

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sara Elise Dibrell was born and raised near San Antonio, TX. Her family encouraged her love of learning through endless library books, garage building projects, and a backyard wilderness ripe for exploration. Following graduation as valedictorian of Seguin High School in 2014, Sara pursued undergraduate studies at The University of Texas at San Antonio. She had the privilege of working in the lab of Prof. Doug Frantz, where she focused on catalytic reaction development and synthesis of compounds as potential therapeutic treatments for chronic pain. She obtained a B.S. in biochemistry and a minor in business administration with highest honors from UTSA in 2018.

Sara then joined the lab of Prof. Sarah Reisman at the California Institute of Technology to pursue a graduate degree in organic chemistry. Her doctoral studies have allowed Sara to study a variety of topics, from oxidation methodology to stereoselective cross-coupling reactions and their strategic application to the synthesis of natural products. Following the completion of her Ph.D., Sara will join the Discovery Chemistry group at Merck near Philadelphia, PA, and enjoy free time as an amateur foodie and backpacker.