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## Learning to Write

**Griffith REVIEW**  
**Issue 23 (Autumn 2009)**

**Scott, Rosie**

**Abstract:** That magnificent old monkey-apple tree shading the butcher's shop lodged in my mind through a strange trick of memory. There I was in that slow, tranced state of childhood, staring up into its layers of shining green, deep in thought, the dry cleaners hissing and banging behind me. Years later, that exact moment came back to me with all the force of a hallucination while I was writing a passage for my first novel. The writing fell into something so good and clear, with such an exhilarating

rush, it was as if I had already thought it out all those years before at that moment of gazing at the tree as a child. The experience was so vivid it was like time travel; for that second I went to live again in my childish body, think with my childish mind, experience again that intense moment. My thoughts as a child were the carriage and connection between child and adult self across the gulf of years.



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