

*Retired?  
You must be joking*



**Beatrice  
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*Retired?  
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Confused by the title? Speak to retirees and most will tell you, 'Never been so busy in all of my life!'

This little book is really an anthology of my work since I retired some twenty years ago. It is said that reading and listening to stories can take you on wonderful adventures, meet many people from all walks of life, visit places you can only dream of and much more. Reading has given me a great deal of pleasure over the years.

However, I thought that writing stories would give me the same benefits, one of which was grief distraction. For hours a day, I lost myself in writing, cutting out the anger, sorrow and 'if only'-s that accompany such sad times.

And it is mainly writing that takes up my time. Writing is not just a matter of sitting down and typing out whatever you want to tell. It all begins with a vague idea, next mentally the plot is outlined, chewed over, will it work doubts, and in my case, all of this anguish is usually just before I go to sleep.

One begins typing, the story grows, then at some point, it stalls. How to go on? Again, just before I sleep ideas formulate. The question is often asked, where do you get your ideas? A few of my answers are, a past experience of