I Remember I Remember

(student handout)

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Vocabulary

adj.) residential v.) reside / n.) residence	adj.) garage n.) sale	adj.) paperback n.) edition
n.) occurrence v.) occur	adj.) keen	n.) appreciation v.) appreciate

Reading

CONSTRUCTION

I remember walking down a residential street in Lansing, Michigan (U.S.A.) around 1980 or so. I saw a garage sale and

I remember planning to tear page 48 out of every book
I read from the Boston Public Library,
but soon losing interest.

walked over to see if there was anything interesting.

I came across an old <u>paperback edition</u> of ← Joe Brainard's *I Remember*.

I opened it up and started reading. It took me a few minutes to figure out what Mr. Brainard was doing. The book was about 100 pages long, and each page had 8 to 15 little memories of things or thoughts or occurrences from his life.

Joe had a good memory for details, and a <u>keen</u> <u>appreciation</u> of his own past.

remember one very hot
summer day I put
ice cubes in my
aquarium and all the fish

Well, maybe this talent isn't really that special. Perhaps we should *all* occasionally take time out to remember details from our

I remember a very early memory of an older girl in a candy store. The man asked her what she wanted and she picked out several things and then he asked her for her money and she said. 'Oh, I don't have any money. You just asked me what I wanted, and I told you.' This impressed me to no end.

Activity

It's simple, really:

 We're going to go
 around the room, and I
 want each of you to
 remember things from your life.

What should you look for?:

own lives.



Joe Brainard (1941-1994)

- o Try to remember **very early things**.
- Try to remember unusual or special things.
- Try to remember emotional things.
- Try to remember things you thought you'd forgotten, but haven't.

Thanks to **frieze**. com for the extracts.

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