



Call for Papers

Demeter Press is seeking submissions for an edited collection on:

Celebrity Mothers

Editors: Dr Guinevere Clark and Andrea DeKeseredy

Please submit 250–500-word abstracts by April 7th, 2024.

The co-editors are seeking chapter proposals for an exciting interdisciplinary anthology centered on celebrity and how it shapes and influences experiences of mothering. Celebrity can be an individual who is broadly recognizable or known amongst the public, as well as someone who is considered a “celebrity” in some communities, though may be unknown in others. Explorations on the wide notion of celebrity and fame in relation to mothering are invited from a range of academic and creative fields from anyone who has experienced or is engaging in mothering practice, as well as those who self-identify as a mother. Submissions from mothers of all backgrounds, activists, journalists, academics, and artists are encouraged.

Scope: Traditional theoretical articles, poetry in any style, essays, memoir, short stories, visual art, photography, hybrid works or any other creative or experimental texts.

Topics may include:

- The social, psychological and cultural influences - positive and/or negative - of celebrity mothers on experiences of pregnancy and mothering.
- The evolution of mothers in the media from the early days of cinema to the present day of internet reach and social media.
- Individual stories of your own celebrity and how it has shaped your motherhood journey.
- Explorations of high-profile mothers, famous feminist mothers or motherhood movements.
- Ideas on the mother as a performer.
- Re-imagining mothers from myth and religion such as Demeter, Venus or Mother Mary.
- The problematic or useful role of celebrity mothers to patriarchy and the male gaze.
- Intersections of race, ethnicity, location, sexuality, gender, LGBTQ+ and socioeconomics on celebrity mothers.
- Ambivalence, lure, liminality or shadow-realms around celebrity mothers and their narratives.
- Developing existing research such as objectification theory (Fredrickson and Roberts, 1997; Williams et al, 2017) or post-porn art and criticism in relation to celebrity mothers.
- Considerations of reluctantly famous mothers preserved or slurred in the media. Exposés.
- Ideas on how the fashion industry as linked to celebrity mothers may empower or disempower.

Submission Procedure:

Please submit a 250–500-word chapter proposal which includes a title, abstract and short biography (in a single document) of the author/s, written in English, Times New Roman, 12 pt. font.

1. **Proposal** submission deadline: **April 7^h, 2024**
2. **Notification** of acceptance: by **May 26th**
3. **First draft** of chapter due: **Aug 25th**
4. **Editorial review** results returned: by **Nov 10th**
5. **Final chapter** submission: **Feb 9th, 2025**
6. Projected **publication** date: 2025/2026

Inquiries and submissions: to both Dr Guinevere Clark and Andrea DeKeseredy. Please include 'Celebrity Mothers + title of paper' in the subject line via email to:

Guinevere.Clark2023@rwcmd.ac.uk dekesere@ualberta.ca

Who we are: Andrea DeKeseredy is a PhD student at the University of Alberta. She holds a Master's degree in social work as well as a Master's degree in sociology. Her research focuses on mothering and carework.

Dr Guinevere Clark is an award-winning poet, specializing in matricentric feminist texts and liminality. She created a holistic model of analysis for creative writing on motherhood to include place and sexuality to deconstruct binary thinking. She teaches poetry and dance, is a single mother and studies Creative Producing.

Word limits:

Essays and analysis (4,000 - 6,500 words to exclude figures, tables and references), poems (40 lines max, submit 1-3), short stories (1,500 words), flash fiction (250 words), memoir (2,000 - 4,000 words), hybrid pieces (4,000 words), visual art/photography (submit 1-3 pieces).

First Drafts of completed works should be double-spaced 12-point Times New Roman font.
Academic pieces in MLA reference format.