

27 Examples of Overzealous Writing

Sometimes, writers get a bit overzealous in their attempt to find their own voice. Developing a style takes time, but the writer must constantly evaluate how their writing sounds to the reader. Passion in writing is good, but it can make a wrong turn. Here are some examples of how some writing turned sour.

1. Her face was a perfect oval, like a circle that had its two other sides gently compressed by a thigh master.
2. His thoughts tumbled in his head, making and breaking alliances like underpants in a dryer without Cling Free.
3. He spoke with wisdom that can only come from experience, like a guy who went blind because he looked at a solar eclipse without one of those boxes with a pinhole in it and now goes around the country speaking about the dangers of looking at a solar eclipse without one of those boxes with a pinhole in it.
4. She grew on him like E. coli and he was room temperature Canadian beef.
5. She had a deep throaty genuine laugh like that sound a dog makes just before he throws up.
6. Her vocabulary was as bad, as, like, whatever.
7. He was as tall as a six foot three inch tree.
8. The revelation that his marriage of 30 years had disintegrated because of his wife's infidelity came as a rude shock, like a surcharge at a formerly surcharge free ATM.
9. The little boat gently drifted across the pond exactly the way a bowling ball wouldn't.
10. McBride fell 12 stories, hitting the pavement like a hefty bag filled with vegetable soup.
11. From the attic came an unearthly howl. The whole scene had an eerie surreal quality, like when you're on vacation in another city and Jeopardy comes on at 7 pm instead of 7:30.
12. Her hair glistened in the rain like nose hair after a sneeze.
13. The hailstones leaped up off the pavement, just like maggots when you fry them in hot grease.
14. Long separated by cruel fate, the star crossed lovers raced across a grassy field toward each other like two freight trains, one having left Cleveland at

- 6:36 p.m. traveling at 55 mph, the other from Topeka at 4:19 p.m. at a speed of 35 mph.
15. They lived in a typical suburban neighborhood with picket fences that resemble Nancy Kerrigan's teeth.
 16. John and Mary had never met. They were like two hummingbirds who had also never met.
 17. She was as easy as the TV guide crossword.
 18. Her eyes were like limpid pools, only they had forgotten to put in any pH cleanser.
 19. She walked into my office like a centipede with 98 missing legs.
 20. Her voice had that tense grating quality, like a generation thermal paper fax machine that needed a band tightening.
 21. He fell for her like his heart was a mob informant and she was the east river.
 22. Even in his last years, grand pappy had a mind like a steel trap, only one that had been left out so long, it had rusted shut.
 23. Shots rang out, as shots are wont to do.
 24. The plan was simple, like my brother-in-law Phil. But unlike Phil, this plan just might work.
 25. Young fighter had a hungry look, the kind you get from not eating for awhile.
 26. He was as lame as a duck. Not the metaphorical lame duck, either, but a really duck that was actually lame. Maybe from stepping on a land mine or something.
 27. The Ballerina rose gracefully en pointe and extended one slender leg behind her, like a dog at a fire hydrant.

Keep your writing simple. Use short sentences. And don't become overzealous in an attempt to make your writing more interesting.

These examples are from unknown sources from the Internet.

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