



BY LEVELUP LEARNING

A blue-toned, textured illustration of a person's hands writing on a piece of paper. The person is wearing a watch on their left wrist. A pair of glasses is resting on the surface in front of the paper. The background shows a rocky, mountainous landscape.

Brochure

Your Story Awaits. Awaits. Awaits.

Welcome to an extraordinary creative writing experience, curated by LevelUp Learning.

The People Behind India's Largest Creative community bring a writing experience set in peace and tranquility with the best people around you.



What *is* **Forge** *Writing*

The Forge Writing Retreat is an immersive 6-day residential writing program crafted for aspiring writers and storytellers.

It's designed to take you from foundational concepts to hands-on writing practice with the guidance of professional mentors every step of the way.

Set in a quiet, scenic location, you'll be surrounded by a supportive community of passionate, ambitious writers people who love stories as much as you do.

Whether you're starting your first short story or shaping a personal essay, this is your space to grow,

24 WRITERS | 6 DAYS | 1 LOCATION | ∞ LEARNING

Why should you Apply?



Write away from the hustle and bustle of your daily life because you don't have time with everything going on around you.



Discover your own unique writing process to help you for the rest of your writing journey, even after the program



Learn the technical concepts that will help you write in a structured way and accelerate your process.



Join a creative community and make friends for life with writers like you

How does a day look?

The Forge Writing is designed by writers who have been through your journey.

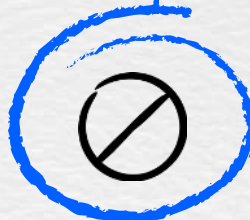
A day will consist of 3 types of sessions

A learning session/experience



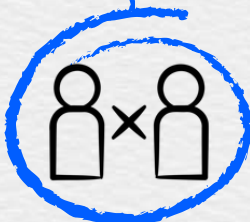
a masterclass, a workshop, an activity - through which you learn something new

A dedicated writing block



time blocked off from the world, to focus on you and your story

A one-to-one mentorship session with your assigned mentor



a personalised one-to-one session with your mentor

the
essence of
Forge



I deate



Express

Transform



your **space**
to escape



Days at The Forge



Day 1 Genesis

Begin your writing adventure with ice-breakers that turn strangers into plot partners leading to creativity with storytelling games that'll get your muse moving. Next dive into character-building capers and plot-twisting antics—because heroes and villains deserve some fun too. Unravel mysteries of theme selection in spirited discussions, explore your individualistic writing style, and before you know it, you'll be ready to pen your masterpiece.



Day 2 Forrest Gump

A headlong plunge into idea generation and creative sprinting for chapterization or breakdown of draft, finalising the start and end pages, finalising theme selection from range, defining purpose of the draft - which ultimately helps in perseverance to overcome writing blocks. Open your mind to the flow state to words and build models and perspectives to each part of written work through tools and relentlessly work the draft!



Day 4 Focused Writing & Feedback

Learning to take one to the jaw with ruthless edit techniques, building confidence through rejection and content repurposing throughout. Transitioning from Path to Process - making writing a habituated skill at will - through research and application of "T" of topics and theories in stories. With knowledge of depth and breadth use, your edited redraft is prepared.



Day 3 More Learning & First Drafts

Catch the Devil of details by laws of specificity and synchronicity, provided with practical understanding of breaking creative walls, blocks and boundaries, setting the audience for the work, leaning on the theories of arc creation, world building, storyline and timeline development and through using Rolling Hooks, keep the reader glued. Your first Draft is Ready by now!



Day 5 Finishing touches

Overcome satisfaction of completing by proofreading and part wise analysis/ breakdown on integrity and consistency, understanding ultimate quality standards and control of copy. Learning to identify with self, beyond the role of a writer - selling your story and hands on ideas on DeepEmotions in storyline plus Clarity on the Class required to make it and art of Sub (stitute) Versioning of the Final draft.



