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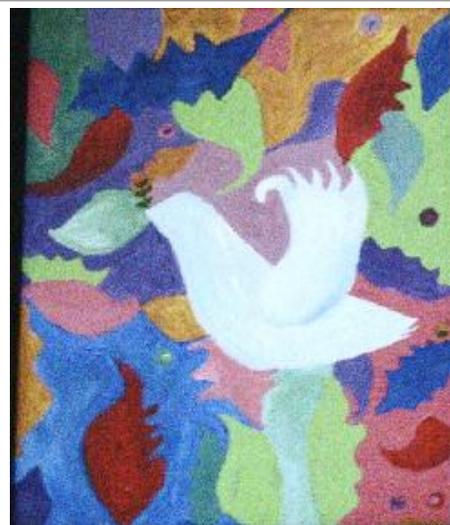
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Come in...and be captivated...

Welcome to *[the write place at the write time](#)*. Imagine that you are seated comfortably in a chic café with the décor of your choice. In the time it takes you to consume the generous warm mug of coffee or tea cradled between your hands, you can step into another world, abandon your senses and delve into another space and time. You do this by allowing a mysterious stranger to pull up a chair across from you and tell you a story. Close your eyes, listen to the words in your mind and be swept away...



"Peace" N.M.B Copyright 2007

Celebrating Two Years of Literary Treasures... The Two Year Anniversary Issue

At the one year mark last summer, we talked about reflection and the significance of the summer solstice, once believed to be the half-mark of a year. A Romany tradition set out an orange to symbolize the sun and a lemon to symbolize the moon. Cloves were pressed into both, creating a beautiful fragrance and display which was meant to cleanse away outmoded feelings associated with the first six months and start fresh for those to follow. Now, at the two year mark, it seems that so much more than a year has passed since last summer. So much has transpired, victories and trials both; a harsh winter and heavy, heavy rains. Yet looking out to the countryside, every single blossom is far more in bloom than it ever was. There is a confident fullness to the flowers, trees and what I now refer to as the 'mutant' hostas along my stone

pathway. It seems that there is more strength and beauty with this summer's chorus of growth, surpassing all years past. In this way, we too have grown beautifully, together and created a publication that never ceases to amaze those of us who first dreamt of it~ our high-reaching dreams are pale compared to what's blossomed and for that we thank all of you~ This issue we dedicate to you and hope that you have a full, rich summer and a bountiful harvest in the autumn! Thank you for the journey and all that we have yet to accomplish together~

This issue, we traverse the globe with best-selling author, Frances Mayes of *Under the Tuscan Sun*, *Bella Tuscany*, *A Year in the World* and *Bringing Tuscany Home*. *Under the Tuscan Sun* went to Number One on *The New York Times* Best Seller list and remained on the list for a period of over two years. A film adaptation was made with actress, Diane Lane in 2003. Also a food-and-travel writer, poet and novelist, Mayes attended and taught at San Francisco State University, where she eventually became Professor of Creative Writing, director of The Poetry Center, and chair of the Department of Creative Writing. Enriching our lives one sense at a time, join us on an adventure with the incredible Mayes...

We enter the forbidden realm of the willow world with Arthur Golden, best-selling author of *Memoirs of a Geisha*. Golden is our capable guide with his illuminated prose through this corridor of history which depicts the youth of his protagonist, Nitta Sayuri, during the turbulent period of transition in Japan from the early 1930s through the late 1940s. Golden, who holds degrees from Harvard, Columbia and Boston University, enchanted readers world-wide with his intimate portrayal of geisha and Japanese culture. His novel, translated into thirty-two languages, inspired the 2005 film, directed by Rob Marshall which won three Academy Awards. *Memoirs* made its home on *The New York Times* best-seller list for two years after its 1997 release. Step behind the veil of the secret willow world and learn of the craftsmanship that went into forming the unforgettable tale...

Making Headlines: We have an **Announcements** page for ongoing issues- we love to celebrate and support our contributing artists and writers as they accomplish great things on their creative paths and we also like to give news of our publication to the readership. We encourage **all** contributing writers and artists to tell us of their news so that we can assemble a page that keeps updates on such news items.

Our **Book Reviews** page features author, Paul Kilgore, a practicing lawyer and Minnesota Law school graduate, with his short-story book entitled, *Losing Camile*. Kilgore has contributed to the St. Paul Pioneer Press, won the Minnesota Monthly's Tamarack Award for short fiction and had his work featured on *A Prairie Home Companion*.

Our **Exploration of Theme** page explores the man behind the mask- novelist Gaston Leroux and his timeless novel, *The Phantom of the Opera*. Through Leroux's experiences, we take a deeper look at the inherent themes and possible inspirations for this gothic romance...

We have **Writers' Craft Box** which is a section dedicated to giving writers' hints, tools, essays and advice. Think of it as an arts and crafts box full of colors and inspiration... or an old toy chest discovered in the attic on a rainy day... This time we feature not only an essay on one of the most comprehensive tools to have on your desktop, but also a 'BEST OF' column full of the resources, tricks and observations from all our issues to further your creative writing and productivity~ all in one place!

We have an ARCHIVES page where readers and writers can trace our artistic journey from the beginning and re-read the wisdom of writers such as best-selling novelists Janet Fitch, Alice Hoffman and more! We have a Feedback form which we **encourage** you to use and three brand new contests for this summer edition of **Writers' Contest!** to try your hand at and keep exercising those creative muscles!

We are a quarterly publication listed on the Poets & Writers site (www.pw.org) under literary magazines. Clicking on our listing describes our publication, past issues, and our editorial focus.

Our next issue will be the autumn issue due out September 22nd. Submissions deadline for the autumn issue is September 1st. Please check the submissions guidelines page before submitting and if you have any questions, please write to: questions@thewriteplaceatthewritetime.org

"To be an artist includes much; one must possess many gifts- absolute gifts- which have not been acquired by one's own effort. And, moreover, to succeed,

the artist much possess the courageous soul... the brave soul. The soul that dares and defies"~ Kate Chopin, *The Awakening*

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