This course is suitable for beginners who are writing a novel for the first time. It will be a road map for you to confidently start working on your novel in a few weeks. You will have clear guides to follow, and you'll actually enjoy the brainstorming and writing process.

I hope you're ready to learn and implement these strategies. Grab your pen and notebook, and let's begin.