

# Elisabeth Hennessy

“Libby”



**Graduate Institution:** Harvard University

**Location:** Cambridge, MA

**Graduate Discipline:** Inorganic Chemistry

**Hometown:** McLean, VA

## Research Interests:

*My research interests are currently in the field of synthetic inorganic chemistry, specifically in the synthesis of biomimetic catalysts towards small molecule activation. My current research is in C–H bond activation and functionalization using a ferrous semi-porphyrin catalyst in the presence of group transfer reagents. We are developing a reaction which showcases the ability of Fe to facilitate catalytic group transfer chemistry to benzylic C–H bonds and styrenyl C=C bonds. The reaction is believed to proceed via an H–atom abstraction/radical rebound mechanism mediated by a high-valent Fe intermediate, akin to the proposed Cytochrome P450 mechanism.*

## About me:

*I am currently a second year graduate student in Harvard's Chemistry and Chemical Biology program. I am a member of Harvard's Women in Chemistry and mentoring an arising Harvard senior in our lab. I have taught two semesters of introductory organic chemistry to freshmen and sophomores. While I enjoy the teaching experience, I find myself interested in pursuing an industrial career in the energy sector. In my free time, I enjoy practicing yoga and playing basketball and volleyball.*



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