

# Poetry Writing Tips from Celebrated Poet and Author **AMANDA GORMAN**



## **READ!**

- 🌻 Read other poets and other authors to see what is out there.

## **REREAD!**

- 🌻 I read a lot of things three times:
  - 🌻 once for fun
  - 🌻 a second time to understand the style
  - 🌻 and a third time to think about how I would write it differently

## **WRITE!**

- 🌻 In lifting your pen, you dare to defy presumption, to participate in the social potential behind poetry, and to reveal the power within yourself. Write, and don't stop, no matter how hard it is!

## **PATIENCE!**

- 🌻 Rarely does a good idea come right when you want it to. Instead you have to wait lovingly, preparing a place for inspiration to strike in your life, so when it does, it can thrive.

## **MAKE YOUR POETRY YOUR OWN!**

- 🌻 Culturally we run into trouble by often looking through such a tight pinhole of what poems can be. Specifically, we're looking at dead white men. Those are the poems that are taught in school and referred to as classics. Poetry isn't owned by anyone and is for everyone, so embrace what makes your voice unique.

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