Creative Writing

Mr. Brocato

Your task: Create a short story that focuses on the skills of scene setting, character and authentic dialogue. You should only focus on the ONE character for this one (you should have other characters come into the work, but there really is only the one primary protagonist). The dialogue may be both internal and external.

You should know everything, EVERYTHING about this character before you begin. For next class after you have brainstormed intensely about this assignment, we will ask you all sorts of questions about your character. ***What’s his favorite hobby? Is she into politics? How many times a day does he brush his teeth? Can she dance?***

If you cannot answer these questions, you have not thoroughly thought out the character. You should know this protagonist like you know your best friend. There is nothing better than developing an original, authentic character from scratch. Daydream about him/her. Really think him/her out.

Hint: give him/her a memorable trait…something we might remember years from now. Might be a physical one like a mannerism, or a vocal one (has a “saying”), etc. WE WANT TO REMEMBER THIS CHARACTER.

Reminder: the successful short story begins by setting the scene, followed by the introduction of the character, then it adds conflict which propels the action, followed by a climax, and then some type of denouement (from the French, “to untie”…. The end of the story where conflicts are resolved, creating normality for the characters and a sense of catharsis, or release of tension and anxiety, for the reader)

And, oh, a black leather briefcase has to play some role in this.

First, you are to write/megadoodle in your portfolio notebook for page upon page about your character, potential lines in the story, words out of his/her mouth, etc.

5 pages and typed