

August 4, 2011

I came across some words I'd like to share, from Ken Kesey, the author of "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"; and to put them into proper context, if you're not familiar with his work, you need to understand that he took drugs to produce a state within himself free of preconceptions. Something he felt was needed, in order to create his novel:

"I studied inmates as they daily wove intricate and very accurate schizophrenic commentaries of the disaster of their environment, and had found that merely by ingesting a tiny potion I could toss word salad with the nuttiest of them, had discovered that if I plied my consciousness with enough of the proper chemicals it was impossible to preconceive, and when preconception is fenced out, truth is liable to occur."

Talk about research! I don't think many writers would go check into the local loony-bin or submit to drug-induced prose for a book, of all things.

This information has stemmed itself into my own mind. Not the drugs--I refuse to ever go that route--but I am in a prison, which isn't much far from a loony-bin. So, I feel that maybe I should put together a book like "Cuckoo's Nest", except based in a prison.

I'm actually surrounded by a lot of schizophrenics.

Material for a great narrative engulfs me.

So, maybe....

I never was one to preconceive much anyway.

