Submission Guidelines

THE LANTERN ROOM: VOLUME 2

At this time we do not have a publication date for VOLUME 2, but it will likely be in early 2027.

THE LANTERN ROOM is dedicated to first-person writing by people living with dementia and other brain changes.

In a lighthouse, the lantern room shelters and protects the lens, helping the light shine at its brightest. In that spirit, The Lantern Room holds space for people living with dementia to tell their own stories, in their own words.

This book brings together first-person writing by people living with dementia: writers, poets and artists from diverse backgrounds and communities.

At the foundation of The Lantern Room is presence: how people continue to live, choose, resist, create, connect, and take up space after diagnosis.

These are stories that refuse pity without denying loss. Stories that challenge how dementia is seen and talked about by families, professionals, media, and society. Stories that remind us that dementia may be part of a person's life, but it does not define who they are.

Who we're inviting

- People living with dementia or MCI (at any stage)
- Writers and non-writers alike, Poets, and Artists
- Contributors from diverse backgrounds and communities

What we're looking for

First-person work that reflects:

- Agency after diagnosis
- Refusal of pity or invisibility
- Advocacy, resistance, creativity, or everyday living
- Honesty that does not reduce a life to loss

Anger, humor, grief, joy, contradiction, and uncertainty are all welcome.

You do **not** need to be inspiring or instructional.

What we are not seeking

- Sentimental or maudlin accounts of decline
- Writing intended primarily for caregivers or professionals
- Sugar-coated narratives that minimize the realities of dementia
- Stories shaped to deliver a lesson or metaphor

Forms and length

THE LANTERN ROOM is designed for an adaptive-text audience. Please keep submissions concise. Work will be edited for length and clarity.

- Poetry, reflections, brief meditations:

  25–125 words

- Essays or other prose forms:

  100–275 words

- Art, illustrations, comic strips, photography

Honorarium

THE LANTERN ROOM is pleased to offer a modest honorarium of **$50.00 USD** to contributors whose work is accepted for publication.

Space and publication

Due to space constraints, If we receive more strong work than we can include, we may hold selected pieces for a future issue or invite contributors to submit again if we develop a second volume.

How to submit

Please email nikki@miradormagazine.com with

- Your submission
- A brief note introducing yourself and your relationship to the work
- We would love to include photos with your essays or stories. Photos need to be high resolution in order to be print ready. We are happy to help with image submissions when possible.