

I am Natasha T. Miller, native Detroiter, touring poet, community activist, and the proud aunt of my brother's son that I am blessed to be raising right now. I'm really family oriented, and I think that comes from just the history of my grandmother raising us all together and us just kind of branching off but never leaving each other... so that's a really large part of my identity now... and how I've come to believe that family is what defines the spaces that you live in, even the City of Detroit, because as much as I associate Detroit with amazing people. The first set of amazing people is my family.

I try to pass off in my work and in my everyday life the practice of empathy, extreme compassion and extreme forgiveness. It is to understand that we are all humans, and we are all dealing with or coming to the table, with our own set of issues that are rooted from, you know, our own personal upbringings. So how do you practice compassion? How do you practice empathy? How do you take care of a community even when you feel like the community has not taken care of you, but understand that the community has not taken care of you, because the community has not taken care of itself. And that's how I've always looked at Detroit as well, because it's never really had the proper resources to fully take care of itself. We've always had this gritty personality, we've made do with what we had. So I feel like I finally arrived at my purpose. And that purpose is to take all of the trauma that I've experienced, all the grief, all of the madness, and use that empathy to kind of heal other people.