

Introductions

Finding your writer's voice

Short assignment

Looking for your story—read aloud from assignment

Establishing the narrative arc—events upon which the narrative climaxes

Research—Places to go to find out the facts of your story

Resources memoir/bio writing resources on web handout

Publishing Resources

iUniverse	Self-publishing
Lulu.com	Self-Publishing
Writer's Market 2010	listing of literary agents and publishers
Literary Marketplace	listing of agents and publishers
Fresh Yarn (freshyarn.com)	Publishes personal essays
Poets & Writer's	listings of contests, grants, and publishers
Connecticut Authors & Publishers Association	www.aboutcapa.com
Mediabistro.com	classes in writing, memoirs, magazine
<i>How to Sell, Then Write Your Nonfiction Book</i>	Blythe Camenson
<i>The Situation and the Story</i>	Vivian Gornick

Research Resources

Jewish Historical Society	www.jhsgh.org
333 Bloomfield Ave. West Hartford, CT	
Connecticut State Library (genealogy resources)	www.cslib.org/handg.htm
Your local public library	
Synagogue archives (if they have one onsite)	
Oral interviews	

Sometimes the best way to publish your memoir is to start off small. Write a personal essay on your subject or turn one of your chapters into a stand alone essay. Email me at amaislens@gmail.com. I am available for writing consultations for a small fee.

Here are a list of publications who take personal essays:

New York Times "Modern Love" contact Dan Jones modernlove@nytimes.com

New York Times Magazine "Lives" contact John Glassie lives@nytimes.com

Newsweek.com "My Turn" contact Christina Gillham myturn@newsweek.com

Saveur contact Georgia Freedman Georgia.freedman@bonniercorp.com

Worldhum.com (travel stories)

Spirituality and Health editors editors@spiritualityandhealth.com

The Sun Essays, Memoirs and True Stories

Smithsonian "Last Page" contact Mark Strauss straussm@si.edu

AARP Magazine "life lessons" contact Margaret Guroff mguroff@aarp.org

The Believer contact Meehan Crist Meehan@believermag.com

And Memoir New magazine dedicated to memoir and nonfiction writing

Types of Memoir

Memoir: your book that shares your story whether it is your life or a piece of it that was interesting to others

Graphic Memoir: photos/art juxtaposed with the written word to tell the story of a life or a piece of a life ex. Persepolis

Oral History: an essay you might hear on NPR or a nonfiction piece you read as in a story telling show at the library or coffeehouse like the Buttonwood Tree in Middletown

Personal Essay

Lyric Memoir: done in poetic verse or poetic form

Blog: a computerized web diary where you tell a little bit of your story each day Create your own blog at blogger.com or wordpress.com.

Journal: a place to write your deepest thoughts on paper or in private computer files

You name it. Feel free to explore and combine these ideas with your own to create your story in art.