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:
  - 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.

Celebrating the power of youth voice since 1995.

www.insideoutdetroit.org
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!