

Date _____

White Writer Commitment

My intention is to help shift our culture from white supremacy to equity & love, including the public face of love-- justice. To help match this intention to my impact, I commit to working with the principles below. These principles are intended to provide guidance as I create & write, both solo & in collaboration. They're intended to be a starting point for accountability and wise engagement with a creative medium that has the power to profoundly affect our culture and, ultimately, how people think & behave. I acknowledge that what is at stake for femmes, non-binary people, queer people, Black people, Indigenous people and all People of Color is very different than what's at stake for me. I acknowledge that what's at stake can touch every aspect of a person, family & community, but for the sake of reminding myself of the urgency of following through with my commitment, I acknowledge here specifically that what is at stake are actual lives.

The list below is not intended to be comprehensive and comes from being in relationship with specific collaborators. I acknowledge that different relationships & contexts might call for other principles to be added to this list. The principles are:

- Respect - I respect what I don't & can't know.
- Collaboration - I work in community, with trust, joy & healthy vulnerability.
- Discernment - I cultivate an awareness of when to write solo and when to collaborate.
- Listening - I listen first, I listen often, and I listen mindfully, empathetically & generatively.
- Patience - I am patient with my collaborators & myself, and I am willing to go slow if needed.
- Detachment - I am willing for my work to be changed or cut altogether for the greater good.
- Grief - I allow myself to grieve any losses that come with collaboration.
- Abundance - I trust that there is more than enough for all of us.
- Mindfulness - I practice moment-by-moment, non-judgemental awareness.

I invite collaborators to use this document as a tool for sharing feedback, or at the very least for starting a conversation. I am committed to showing up to conversations about race with a willingness to trust, a willingness to be open and a willingness to stay in the conversation, even if it gets uncomfortable. I am committed as well to the full scope of white anti-racist practice. This includes life-long inner work, education and relationship-building. It also includes working in coalition with anti-racist white affinity action groups -- such as SURJ, nationally, and White People 4 Black Lives, locally in Los Angeles -- as well as in solidarity with Black-led movements to take direct actions toward ending white supremacy & patriarchy for the sake of liberation for all people on the planet. And lastly, I acknowledge that I have multiple privileges. My intention is to contribute to the ending of each system of oppression I benefit from, and I am committed to practicing the above with respect to each of my privileged identities.

Sincerely,
