

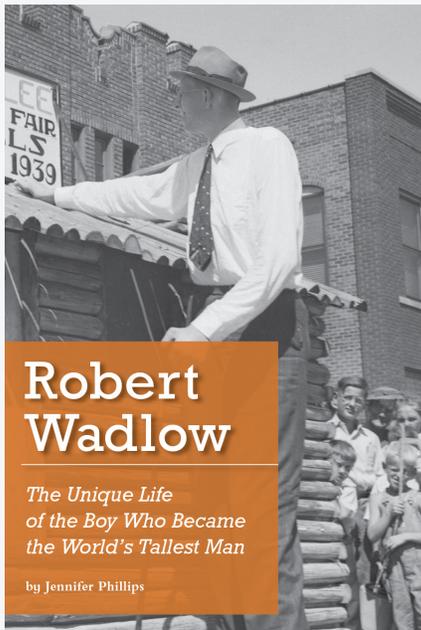
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Hello, fellow writers, readers and creatives!



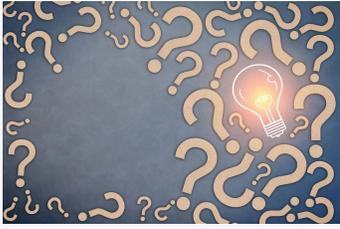
What's New

I hope you are doing well and enjoying the start to fall. I've been super busy and feel a bit wonky because of it.

For one, I launched the updated version of my children's biography on *Robert Wadlow: The Unique Life of the Boy Who Became the World's Tallest Man*. These things always take more time than planned. It wasn't listing correctly on Amazon at first and that delayed next steps. But it seems to all be fixed now, whew!

Robert handled the challenges of his body size and non-stop world attention with an impressive amount of grace and maturity. His story always helps me to reflect on how I handle challenges. **Educators and parents will want to [check out the book page on my website](#) for free downloads to use with your kiddos.**

And now I'm preparing to tackle something that's been on my bucket list: I am heading to the Poconos to participate in a Highlights Foundation intensive writing workshop, this one on picture book biographies. I'm so stoked!



Creativity Practice

This fall, I am delivering my workshop in local libraries that explores **simple ways to bust out of our usual ways of thinking**. These are helpful in various aspects of life and that includes our writing.

The first step is to recognize the typical ways of thinking about an issue. For our writing, this can be usual story structures, usual ways of describing characters, usual settings, and so on. Paying attention to this helps us to break away from these mind ruts and be more open to creative approaches.

Here's a writing example: When we think of point of view, what are the defaults that come to mind? First and third person, right? [Here's a blog post exploring unusual points of view.](#)

Here's a non-writing example: Hikers stranded at the top of a waterfall recently kept their cool and didn't stick to just the usual ways of dealing with such a predicament. While they may have thought it was a silly or fruitless idea, they scratched a cry for help on a bottle and let the water carry it away. **It worked!**



Cool Resource

Let's celebrate the many bloggers who like to generate lists for the rest of us to use. [Here's a curated list from Writer's Digest of websites that can help stimulate your creativity.](#) I'm sure this just scratches the surface, but this list pointed me to some new sites to bookmark.

Alright, off to get my coffee.

Happy writing and creative thinking!

Jennifer Phillips

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