

Dear Ellen,

I want to both compliment you and thank you for a wonderful writing class experience. It has represented a fabulous early step for me on a new writing journey.

You may recall that I had reported reading Julia Cameron's book and writing "morning pages" every day from January through March. That was basically necessary for me to get up the courage to sign up for your class as someone who had still never written anything (except lots of work-related stuff). I confess that I had very low expectations, not really knowing what to expect and being somewhat dubious of the quality that might be offered through the school district program. I figured that, at best, I would get some writing exercise and have some discipline imposed on me and, at worst, I would endure harmful criticism but wouldn't let it bother me.

So, how pleasantly surprised I have been to find you as a great teacher who really knows how to encourage writers. I have learned so much helpful information. More importantly, I have gotten several ideas for things to write that I am now pursuing. The upshot is, I am now writing, for the first time in my life — yay!

Because I think I can move forward for a while with the inspiration and energy from this class, I am not going to sign up for your workshop this month. I do anticipate joining future groups, however, as well as perhaps taking this same course again, as many of your other students apparently do. It is a tribute to you that you are able to attract such a nice cadre of fine writers as students, who really enhance the experience. Definitely keep me on your mailing list.

With Great Appreciation,

Libby