A Splendid Suggestion ...

- This view of the writing process is the inspiration of Dr. Betty S. Flowers
  - Director, Lyndon B. Johnson Library
  - Former Director of Creative Writing for the English Department at University of Texas, Dallas

How Writers Write

The Flowers Paradigm

- Madman
  - generates ideas
  - works without inhibition
  - maintains spontaneity
  - believes all things are possible

The Madman Thing

- Capture the ideas when they come.

A Splendid Suggestion ...

- Flowers' model is also described by writing guru Bryan A. Garner
  - *A Dictionary of Modern Legal Usage*
  - *A Dictionary of Modern American Usage*
The Flowers Paradigm

The Madman
- spouts spontaneously
  - usually when you least expect it

The Madman
- comes up with a great idea - just as you're drifting to sleep, stepping in the shower or driving home!

Truth through freewriting?
"If you write to discover just what the essence of the problem is ...

be willing to discard everything you've written up to the threshold of discovery."
Bryan A. Garner

The Architect
- creates order from the madman's chaos
- structures the ideas
- envisions the whole

The Architect
- Your reader should never wonder where you're going - or worse, make assumptions about where you're going.
- Your direction must be clear.

The Madman
- invariably interrupts
  - let him run

The Flowers Paradigm
The Flowers Paradigm

The Carpenter
- crafts sentences and paragraphs
- considers tone and audience
- makes the logic explicit

The Flowers Paradigm

The Madman
- has one more idea...
  - let him run

The Flowers Paradigm

The Judge
- nitpicks
- considers every detail
- applies rules and signposts
  - grammar
  - punctuation

The Flowers Paradigm

The Madman
- invariably has just one more thought...
  - stop him cold

After all ...
- The end must come.