



## CFP DEMETER PRESS

*A Mother(hood)fucking Arsenal of Poetry*  
edited by Victoria Bailey

Please send submissions to [drvbailey@gmail.com](mailto:drvbailey@gmail.com) by Dec 31, 2024.

The title of this poetry-focussed collection plays on the types of typical traditional titles you might find on the covers of children's poetry collections – e.g. *A Children's Treasury of Poetry* – and conveys the matricentric feminist aims of this text: to examine, to exemplify, to challenge, to reach out, to call out, to resist, to defy, to call to action, to fight back, against the expectations, social and personal limitations, taboos, tropes, and stereotypes of mothers, mothering, and motherhood. It will also celebrate actual and potential feminist realizations of mothering that “fuck with” – or ultimately “fuck up” – unrealistic, unbearable and downright unacceptable archaic measures of motherhood, and offer an “arsenal” of positive examples, advice, tools, imaginings, and encouragement to do so.

The editor of this collection invites poetry submissions that are traditional, contemporary, or hybrid in style. You are welcome to incorporate visual art or structure to your work. Poems can also be exploratory and challenge poetic form. New poems will be collected and curated along with poetry from prior Demeter Press anthologies and past issues of the *Journal of the Motherhood Initiative*. Submissions are welcome from new, emerging, and experienced poets. Topics focussed on within submitted poems might include, but are not limited to:

- Intention – your own aims and hopes for this matricentric feminist poetry collection.
- Inception – the ‘planned,’ ‘not planned’ and/or challenges related to becoming a mother; the knowledge of inception, conception, or mothering potential; the intricacies of who can and is accepted and acknowledged in the role of mother.
- Reproduction – the experience/s of reproduction and pregnancy (of self or biological mother/surrogate/alternate/other etc.).
- Birth – in all its realizations as it relates to the focus of this collection.
- Early Days – the early days of mothering and experiences of initiation into “motherhood.”
- Early Years – the experience/s of, and linked to, mothering children throughout their baby and toddler/preschooler years.
- Elementary Years – the experience/s of, and linked to, mothering children throughout their elementary school years.
- The Middle Ground and In-between – the experience/s of, and linked to, mothering children throughout their middle school/tween years.
- Teens, Teens, Teens – the experience/s of, and linked to, mothering children throughout their teenage years.
- Young Adults/Older Child – the experience/s of, and linked to, mothering children as they transition into young adulthood.
- Leaving/Not Leaving – the experience/s of, and linked to, mothering adult children that live at home, leave home, or return home.
- Mothering Adults – the experience/s of, and linked to, mothering adult children.
- Grandmothering – the experience/s of, and linked to, feminist grandmothering.
- Discrimination that is experienced, observed and/or navigated when becoming/being a mother including employment, education, health, social, familial etc.
- Advocating for yourself, your child and/or others as a feminist mother/in relation to mothering.
- Generating or applying feminism in mothering practices.
- The influence of mothering on feminist theorizing and practices.
- What you would share with your younger mother self and new mothers/mothers-to-be.
- What you wish you, and other mothers, had in terms of support specific to mothering now.
- Your hopes for your future mother self and other future mothers.

Submissions may consist of one or several poems. They may be all of one style, focus on one relevant topic, or be varied. However, please submit NO MORE than 10 poems or 15 pages of poetry, whichever is greater. Please use Times New Roman 12 pt. where possible, and MLA format if applicable. **Please send your poetry submissions, along with a bio (100 words maximum), in Word doc format by December 31, 2024 to [drvbailey@gmail.com](mailto:drvbailey@gmail.com). Please title submissions as follows: Demeter MHFA Poetry Surname e.g. Demeter MHFA Poetry Bailey.**