



CALL FOR PAPERS

Demeter Press
is seeking submissions for an edited collection entitled:

Mothering Outside the Lines:
Tales of Boundary-Busting Mamas (Working Title)

Editors: BettyAnn Martin and Michelann Parr

Deadline for Abstracts: March 20, 2021

Why do we colour inside the lines? Why do we encourage and praise our children for doing so? How and why do we affirm and respect social boundaries and cultural impositions, the memos we've been issued about how to become women, how to mother and build strong families? What are the implications of this conditioning for those who willingly mother outside the lines, those who blaze their own trails and stretch boundaries?

This collection explores how and why mothers transgress normative motherhood, reclaim their experience of parenting and womanhood, and rewrite possibilities for future generations of mothers. We believe these stories, which resonate with other women's experience, offer the possibility of maternal well-being and a grounded sense of self-awareness through critical, reflexive, and empathetic engagement, as well as a mindful distinction between the stories we construct and those that are constructed for us (Clandinin, Caine, & Lessard, 2018; Clandinin & Connelly, 2006).

Topics may include, but are not limited to:

Creative storytelling (in the form of diary, memoir, letter, poetry, fiction, etc.) of mothers (aunts, sisters, mothers, friends, grandmothers) whose lives and maternal practice demonstrate a challenge to the cultural construction of maternity, and/or the lived consequences of the decision to mother differently; social and cultural explorations of the personal and political implications of maternal trailblazers' lives and choices; scholarly and academic investigations of the lives of existing/fictional maternal trailblazers; theoretical, philosophical, and interdisciplinary explorations of boundary-busting mamas; critiques and discussion of media and/or artistic representations and explorations; cross-cultural reflections on narratives of lived transgressions of maternal boundaries.

Submission Guidelines

Abstracts (350-400 words) with a 50-word biography due **March 20, 2021**. Acceptances made by: May 31, 2021. Completed manuscripts (15-18 pages double-spaced with references in MLA format) and non-academic/creative submissions (length and format to be discussed with editors upon acceptance) due: August 2021. Please note, acceptance will depend on the strength and fit of the final piece. **Please send inquiries and abstracts to editors: bannmartin@hotmail.com and michelap@nipissingu.ca.**

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