



A Program of InsideOut Literary Arts

Workshop Title: What Happens to the Lost?

Level: Novice Writers, **Developing Writers**, Experienced Writers

Duration: **1.5 hrs**

(15 mins) Check in:

- How do you handle loss? Is losing a person any different from losing an object? Why or why not?

(15 mins) Resource Building:

- List:
 - 3 clichés
 - Clichés are overused phrases. These are often avoided in writing and music because they are unoriginal.
 - Choose 5 emotions that you felt TODAY from the list at this link:
 - <https://www.hoffmaninstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/Practices-Feelings-Sensations.pdf>
 - 5 modes of transportation (be creative!)
 - 5 adjectives you would NEVER want used to describe you

(20 mins) Example poem:

- "You and I are Disappearing" - Yosef Komunyakaa
 - <https://poets.org/poem/you-and-i-are-disappearing>
 - Discussion:
 - What is the poet showing the reader? What do we see?
 - How do *you* feel reading this?
 - What disappeared in this poem?
 - Who do you think the burning girl is?

(20 mins) Prompt:

- What have you watched disappear? Try telling the story first from your point of view and then from the point of view of whomever disappeared. Be sure to include a description of time. Most importantly, make each emotion you are feeling clear. Refer back to Hoffman Institute's list of feelings.

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City Wide Poets

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OR

- What happens after something disappears? Does it move to an alternate plane? Exist in a dark nothingness? Write a sequel to this poem. Most importantly, make each emotion you are feeling clear. Refer back to Hoffman Institute's list of feelings.

Online Sharing Options

- (10 mins) allow 2 - 3 students to share their work
- (10 mins) create share-groups of 3 or 4 students. Students should share work among themselves privately (email, google drive, text, etc.)
- (10 mins) allow all students to share 1 - 3 lines from their writing. Speed is key!

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