1. Barricade the door. It must be just you, the ink, and the paper.

2. Work in a physical and mental condition that makes you want to write. Get there by all means possible.

3. Write yourself silly.

4. Allow your imagination to go to weird places. Nothing is off limits. You can clean up your mess later.

5. Break every writing rule known to man.

6. It’s okay if it reads like a letter from a lunatic.

7. Steal stylistically from other writers, as all great writers do.

8. Keep your bottom in your chair until you are done.

9. Once you’ve finished a first draft, leave it alone for days – if not weeks.

10. Celebrate.