

Writers'
Café

WRITING THE BODYMIND: LOCATING THE STORY WITHIN THE SELF

WITH

JESSIE MALE

Writing is often identified as an embodied practice, but what does it mean to write embodiment, to translate the experiences of the bodymind onto the page? Through a series of prompts and engagement with sample texts, participants will explore ways to write the lived experience evocatively and tangibly, to engage with sensory description to develop characters (including the self as character) that feel and move in complex—often messy—ways. Prompts will be complemented by discussion on what it means to write what is deemed "beyond language," and on how writing the bodymind can be an act of resistance against imposed notions of "appropriate" or idealized ways of being.

Jessie Male is the Postdoctoral Associate in Disability Studies at the University of Pittsburgh. She has a PhD in English from Ohio State and an MFA in memoir from Hunter College. Her creative writing, interdisciplinary, and academic scholarship appears in *Guernica*, *BOMB Magazine*, *Lateral*, *Palaver Journal*, *Constellations*, and *Assay: A Journal of Nonfiction Writing*, among many other print and online publications. She is currently working on a book project based on her dissertation *Disability Memoir: A Study in Pedagogy and Practice*.



FRIDAY APRIL 12

3:30-5:30 PM

In person
@ the Pitt Writing Center
(3rd floor, O'Hara Student
Center, 4024 O'Hara St.)

Undergrads: Each Café you attend earns you 1 entry into our year-end writer's prize drawings!

The Writers' Café is an informal community of Pitt writers. Make contacts with other writers, try your hand at different genres, let guided exercises jumpstart your process, and share feedback on works-in-progress with peers from all over campus. Plus—snacks. Read more here>>>>>



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