8 steps to FINISHING YOUR BOOK

1. **CLARIFY THE VISION**
   What vision do you have for the physical book? What will its size, shape, color, page count, and font be? Visit a bookstore and look at existing books for ideas.

2. **CREATE THE MANUSCRIPT DOC**
   Create a Word or Google doc and import every poem, story, or essay you have. This includes ideas, outlines, unedited, and, of course, edited work.

3. **ENROLL IN A WRITING WORKSHOP**
   Find a creative writing class with a workshop component. Here, you will find prompts, people to read and critique your work, and a community of poets who will keep you accountable to your craft.

4. **READ & WRITE EVERY DAY**
   Find a comfortable place to read and write on a daily basis. Write at the same time every day. This trains your body and mind to produce work consistently. Read books in the same genre as the one you are writing.

5. **KNOW YOUR PAGE COUNT**
   Count your current pages and then subtract that number from your book's total page count. Divide that number by the number of weeks you have to complete your manuscript. This is your weekly goal. Add this to your manuscript and commit to it.

6. **USE CLI'S SUCCESS SERVICES**
   **Accountability Partners:** Find an accountability partner in your class and set a time to check in that with person daily. Set an alarm so you don’t forget.
   **Writers Block (of time):** Attend this virtual writing session every morning and write with your peers in silence.

7. **ENTER BOOK PRODUCTION**
   Once you have finished your book, learn the book production steps and start working with professionals to bring your book to life. Gather samples and consider making mock-ups to share with your book designer.

8. **PRINT YOUR BOOKS & PREPARE TO PROMOTE**

FOR MORE DETAILS, VISIT COMMUNITYLIT.ORG