

"Writing takes discipline. You could have all the love in the world for it and find it to be the most therapeutic form of expression, but ultimately it's a craft—and crafts take discipline. I recognized this while I was still taking classes at Metropolitan State University to acquire my bachelor's degree in Creative Writing. I knew that once I graduated, maintaining this level of discipline without the recurring assignments and deadlines a school setting offers would be more difficult. I decided to found a writers' group—only recently being rewarded the playful name "Get Lit"—in the beginning of 2018. By January of 2023, we will have been established for five years. Get Lit has created wonderful opportunities for both present students, alumni, and even professors to collaborate, provide feedback on each other's pieces, and establish strong bonds—all in an intensive workshop environment. I have witnessed incredible works over time, and it has been my favorite delight to see the progress some have made with larger projects, such as novels. Even as COVID-19 forced us to transition from in-person to virtual meetings, this group has held steadfast to its tenacity and spirit. I have special appreciation for Professor Suzanne Nielsen for her active involvement in and continued effort to spread awareness of the group since its fruition. For all its merits, writing can be a lonely craft. Whether you choose to share your stories with a trusted family member, or you opt for more concentrated critiques from like-minded individuals in a group setting, receiving support in one's writing endeavors ranges from refreshing to critical. It has been an honor to create a safe space for bright minds to fuel one another and advance as writers."

Farrah