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A Writer's Guide to Descriptive Settings

discussion: lesson 2 discussion area



Third places

by: **Renaë**

Football fans pack the tables at the Lie'brary Bar. We got here early so we could get a table close to the big screen for the best viewing. **Green and gold Greenbay** fans mix in with blue and orange Chicago Bears, intense rivalries sometimes sitting right next to each other. Watching the game with a room full of football fans is **like going to a family reunion**. You like your Mom's side of the family, the Greenbay fans. But those Bears fans remind you of the cousins from your Dad's side that no one wants to talk to.

We order game food: burn-your-tongue-off chicken wings, fat, juicy burgers, and thick-cut fries. My little brother gives us a rundown of the Packers' chances for a win while chewing the meat off sauce-covered chicken bones. He sloshes it down with cold beer and hastily wipes sauce off his face with his napkin. My husband tries to be more civilized but gives up when the hot wings force him to grab his beer without wiping his fingers off first. **Wing sauce fingerprints hold his glass** even after he puts it down.

As the game begins, **my leg jackhammers up and down with nervous energy**. Greenbay's defense sacks the Bears' quarterback. Greenbay comes up with the football. **Cheers and groans erupt like volcanoes**. An opposing fan next to us yells at the TV, then buries his head in his hands with disgust. Cheeseheads **whoop and whistle** as their guy carries the ball 30 yards.

For three hours, **grief and gloating** pass back and forth. By the fourth quarter, Bears fans sit silently in their chairs, shoulders slumped forward, waiting for the pain to end. When it finally does, Packers fans congratulate each other with high-fives given to total strangers as they leave the bar. Bears fans can only look forward to the next game and a chance at redemption.

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Replies:

by: **Your Instructor**

This is a pure delight, Renaë. My favorite part? "Wing sauce fingerprints hold his glass..." What a perfect image that is and an excellent example of personification. all of your other poetic devices are winners, too. Bravo, my dear.

Eva

3/1/2013 9:10:42 AM

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