In this workshop we will ask the question: How do I, as a writer, fit into the fiction world over the last one hundred years? To answer that question, we will read stories that represent the evolution of American fiction over that time and answer them with our own stories that seek to explore the themes, culture, and historical events they explore. We will read short fiction by William Faulkner, Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Willa Cather, James Baldwin, John Cheever, John Updike, Flannery O'Connor, Raymond Carver, Ann Beattie, Lorrie Moore, and Mary Robison. In addition, we will read the novels THE BLUEST EYE by Toni Morrison and MY NAME IS LUCY BARTON by Elizabeth Strout. You will write five short stories inspired by these fictions, which will be discussed and critiqued in class.