

Writing the Ineffable, Finding Words for the Numinous

A Clinical Writing Workshop with Suzi Naiburg (Full Day/6 Hours)

Whether we encounter the ineffable in or out of our consulting room, in the realm of psyche, spirit, or the natural world, how can we write about such encounters in experience-near ways for the 21st century? How can we find words to do justice to our experience, not just an idea, of the numinous? How might we capture clinical moments that are awe inspiring and/or terrifying so that others may know more about them and about themselves?

Poets, creative writers, clinical writers, and those how have written about science, religious experience, and the natural world will be our guides. We will mine gifted writers for inspiration and practical lessons in the craft of writing, and you will have a chance to put what you learn immediately into practice. Bring your favorite writing instruments, including laptops and tablets.

Those who have taken my writing workshops before will find the curriculum for this workshop new, but previous work with me is not a prerequisite. Both new and experienced writers alike are welcome. Close reading and writing exercises, didactic material, and discussion will guide our explorations of the challenges and opportunities of writing in experience-near ways about those encounters that defy our ability to put them into words.

Suzi Naiburg, PhD, LICSW
149 Pine Street
Belmont, MA 02478
USA
00-1-617-484-4619 [When calling from UK]
s_naiburg@yahoo.com

Graduate and Faculty Member of the Massachusetts Institute for Psychoanalysis

Author of *Structure and Spontaneity in Clinical Prose: A Writer's Guide for Psychoanalysts Psychotherapists* (Routledge, 2015)

Selected Publications

Naiburg, S. (2003). Mentors at the gate: Editors talk about clinical writing for journal publication. *Clinical Social Work Journal* 31 (3): 295-313.

Naiburg, S. (2006). Between fate and destiny: Oedipus and reactive certainty in the consulting room. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues* 16 (4):445-463.

Naiburg, S. (2015). *Structure and spontaneity in clinical prose: A writer's guide for psychoanalysts and psychotherapists*. New York: Routledge.

Short Biography

Suzi Naiburg, PhD, LICSW, is a graduate and faculty member of the Massachusetts Institute for Psychoanalysis, the author of *Structure and Spontaneity in Clinical Prose: A Writer's Guide for Psychoanalysts and Psychotherapists* (Routledge, 2015), and an editor and writing coach who has taught more than 50 clinical writing workshops. She has a private practice in Belmont, MA.