



**ARTICLES TO COUNT**

# **TEN TIPS FOR STORYTELLERS**

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Translated by Angela Beazley March 2017.

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**1. Tell stories because you love telling them.**

It is something that you can't do without, that fills you with happiness. You don't mind telling stories to anyone, or anywhere, because you know the value of a story is so great, like a lovers embrace.

**2. Tell the stories that you like the most.**

If you don't like a story then don't tell it. You have to vibrate with every story, to live it as if you have just finished creating it, and as if it were the most recent and most marvelous discovery in the world.

**3. Tell the story with your whole being.**

Use your voice, your appearance, your smile and your most elaborate gestures. Use everything that you have learnt since you were born, and more besides. Don't let shame, embarrassment, fear or criticism stop you. However you are, you are perfect, therefore show yourself as such without reserve. Be at the service of the story and of those who listen.

**4. Tell the story with what you have at hand.**

Everything helps the story to reach the listener in a perfect state of comprehension, so don't hesitate to use everything you consider to be suitable, so that the story reaches the listener in its maximum splendor.

**5. Tell the story so that everyone can understand it.**

Don't be cryptic with your audience because they might not understand what you imply. Use terms and ideas that are easy to understand for everyone. Adapt the stories over and over again. Tell the story in a way that is suitable for the age and ability of the listener. Don't be afraid to commit heresy. The story will thank you for it.

**6. Tell stories to those who listen. Listen to those who are listening to you.**

You are not alone, there are people who listen to you and they are important. Attend to their needs, talk to them. The people who listen to you are worthy of all your attention. Listen to them to find out if your story is the most appropriate one, and if your way of telling it is adequate. Observe their reactions and unite them in the act of telling, they are two parts of the same thing: one tells and the other listens. You have a faithful commitment to the truth.

**7. Value yourself. Listen to your story yourself.**

You are important. Don't forget you are special, as special as your listeners. Listen to yourself and breathe life into the story, only this way will your story be worth hearing all the way through.

**8. Tell the story without fear.**

Don't be afraid to invent, lie, play, juggle, and turn the story upside-down. Don't be afraid of criticism or judgment. Tell your story as if it were the last story in the world,

on the last day of life on earth. Tell the story as if it were a remembrance of humanity.

**9. Tell the story as if it were a game.**

Tell the story as if it were the game of life, the game of love, or the games happy people play. Tell it as if you were a child telling it to another child.

**10. Tell stories to live.**

Tell stories because without them life is finished and because you know you were born to be a storyteller, and you live to do it. Tell stories because telling them about life gives life to others.

JUAN PEDRO ROMERA. 2017

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