

Informed by a writing philosophy that values both spontaneity and discipline, this text offers practical advice and strategies for developing a writing process that is centered on play and supported by an understanding of America's rich literary traditions. With consideration to the psychology of invention, Every provides students with exercises aimed to make writing in its early stages a form of play that gives way to more enriching insights through revision, embracing the writing of poetry as both a love of language and a tool that enables us to explore ourselves and better understand the world. The volume includes resources for students seeking to publish and build a writing-centered lifestyle or career.

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NAMING THE UNNAMABLE

AN APPROACH TO POETRY
FOR NEW GENERATIONS

I don't buy much anymore
I used to walk in circles
Around department stores
And the curved edges of
Barstools
Searching
But it's all seemed to dissolve
Into a more filling hunger
One that reaches
For the familiar black cotton dress
Because I've stopped preparing for someone
Stopped wandering endless circles
Trying to fill my empty spaces
With things