

## CONTRIBUTORS

**Carol Everett Adams** writes poems about Disney theme parks, organized religion, UFOs, and other topics. She lives in the Midwestern United States and works in the tech industry. Her poems have been published in *California Quarterly*, *Euphony*, *The MacGuffin*, *The New York Quarterly*, *Owen Wister Review*, *Quercus Review*, *Soundings East*, *Sweet Tree Review*, and others. You can read more of her work at [caroleverettadams.com](http://caroleverettadams.com).

Carol writes: I wrote this poem because a professor in my MFA program once told us that the moon is a trope we should never attempt to tackle in a poem. I'm a rule breaker, so I had to give it a shot. Plus, I really was inspired by how vehemently my daughter insisted that the moon was plugged in somewhere like a giant nightlight.

**Dinah Cox's** two book of stories are *Remarkable* (BOA Editions) and *The Canary Keeper* (PANK Books). Her stories have appeared in *StoryQuarterly*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Cream City Review*, *Copper Nickel*, and elsewhere. She teaches in the Creative Writing program at Oklahoma State University where she's also an Associate Editor at *Cimarron Review*.

**Gannon Daniels** is a teacher of writing in the LA area and has had several poems published in journals over the years. She is especially proud of this poem that was inspired by her lovely sister-in-law, Lisa, and she'd like to dedicate it to Lisa's children.

**Timothy Dodd** is from Mink Shoals, WV, and is the author of *Fissures, and Other Stories* (Bottom Dog Press, 2019). His poetry has appeared in *The Literary Review*, *Modern Poetry Quarterly Review*, *Roanoke Review*, *Broad River Review*, and elsewhere. Also a visual artist, Tim's most recent solo exhibition, "Come Here, Nervousness," was held at Art Underground in Manila, Philippines. His oil paintings can be sampled on his Instagram page, @timothybdoddartwork, and his writing followed on his "Timothy Dodd, Writer" Facebook page.

Timothy writes: Both of these poems seek to "capture" actual experiences as they transformed from "real" to "irreal" moments, moments eclipsing logic and self: "Old Margaretha's Hand" is born from being with Rembrandt's portrait of Margaretha de Geer in London's National Gallery, and "Love --- Is/Not a Season" from a sudden rain and flood while walking in Manila.

**Shawna Ervin** is an MFA candidate at Rainier Writers Workshop through Pacific Lutheran University where she is studying nonfiction and poetry. Recent publications include poetry in *Sanskrit*, *Rappahannock Review*, *Burningword Literary Journal*, *Tampa Review*, *Euphony*, *Evening Street Review*, and *Hiram Poetry Review*; and prose in *Sweet: A Literary Confection*, *The Delmarva Review*, *Summerset Review*, and *Superstition Review*. Her poetry chapbook *Mother Lines* was published in January 2020 by Finishing Line Press. She lives in Denver with her family.

Shawna writes: This poem tries to capture some of my experience trying to reassure and soothe my autistic son.

The world is often a terrifying place for him and I am also scared about what the future holds for us.

**Doris Ferleger**, winner of the New Letters Poetry, Songs of Eretz Prize, Montgomery County Poet Laureate Prize, Robert Fraser Poetry Prize, and the AROHO Creative Non-Fiction Prize, among others, is the author of three full-length volumes of poetry, *Big Silences in a Year of Rain* (finalist for the Alice James Beatrice Hawley Award), *As the Moon Has Breath, and Leavened*, and a chapbook entitled *When You Become Snow*. Her new book, *As for the Kiss*, has been a finalist for the Washington Prize, the Cod Hill Prize and the Marsh Hawk Prize. Her work has been published in numerous journals including *Cimarron Review*, *L.A. Review*, and *South Carolina Review*. She holds an MFA in Poetry and a Ph.D. in psychology and maintains a mindfulness based therapy practice in Wyncote PA. New Letters Poetry Prize, Judge Alike Barnestone writes of Ferleger's work, *These memorable poems keep singing with their insistent beauty*.

**Kathleen Glassburn** is a fiction writer. Samples of her published work can be seen on her website: [www.kathleenglassburn.com](http://www.kathleenglassburn.com). She is also managing editor of The Writer's Workshop Review: [www.thewritersworkshopreview.net](http://www.thewritersworkshopreview.net). Her novel *Making It Work* was published in 2017 and her short story collection *Where Do Stories Come From?* was published in 2018. Both are still available. She is hard at work on a new novel set during WW2 as well as new short stories. She spends lots of time these days with her husband, her horse, three dogs, and two cats.

Kathleen writes: Where did the story come from? As shown in my collection, this is always a question I wonder about with other authors. I was in a similar car accident in a new vehicle and pulled over in an auto repair shop with a snarky owner like the guy in my story. Much of the story is nonfiction, however, I do not have the money worries that this young woman has, nor do I have an abusive ex-husband, or any tattoos for that matter. I was very angry with that shop owner and would drive by his place of business several times a week, always thinking hostile thoughts toward him. I have Catholicism in my background and used the Peace Sign to get over my anger.

