On Writing

I sit, staring at the blank screen in front of me.

It taunts me, daring me

To mark the pristine surface with my thoughts.

The screen is like a window into my soul,

A mirror.

Reflecting my thoughts and feelings back at me,

Directing them to places

Where they very seldom go.

I stand, pushing back from the desk

And pace, backwards and forwards,

As if movement will bring inspiration,

As a shark gets oxygen by moving through the water.

I glance over at the desk, the empty screen accusing me

Seeming to threaten me with my lack of effort.

I sit back down, drawn hypnotically

To the empty screen.

The lights shine behind me, and I can just make out

My image in the screen, staring back at me,

With accusing eyes.

I start; a noise, a ripple of sound from the speakers.

Email has arrived. I seize the chance to escape from

The empty screen, eagerly perusing

An advert for organic vegetables.

As I read, another email arrives. I read that one

And suddenly inspiration strikes!

I go back to my blank page, only now

It doesn't present a threat, but an opportunity.

I am keen to get to work, eager to put my

Whirling thoughts down on paper.

I type; and as I type, ideas take shape on paper

And I am lost in a storm of creativity.