



A writing activity from

**Grimm & Co**



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**World Book Night –**

**Somebody Give This Heart A Pen by Sophia Thakur**  
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**You will need:**

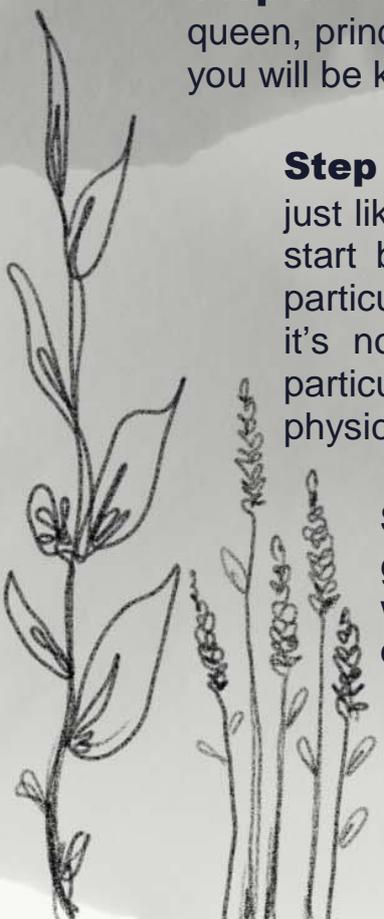
- Somewhere comfortable and quiet to sit.
- The ability to listen to the activity instructions (these have been recorded on YouTube, so you'll need to be able to listen to them through a computer or phone, or through headphones).
- Tools to write with

**Step one:** Watch *Be Queens* by Sophia Thakur (the clip on the recording). Thakur explores her inner queen and in this activity, we are also going to explore our inner royalty.

**Step two:** Make a list of all the royal titles you can think of (e.g. king, queen, prince etc.). Then, pick one royal title from the list. This is what you will be known as for the rest of this writing session!

**Step three:** You're going to start building your inner regal title, just like Thakur builds her inner queen. To do this, we're going to start by looking at our self-certified faults; the things we don't particularly like about ourselves. Let's not dwell on this too long, it's not very pleasant, but write down four things you aren't particularly happy with when it comes to you. This isn't just about physical features either, it can be other things too.

**Step four:** Now we're going to focus on the positives. We're going to place a microscope on the small celebrations that we do every day. Answer the following questions in as much detail as possible:





1. Think about an experience of learning. Pick one thing about the learning experience that you do well. I'm not looking for "I'm good at art", or "I like fractions", don't make it about the subject, make it about something smaller. It could be that when you sharpen a pencil, you very rarely let the lead break, or that you apply glue right to the edge of the paper without getting it on the table.
2. Think about your friendships and the kind of friend that you are. When a friend is down or upset, how do you show them that you're there for them?
3. Think about when you eat food. Is there a food that you have to eat in a particular order or in a particular way?
4. Think of your song. A song that when you hear it, it immediately lifts you. What is it and how does it make you feel? Try to describe how you respond to it physically.

**Step five:** Now you are the king/queen/prince/princess/baron/baroness of all those things because they're YOUR things.

We're now going to combine the two responses (self-certified faults and small celebrations) into one poem. To do this, you need to follow the rules:

- The odd lines of your poem (lines 1, 3, 5 and 7) will be your self-certified faults.
- The even lines of your poem (lines 2, 4, 6 and 8) will be your small celebrations.
- The even lines MUST begin with "I am the [insert your regal title] of..."

**Step six:** Share your writing with us! Do this by taking a photo of your handwritten poem, typing up your work, or audio or video recording yourself reading it aloud (you could also ask someone else to read it aloud for you).

You can post your work on social media, tagging us @GrimmAndCo, or email your work to [grimmapotheary@gmail.com](mailto:grimmapotheary@gmail.com).  
Happy writing!

