

The *Songwriting and Poetry Fellowship* consisted of songwriting research (history, technique, convention) and daily writing of original music. Figuring I would be deep in the weeds of songwriting, I moved into a house a mile from Broadway in Nashville for the summer. Just outside the heart of ‘Music City,’ I spent my time out of the studio connecting with other songwriters, artists, and producers—as it turns out, there are tons of them in Nashville.

Most mornings, I perused books like *Tunesmith; Inside the Art of Songwriting*, *How to Be a Hit Songwriter*, or *Bob Dylan’s Poetics*. These books were instrumental (no pun intended) to my development throughout the summer: many of them not only discussed the intricacies of songwriting but mused on the arduous path of