Narrative Writing
by Bruce Cabell

The following poem
Will show you how
To compose a **Narrative**
Right here and now.

But before you begin
It's up to you
Which narrative to choose
Since there are two.

Fictional and **Personal**
Are their special names
But having some differences
There's a need to explain.

A **Fictional Narrative**
When it is done
Is a story made-up
Using imagination.

And a **Personal Narrative**
Is certainly true
It's a real-life experience
That has happened to you.

Fictional characters
Have a problem… no doubt
And a **personal narrative**
May go without.

Now let me tell you
What makes them the same
So I'll list the similarities
And proceed to explain.

In the story's *beginning*
You'll start with a **lead**
Then introduce the **characters**
And their **traits** indeed.

Plus you'll add the **setting**
That's the **time of year**
And also the **place**
Whether far or near.

Next comes the *middle*
So make sure you begin
To write the **events**
Recording **action** within.

And to support the action
Include **adverbs** and **verbs**
Describe with **adjectives**
Or **sensory** words.

Plus at this time
You shouldn't wait
To include your **details**
To **elaborate**.

Make sure the details
Are written throughout
Because narrative writing
Can't do without.

Then record a **simile**
Before you are done
And try **humor** or **suspense**
To get your readers' attention.

Also the *middle*
Has to show
That **transition words** and **phrases**
Help your story to flow.

Last but not least
The *end* has its turn
Where a **problem is solved**
Or a **lesson is learned**.

And to write a **strong ending**
You'll need to know how
To make your readers wonder
And to make them scream "WOW!"

So close with an **idea**
Dialogue or **question**
But again a personal narrative
Has to end with a **lesson**.

Your story's complete
It seems to appear
So **reread your story**
To make sure it is clear.

Now share with your teacher
Or share with a friend
And **read with expression**
From beginning to end.