

## Writing Powerful Narrative Nonfiction

### Metaphors and Descriptive Words

a stew of smells  
a moat of quiet  
pellets of light  
a web of hairs  
a scarred surface  
frosted tone, or words  
brittle light  
scum of guilt  
a belch of spray  
eyes gummed with sleep  
a shock of lamplight  
light soft as mohair  
caramel grasses  
wind-pruned  
scraps of laughter  
clouds veined with red  
bloodshot look of sunset  
a floss of lashes  
sips of forgiveness  
a thin, bitter sound  
scallops of clouds  
trellis of shadows  
scissored  
poached  
pocked  
inky  
smear  
scrape  
elegant cold  
hiss  
piping  
billowy  
papoose  
pinched  
serrated  
scribbles

From *The Mermaid Chair* by Sue Monk Kidd