Assessment 29A: End-of-Module Task

What does it mean to be a storyteller?

The Crossover tells the story of a significant time for Josh Bell and his family, through a variety of poetic types. Josh’s story takes place over the course of a few months, during which he experiences some of the most significant events of his life: Josh and his twin brother have their first real conflict, Josh gets suspended from the basketball team, and their father gets sick and dies. The poetry of the novel conveys not only the details of these events but also Josh’s response to them, their effects on his sense of self, and his growing awareness of what is important to him and to his family.

Task
Over the course of the four remaining lessons of this module, you will write, revise, and perform a portfolio of three poems, including a cover letter, that together tell a story about a significant time in your own life. Writing for a general audience, one that has an understanding of free-verse poetry but no familiarity with your personal experience, you must consider how to draft a narrative in verse that is engaging and accessible to a wide group of people. The purpose of this task is for you to: 1) demonstrate your understanding of narrative writing, by writing a series of poems within a single narrative arc and 2) synthesize your understanding of the power of storytelling through your narrative writing and by reflecting on your writing process.

Include the following items in your portfolio:

- A narrative sequence of three poems.
- Use of three distinct poetic types.
- A clear narrative arc.
- Use of descriptive, sensory, and figurative language.
- A cover letter explaining the story, relationship between form and content, and your reflections on the power of storytelling.
- Logical relationship between form and content.