

# COOKING UP SOME *CHICKEN SOUP*:

## HOW TO WRITE FUN, INSPIRATIONAL PERSONAL ESSAYS

SARA FRANCIS-FUJIMURA

[www.sarafujimura.com/Workshops.html](http://www.sarafujimura.com/Workshops.html)

### I. WHAT IS CREATIVE NONFICTION

- A. Fillers and micro-writing
- B. Back-page essays
- C. Magazine articles with a personalized hook
- D. Travel vignettes
- E. *Chicken Soup* essays
- F. Family narratives and macro-writing

### II. HOW TO FIND YOUR UNIQUE VOICE THROUGH CREATIVE NONFICTION

Three specific ways to hone your voice starting today

### III. WHAT'S MY MOTIVATION

How to make your family stories profitable

### IV. THREE POPULAR WAYS TO TELL YOUR STORY

- A. Big take-home message
- B. Ticking clock
- C. Reversals

### V. WRITING YOUR TRUTH AND THE POTENTIAL PITFALLS OF DARING TO DO SO

- A. Should you censor yourself
- B. Dealing with potential fall-out from your truth

### VI. FIVE PLACES TO SEND YOUR CREATIVE NONFICTION (Handout)

# CONTRACTS, KILL FEES, AND SERIAL RIGHTS, OH MY!

## A CRASH COURSE IN MAGAZINE WRITING

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### I. WHY YOU SHOULD WRITE FOR MAGAZINES

### II. WHAT IN THE WORLD SHOULD I WRITE ABOUT

- A. Tantalizing titles
- B. Targeting your audience
- C. Timing your query
- D. Identifying your expertise

### III. WRITING A QUERY LETTER STEP-BY-STEP (Handout)

- A. Get their attention (1<sup>st</sup> paragraph)
- B. What's in it for them (2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph)
- C. Why you are the perfect person for the job (3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph)
- D. Openers and Closers
- E. Clips, formatting and other details

### IV. YOU GOT A BITE! NOW WHAT?

- A. Reading your contract
- B. Breakdown on rights
- C. Writing on spec
- D. Kill fees

### V. Q&A