

Jennifer Rieger is a public educator and college professor in the Philadelphia area. An advocate for her students and graduates, she dedicates her time to empowering others through reading, writing, and acts of love. Jen has been honored with the Franklin Institute 2020 Excellence in Teaching Award, the 2021 Philadelphia Phillies All-Star Teaching Award, and was a semi-finalist for the Pennsylvania Department of Education Teacher of the Year.

Along with a nomination for the 2020 and 2022 Pushcart Prize for Literature, Jen has also been published in *Chautauqua Literary Journal*, *Wisconsin Review*, *BUST Magazine*, *Philadelphia Stories 15th Anniversary Anthology*, and *Minerva Rising's 10th Anniversary "Now and Then" Anthology*, among others. In 2022, Minerva Rising Press published her collection of lyrical essays, *Burning Sage*-- a teacher and mother's quest of learning when to hold onto the past, and when to let go.

Jen holds a BA in English, an MA in English Literature, and an MFA in Creative Writing. When she's not dealing with hundreds of adolescent student anxieties (and joys!), Jen hikes, dabbles in poetry, plays with her three tiny Yorkies, and brags incessantly about her son and graduates.

Instagram and Twitter: @MsJRiegs