YOURTALE

Memoir writing prompts

One prompt a day. Fifteen minutes. One page. Tick the box when the page is written, and skip any prompt that does not bring a picture with it.

Childhood

- [ ] The smell of the house you grew up in
- [ ] The view from the window beside your bed
- [ ] What was in your pockets at eight
- [ ] The street you lived on, house by house
- [ ] A present you wanted badly and did not get

School and growing up

- [ ] The walk or the bus ride to school
- [ ] The teacher whose voice you can still hear
- [ ] A Saturday at fifteen with no money
- [ ] The first dance or party you went to
- [ ] The last day of school, and that afternoon

Leaving home and first work

- [ ] What you packed the night you left home
- [ ] Your first day at work, and what you wore
- [ ] What a week's wages bought, item by item
- [ ] Who taught you a skill you still use
- [ ] The first time you felt like a grown-up

Love and marriage

- [ ] The first time you noticed them
- [ ] Your first evening out, and who paid
- [ ] What your parents thought of them
- [ ] Your wedding day, and what went wrong
- [ ] The first home you made together

Raising a family

- [ ] Who you told first that a baby was coming
- [ ] How you chose each child's name
- [ ] A morning when the children were small
- [ ] The bedtime story you read every night
- [ ] When a child of yours surprised you

The middle years

- [ ] A Tuesday in the job you did longest
- [ ] The year money was tightest
- [ ] Moving house: the day the van came
- [ ] A decision you made in your forties
- [ ] The first evening after the children left

Now

- [ ] The Monday after you stopped working
- [ ] An ordinary day in your life now
- [ ] A friendship that has lasted fifty years
- [ ] Advice you were given that turned out right
- [ ] A letter to a reader fifty years from now