



## Generating Ideas for Imaginative Writing

### I. Idea #1 - Respond To A Text That Already Exists

A. Examples of novels that are responses to existing texts:

1. *Circe* (Madeline Miller) – Response to *Odyssey* enchantress
2. *The Goose Girl* (Shannon Hale) – response to Grimm fairytale
3. *Austenland* (Shannon Hale) – response to Jane Austen’s novels

B. Respecting Copyright

1. Choose texts that are in the public domain or at least 100 years old  
to avoid copyright infringement
  - a. fairytales
  - b. Greek myths
2. Research copyright information for any text you respond to

### II. Idea #2 – Ekphrastic Writing (Writing From Art)

A. Examples of poems that are responses to art

1. “Landscape with the Fall of Icarus” (William Carlos Williams)

B. Places to look for art to be inspired by

1. Local museums
2. Online art catalogs (Example: art.com)
3. Your own favorite piece of art

### III. Idea #3 – Be Inspired By A Setting

A. Examples of plays that have been inspired by a simple setting

1. “The Game of Life” (A. Zipperer) – inspired by the Life board  
game board
2. “Melting” (E. Zipperer) – inspired by a backyard setting

B. Find a simple setting and ask yourself this question: What happened there?