

(Your Name Here) In Wonderland

We have finished reading *Alice in Wonderland*, and now it's time for the final evaluation. As most of your "reflections" have been analytical, I thought it would be interesting to write a creative piece for this evaluation.

One of the interesting characteristics of *Alice* is the use of surrealism (before its time). The book is a "retelling" of a dream, and in hindsight it's easy to see those dream-like elements: changing size, falling, talking animals, radically shifting locations, other worldliness, etc. None of this would have happened, however, if Alice had not fallen down the rabbit hole, if she had not entered a new world. This is what you will be doing. I'm going to provide you with a number of settings from which to choose: some of them fantastical paintings and some of them surrealist paintings. You can select any one(s) you wish and write a story. This story can be told from first person with you in the setting, or you may create your own protagonist. You can use an all-knowing (omniscient) point of view like Carroll's, or you can develop your own style. Your story should be a minimum of two pages, typed, double-space, 12 point, times, standard margins. Remember, because it is surreal, it does not need to follow the standard format of beginning, middle, and end. Have fun and be creative!

In addition, I would like you to include an apologia, a paragraph where you explain your choices. I am interested in understanding what surrealistic elements are present in your stories. Here are a few characteristics you might want to include:

- Dream imagery to show the inner workings of the mind
- Symbols as a method of telling a story
- Examples of the absurd
- Strange creatures from everyday objects or a combination of creatures and objects
- Elements emerging from the subconscious
- Play with language (this is also something Carroll did very well).

You will not have class time to work on this piece other than when you receive the assignment and select your picture, and you will be expected to share.

Thursday, April 7: receive assignment

Monday, April 11: share your rough draft with me

Wednesday, April 13: final draft due and sharing with the class