

Submission Guidelines

Interested in sharing your story on the JessicaKMcGuire.com site? Let's chat for a minute about what types of articles I am looking to feature in the new year.

I am searching for stories which reach across the distance between people and help us to not feel so alone.

"Everybody is a story. When I was a child, people sat around kitchen tables and told their stories. We don't do that so much anymore. Sitting around the table telling stories is not just a way of passing time. It is the way the wisdom gets passed along. The stuff that helps us to live a life worth remembering... we may need to listen to each other's stories once again." (Dr. Rachel Naomi Remen)

I write weekly from The Front Porch.

I learned my family's history and the stories of others around the kitchen table or listening from my perch on the porch. Here is a post to help you understand my history with that place ([The Safest Place to Own Your Story](#)). I have a slowly growing Facebook group where we are beginning the work of trusting our stories with one another. You can find us here: [Front Porch Conversations](#)

I have a deep love and respect for survivors... for women.

This US election cycle has made it even more obvious to me HOW much we need to hear the stories of those around us: to grow, to heal, to change, to be brave, and to feel less alone.

I want to feature stories which are not my voice. Have you ever gotten tired of hearing your own voice? This is me right now.

When I went through a breakup with an old way of life eight years ago, *it was the stories formed by wisdom writers which saved me*. I leaned into memoir and discovered Life & Spiritual Gurus I never would have known had I stayed in those old confining life & belief systems.

So, I am seeking out wise women (men too) who have a story to share about whatever: the feminine divine, being a woman, faith shifts, growing up, the truth about sexual violence, being a man, patriarchy, confining belief systems, feminism, immigration, LGBTQ, marriage, parenting, loving well, relationship fractures and healing... [I want to celebrate healing](#).

Where are these places in your life story which have touched you deeply and broken up all your places, how have you been formed new?

I would love to hear them and share them from my front porch.

Specifics:

- Deadline is December 20 for first round to be featured in January
- Deadline for second round is January 20 to be featured in February
- Deadline for third round is February 20 to be featured in March
- *Space is limited so please RSVP with details before submitting your piece.*

– ESSAY SHOULD BE 500-750 WORDS (NO MORE THAN 1,000; NO LESS THAN 500)

- If your writing voice fits well – I might consider more than one post to do a miniseries if you have more to tell.
- You do not need to provide an image.
- **Posting anonymously is OK.** I want to know your name, but I will not share you without your permission.
- **IF NOT WRITING ANONYMOUSLY, YOU CAN SHARE A THREE-SENTENCE BIO LINE WITH SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS AND A PHOTO (SELFIE) SO READERS CAN FIND YOU.** Please include this with your submission.

IF YOU CREATE ART, WORD LETTERING, OR PHOTOGRAPHY AND WOULD LIKE HAVE AN IMAGE ESSAY OF YOUR STORY FEATURED... I AM OPEN. LET'S CHAT.

- You retain the right to your submissions, but please no cross posting. If you are looking to share on your own website include a short excerpt and then link to the full article on the JESSICAKMCGUIRE site. This is SEO friendly otherwise your post will get lost in the world-wide wonderland.
- Also, let us know if this story has been featured elsewhere.

Send submissions to jessica@jessicakmcguire.com

(copy and paste directly into the email or attach a Word document – thank you.)

*Note: I talk often about providing a Godslobber free environment for my readers. Because I used to do all the lingo and have been trying in recent years to curb it.

GodSlobber Free – what does this mean? I am talking about an overabundance of Bible references, “God talk” also called Christianeze which makes writing unintelligible to those outside the christian church. I spent the first 5 years of blogging writing this way and came to an abrupt halt when I began to read myself through a lens beyond the church. Sometimes we sound crazy. So, no GodSlobber. If my use of the word Godslobber to describe Christian writing is offensive to you – then this project is not going to be a good fit. That’s OK. I am OK. You are going to be OK.