

# The Mississippi Poetry Podcast Supplement

## Ep. 7: Angela Ball

**1. Listen (12 minutes).** Play *The Mississippi Poetry Podcast w/ Angela Ball*

**2. Write (10-25 minutes, as time allows)**

Materials Needed:

notebook, pen/pencil

Writing Exercise: Wish Fulfillment

In explaining how she wrote “Jazz,” Angela Ball talks about poems as “wish fulfillment.” In this exercise, participants will write their own “wish” poem. Ask participants to list ~10 things they want—to do, to have, to experience, to know, to avoid, etc. The more specific, the better. Participants should feel free to stay focused on one main idea (as Angela Ball does) or to write about a range of different things, and also to include a reversal, if they like, as Angela Ball does at the moment she says, “On second thought....”

Example:

I want to do everything in the world.

I want to scuba dive.

I want to see the earth’s tallest tree.

I want to visit Alaska and see grizzly bears and the Northern Lights.

I want to drape myself in diamonds and emeralds and walk a red carpet.

I want to never be bored again.

On the other hand,

I want to do nothing.

I want someone to bake me a big chocolate cake for breakfast,  
and I want to eat it in bed.

I want to watch hummingbirds outside my window.

I want to wrap myself in the softest blankets  
and, for a little while, ignore the world.

**3. Share (5-10 minutes)**

If time and comfort levels allow, invite participants to share their poems!

**Related Materials:**

“Goodbye, Pork Pie Hat” (song): [youtube.com/watch?v=CWWO\\_VcdnHY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CWWO_VcdnHY)

“Jazz” (poem): [bit.ly/Jazz\\_Angela\\_Ball](https://bit.ly/Jazz_Angela_Ball)

Goldenrod (picture): [thespruce.com/goldenrod-wildflowers-2132951](https://thespruce.com/goldenrod-wildflowers-2132951)

