

Words Other Than Those You Normally Use

"Why go anywhere when it rains like this?"

This is a phrase I have written on a post-it note tucked inside my copy of "3 Sections" by Vijay Seshadri. I thought it was from one of his poems. I sat down to write this prompt idea out here, looked for it, read a bunch of his poems, and couldn't find the phrase, so I guess it is one that came out of my own head while I was reading. If I find it in one of his poems, I'll let you know.

Thank you for reading the pre-prompt ramble. Here's the actual prompt:

Take that phrase why go anywhere when it rains like this? and run with it. Prose, poetry, dialogue in a scene, whatever you like. But here's the catch: I want you to find words that have nothing to do with rain, but everything to do with something other than weather. For example -- baking, hunting, or string theory. Research a vocabulary for an activity, hobby, profession, or idea, and make a list of the words you find. Weave that newfound language into what you write.

Leave it alone for awhile, then go back to it, and see how that vocabulary changes the meaning, mood, or tone from what you might have written if you just stuck with the weather, or the language you generally gravitate toward when you write.

Why go anywhere when it rains like this,
droplets in overhand and underhand,
a half hitch of drear,
the fray of anxious
interchange

... you get the picture. I used the language of knot tying for that quick example. Have fun! Share if you catch anything! Email: jenniferdunnhill@gmail.com