



Master Your Writing!

By **Miriam Songco (Open Post)**

Updated March 10, 2014 at 7:38 pm |

Writing, at a glance, may seem like a piece of cake to most. I mean, how hard can it really be? All a writer has to do is jot down the countless ideas that run wild in his/her mind. Piece of cake? Well, I say, peace may be far from it. Try looking out an open window as you inhale the smog-filled air, you see dozens of cars rushing to and from or hear your neighbor argue with a stranger over a parking spot. In this moment you realize the ideas that were stirring inside of you has since faded, and this may be another episode of the inevitable writer's block. No need to panic... venturing out on a writing adventure just might be the motivation you've been searching for to bring your story to life!

Michelangelo Screenwriting (inspirational writing retreats) has numerous programs this summer in Italy, sure to get your creative juices going. Each two-week retreat provides a peaceful setting and the perfect tools for all writers. Classes, personal consultations and sightseeing are just a few examples of this perfect getaway. Screenwriting professionals who have plenty of experience will guide each retreat by giving expert advice and offering problem solving skills. Think of it as the vacation you've always wanted, all while getting the extra boost of encouragement for new and unfinished projects.

Enhance your skills and sign up for the **Orvieto Retreat; Practical Film & TV Writing**. Taking place June 15 - June 28, this retreat offers visitors a cultural and traditional experience of Italy all while honing in on your writing skills and learning new tricks of the trade. The **Villa Rewriting Retreat** on June 29 - July 12 in Cortona, Tuscany, takes place at the beautifully restored farmhouse, Villa Michelangelo. Paul Chitlik, founder of Michelangelo Screenwriting and author of *Rewrite*, will lead the workshop and focus on improving the writer's existing scripts.

Full of inspiration, education, and enlightenment, Michelangelo Screenwriting will ignite the writer in all of us. Rates for their retreats vary depending on which one you choose. To find out more about their upcoming programs, please visit www.michelangeloscreenwriting.com. After all, mastering the art of your writing is priceless!

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A bat was captured and found to be infected with rabies; a runner said the bat had landed on him during the run.

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Retired Sergeant Gary Clark was honored for his heroic efforts during the 2013 Norris Canyon shooting.

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The girls ranged in age from 12 to 19, police said. The younger girls were also reportedly stabbed in the chest.

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