Reflecting on Myself as a Writer across the Modes; Poetry, Expressive and Exposition.

When reflecting on writing; why we write and who we might write for, I have come to an understanding that writing is an expression of self, one’s interpretation of their world at that time, situation, circumstance or place. The writing can be factual or fictitious depending on the form you wish it to take or the audience you are writing for.

I think there are two kinds of writing one that takes on a form as it grows and develops and then is further shaped for a particular purpose and function. A second kind of writing that the audience or purpose and function has been stated and the writing is shaped from the outset to fit that brief. Perhaps of these two themes I find the former style easier to write in as it is often spontaneous and driven by circumstances that have created an interest and desire to record my thoughts and feelings around an event and it does not have to be researched for factual information.

I have come to believe I am a competent writer of all three genres, but of the three I think my strength is in writing poetry I find this mode most enjoyable and rewarding. I attribute this to my love of children and music. I like to write jingles and arrange them to music for children to sing and play. I find if I put words to a beat, rhythm or chant and pitch it for effect the words tumble onto the page quickly. I also find that I tend to write in statements which poetry often lends its self too.

If I were to order the writing in personal preference the next mode would be expressive. I find that I enjoy telling a story with pen and paper and when it is based on personal experience I have lots of ideas to organise and play with. Whoever wrote the saying; it doesn’t have to be true, it only has to ring true, gave writers poetic licence and leaves all stories to the imagination. My son-in-law always says; imagination is a wonderful thing. It can certainly make the dreariest moment the most fascinating and exciting.

Finally exposition writing. My first vivid memory of exposition writing was at university; writing essays, reports and critiques for papers that I were a part of my study. This mode of writing for me has most often come attached to a grade. Making it challenging and often hard work, though at times it has been rewarding but being the optimist that I am, it has felt like a lot of hard work for sometimes very little. I mostly write in this genre for my professional writing, work and study. I have however been pleasantly surprised to note that the character analysis and persuasive pieces that my students and I wrote recently can be attributed to this mode.

So reflecting on myself as a writer across the modes; poetry, expressive and exposition, I believe I am a competent writer in all three modes. However because I tend to be more passionate about the Arts than the Sciences I find the poetry and expressive modes flow more easily onto the page.