

**July 10, 7-9 pm, Napa Valley Writers Presents**  
***Turning Life into Lyrics***

Napa Valley Writers will host author/songwriter **Zoe FitzGerald Carter**, who will talk about becoming a full-time songwriter and performer after working as a journalist for 30 years. It turns out songwriting has much in common with memoir and personal essay—as well as with poetry and fiction. While the form is different, the challenge is the same: How to be an effective— and economical—storyteller.

Zoe is an author, teacher and journalist who has published in The New York Times, Salon, Vogue and Newsweek among other places. Her 2010 memoir, *Imperfect Endings*, about her mother's decision to end her life, was excerpted in O magazine and was a Barnes and Noble "Discover Great New Writers" pick. Since 2017, she has turned exclusively to music, writing and performing original songs with her band, Sugartown. Her first album, *Waiting for the Earthquake*, came out last year. A longstanding member of The San Francisco Writers Grotto, she will be offering a three-week songwriting class there this summer and a six-week class at Left Margin Lit in the fall.

**Visit her website:** [zoefitzgeraldcarter.com](http://zoefitzgeraldcarter.com)

**Lenore Hirsch** will be July's member reader.