



## FAVORITE SIMILES AND METAPHORS

**Anne Lamott** – *Bird by Bird* - “There’s an image I’ve heard people in recovery use—that getting all of one’s addictions under control a little like putting an octopus to bed.” (simile)

**E. L. Doctorow** – “Writing a novel is like driving a car at night. You can see only as far as your headlights, but you can make the whole trip that way.” (simile)

**Grethel Erlich** – *Solace of Open Spaces* – “Leaves are verbs that conjugate the seasons.” (metaphor)

**Dave Eggers** – *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius* – describing his mother’s cancer, “It was staring out at them, at the doctors, like a thousand writhing worms under a rock, swarming, shimmering, wet and oil—Good God!” (simile)

**James McBride** – *The Color of Water* – “...with a singing voice that sounded like a cross between a cold engine trying to crank on an October morning and a whining Maytag washer.” (simile)

“...the facts of her own history poured over her like lava.” (simile)

**Martha Beck** – *Expecting Adam* – “I was a kind of radio tower, within which Adam sat broadcasting some kind of signal to the world around me...” (metaphor)

“...hacking like a tubercular cat...” (simile)

“strange new energy...like the rings on the surface of broken water.” (simile)

“...aftertaste like the air in a forest during a rainstorm.” (simile)