Day 6 Pitching Day

Frameworks on theorising Sub Versions and methods on redrafting from scratch. An exclusive pitching simulation to publishers, connecting pitch to inner compass and Tactical Empathy to hook. Simple iteration framework to keep finding stories after the Forge, connectivity and curiosity templates and accomplish by Narrating your dream work to the tribe

Whats *included?*



Workshops, Masterclasses, and
Mentorship from resident mentors



A Writer's toolkit with templates,
frameworks and concepts to structure and
accelerate your writing



Your stay, meals, and coffee (of course) in a
creatively stimulating resort



Lifetime Access to the Forge and LevelUp
Community to dream and collaborate



Experiences and activities in
the city of your retreat

Discover Genius.

Because we don't just teach **storytelling**.

We build communities that **live it**.

At LevelUp Learning, we've built one of **India's most dynamic creative ecosystems** where writers, screenwriters, and storytellers don't just think about the work. They do the work. **Together**.

Through residencies, bootcamps, and writing labs under the Forge, we've helped hundreds of young writers find their voice, build a body of work, and take tangible steps toward their creative career.

Whether it's scripting in Dehradun, building a story pitch under starlight in Shillong, or drafting a personal essay that finally says what you've been meaning to say in Goa - the Forge Writing Retreat is where pages turn into breakthroughs.

We've enabled dreamers who now

-  Publish their own books
-  Write films that get made—not just pitched
-  Work in writers' rooms, and OTT teams
-  Collaborate with other storytellers they met at Forge
-  Keep writing—because they found their creative crew

Officially Powered by



IndiePress



**WESTLAND
BOOKS**

One of India's Fastest Growing Self-publishing Platform with 30,000+ books published in both print and ebook format.

Top Selected writers from the Forge Writing Program will be completely funded by Indie press for their project!

Your Mentors



Praveena Shivram

AUTHOR | MENTOR

- * Praveena Shivram is a Chennai-based writer with over 15 years of experience in national publications such as The Hindu, Arts Illustrated, Open Magazine and TOI.
- * She holds a Master's in Writing for Performance from the University of Leeds.
- * Her notable works include the award-winning short story Neer, featured in the Commonwealth Short Story Competition, and essays like Raising the Bar in The Hindu and her recent book Karuppu.



Sharan Raj

GHOSTWRITER | EDITOR

- * Sharan Raj is a versatile writer, and mentor focused on storytelling in through books and Media
- * His experience includes ghostwriting for Notion Press and producing content for Zoetrope's "Film Companion South."
- * He has managed social media campaigns for Backyard & Terraform.



Deepthi Govindarajan

WRITER | CREATIVE DIRECTOR

- * Deepthi Govindarajan is a skilled freelance writer known for her ability to transform imaginative concepts into engaging screenplays and narratives across various genres.
- * She has worked on notable films such as Arrambam (2013), July Kaatril (2019), and Appatha (2023), showcasing her versatility in the film industry.
- * In addition to writing, Deepthi has experience as a story consultant, further enhancing her understanding of the authorship and storytelling craft.

Your Mentors



Praveen R

SCREENWRITER | DIRECTOR | MENTOR

- * Completed a 2-year Post Graduate Diploma in Direction and Screenwriting at L V Prasad Film Institute, Chennai
- * Has mentored over 150 students at L V Prasad Film Institute, Chennai
- * Has trained over 25,000 aspiring filmmakers across the country and has hosted 180+ workshops on Screenwriting & Film Direction



Santhosh Mathevan

AUTHOR | SCREENWRITER | MENTOR

- * Santhosh Mathevan has been a journalist since 2015, writing on culture for leading media houses.
- * He transitioned to film as a screenwriter and script consultant, collaborating with top production companies.
- * He is a former Content Manager (Tamil) at a leading Indian OTT platform, also serving as a script doctor and consultant.
- * He launched podcasts on cinema, leads a writers' room for Tamil scripts, and teaches screenwriting through workshops and guest lectures.

