
Learn Live: Memoir – Building Your Characters

Dates	Wednesday 1 December 2021
Times	10.30am – 12pm
Location	Zoom
Level	Beginners and improvers
Class size	Maximum 35 participants

Course description

The main character of a memoir is the narrator themselves, while the main character of a biography is the subject of the book. While different skills are required to bring these figures to life, what about those vital minor characters: aunts, neighbours, dogs, teachers? This course will suggest ways of recognising and reconstructing character, so that your figures lift off the page.

This course takes place on Zoom and we will email you a joining link the day before. There will be an opportunity to ask tutor, Frances Wilson, questions during a Q&A and have conversations with your fellow participants in the virtual breakout rooms.

Live captions will be provided by Stagertext.

Tutor

Frances Wilson is a biographer and critic. A fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, her books include *The Ballad of Dorothy Wordsworth* (Faber, 2008, winner of the British Academy Rose Mary Crawshay Prize), *How to Survive the Titanic: Or, the Sinking of J Bruce Ismay* (Bloomsbury, 2011, winner of the Elizabeth Longford Prize for Historical Biography), and *Guilty Thing: A Life of Thomas De Quincey* (Bloomsbury, 2016, longlisted for the Baillie Gifford Prize, and shortlisted for the Historical Writers Association Non-Fiction Crown, the National Book Critics Circle Award, The Los Angeles Times Book Prize, and the Biographer's International Organisation Plutarch Prize).

She was a judge for the Baillie Gifford Prize for non-fiction 2019, and is currently chair of the judges for The Goldsmith's Prize. Her new life of D H Lawrence was published in May 2021.

Previous Skills, Knowledge or Experience

None required. Aimed at beginners and improvers, but all are welcome.

Accessibility

Live captions will be provided by Stagertext.

**THIS COURSE TAKES PLACE ON ZOOM.
PLEASE DO NOT COME TO THE BRITISH LIBRARY.**