

Sentence Fragment Pairs

Read the following sentence fragments (taken from *The Best American Essays, 2001* and *2003*) and their re-written counterparts. Then be prepared to discuss in general how the fragments are functioning in the writing as a whole.

Fragment: "The wounds of that time are really healed now." Perhaps. (2001: 104)

Sentence: "The wounds of that time are really healed now." Perhaps they are healed.

Fragment: That is why photographs . . . can count as evidence. But evidence of what? (2003: 257)

Sentence: That is why photographs . . . can count as evidence. But what are they evidence of?

Fragment: There were several [dreams]. The fish dreams. Also the dream of amputation. (2001: 197)

Sentence: There were several [dreams]. There were the fish dreams, and also the dream of amputation.

Fragment: . . . "they [Martha Stewart's linens] weren't as soft as [Ralph] Lauren's or Calvin Klein's." Why? Because the thread count was too low (2003: 72)

Sentence: . . . "they [Martha Stewart's linens] weren't as soft as [Ralph] Lauren's or Calvin Klein's." Why weren't they as soft? They weren't as soft because the thread count was too low.

Fragment: Cotton top pad? Or latex? (2003: 24)

Sentence: One could choose a cotton top pad or latex.

Fragment: More important, I *answered* e-mail fast . . . No more guilt! (2001: 55)

Sentence: More important, I *answered* e-mail fast . . . I no longer felt the guilt I had felt with regular mail.