**Eric D. Goodman** is a full-time writer who lives in Baltimore, Maryland with his wife and children. He is author of *Setting the Family Free* (Apprentice House Press, 2019), *Womb: a novel in utero*, (Merge Publishing, 2017), *Tracks: A Novel in Stories*, (Atticus Books, 2011) and *Flightless Goose*, a storybook for children (Writer's Lair Books, 2008). More than a hundred of his works of short fiction, travel stories, and articles about writing have been published in literary journals and periodicals. When he's not writing, Eric loves traveling, and most of the settings in his new thriller, *The Color of Jadeite*, are places he has visited. Founder and curator of Baltimore's popular Lit and Art Reading Series, Eric can be found at [www.Facebook.com/EricDGoodman](http://www.Facebook.com/EricDGoodman), [www.Twitter.com/Edgewrite](http://www.Twitter.com/Edgewrite), and [www.EricDGoodman.com](http://www.EricDGoodman.com).

Eric writes: I'm as guilty as the next person of spending too much time checking my phone for emails, social media posts, and news flashes. But as someone who enjoys

unplugging for travel and hiking and writing retreats, I also know that when you unplug for a few days or weeks, you normally don't miss nearly as much as we all miss by staring at our phones. In "Comments Left," I tried to imagine a new trend that could be as altering as smart phones have been over the past decade. Let's hope it doesn't come true, but if it did, at least we might not be staring at our phones as often.

**John Grey** is an Australian poet, US resident, recently published in *Soundings East*, *Dalhousie Review* and *Connecticut River Review*. Latest book, *Leaves On Pages*, is available through Amazon.

**David Habib** is a writer and photographer living in Virginia.

**J. H. Hernandez's** work has appeared in *Chaffin Journal*, *Deus Loci*, *Green River Review*, *The MacGuffin* and *Portland Review*. J.H. lives on an island near Seattle and brews stinging nettle soup.

J.H. writes: As a veteran I am sensitive to the trials and the losses that other veterans experience. The loss of the simple things for someone doing his duties and the love he has for his family has been told over and over, but the true loss is as real as ever.

**Emily Hyland's** poetry has appeared or is forthcoming in *Apple Valley Review*, *armarolla*, *Belle Ombre*, *Belletrist Magazine*, *The Brooklyn Review*, *Mount Hope Magazine*, *Neologism Poetry Journal*, *Sixfold*, and *Palette Poetry*. A

restauranteur and English professor from New York City, she received her MFA in poetry and her MA in English education from Brooklyn College. Her cookbook, *Emily: The Cookbook*, was published by Ballantine Books, an imprint of Random House, in 2018. She is a member of the Squaw Valley Community of Writers and studies writing with Mirabai Starr. Emily is the cofounder of the national restaurant groups Pizza Loves Emily and Emmy Squared Pizza.

**Gwendolyn Jensen** began writing poems when she retired in 2001 from the presidency of Wilson College (Chambersburg, Pennsylvania). The places where her work has appeared include the *Beloit Poetry Journal*, *the Harvard Review*, *Salamander*, *Sanskrit*, *Whistling Shade*, and *Measure*. Her first book (*Birthright*, Birch Brook Press, 2011) is a letterpress edition, now in its second printing. Her second book (*As if toward Beauty* also Birch Brook Press) was published in 2015. Her third book (also published by Birch Brook Press) is *Graceful Ghost*, a letterpress edition published in 2018. She lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

**Gene Laskowski**, PhD retired from 25 years of teaching in the English Department at the University of Michigan. He holds an AB (UCDavis) in history and Latin, an MDiv in psychiatry and religion (Union Theological) with clinical training at the Topeka State Hospital/The Menninger Foundation, an MA (Middlebury) in literature, and a PhD (Michigan) on Melville's critique of 19th century masculinity. More recently at the C.G.Jung Institute of Chicago, he has taught seminars on the use of writing

creative nonfiction to address trauma. He splits his time between his home in Ann Arbor and winter stays in Carmel, California.

**Yvonne Higgins Leach** spent decades balancing a career in communications and public relations, raising a family, and pursuing her love of writing poetry. Her first collection of poems is called *Another Autumn*. Her latest passion is working with shelter dogs. She splits her time living in Vashon and Spokane, Washington. For more information, visit [www.yvonnehigginsleach.com](http://www.yvonnehigginsleach.com).

Yvonne writes: I knew there were years when my parent's marriage wasn't the best, especially for my mother. After having two failed marriages of my own and learning about the research that says trauma can be passed from the parent to the child, even *in vitro*, I became intrigued and wrote this poem.

**Peter Leight** lives in Amherst, Massachusetts. He has previously published poems in *Paris Review*, *AGNI*, *Antioch Review*, *Beloit Poetry Journal*, *FIELD*, *Matter*, and other magazines.

**Lisa Low**'s poetry has appeared in or is forthcoming from *The Valparaiso Review*, *Good Works Review*, *The Potomac Review*, *Tusculum Review*, *Delmarva Review*, *Evening Street Review*, *Green Hills Literary Lantern*, *American Journal of Poetry*, *Spillway*, *Streetlight*, *Phoebe*, *Crack the Spine*, *Broken Plate*, *Lit Break Magazine*, *Boomer Lit Mag*, and *Intro II*, among others. She is one of the editors of *Milton*, *the Metaphysicals*, and *Romanticism* (Cambridge

University Press in 1994). She spent twenty years as an English professor, teaching at Cornell College; Colby College; and Pace University and was a theater critic for Christian Science Monitor. Learn more about Lisa Low at <https://lisalowwrites.com>.

**Cyndy Muscatel** has written for several publications including *The Seattle Times* and *The Desert Sun*. Her fiction, non-fiction, and poetry have been published in many journals including *The MacGuffin*, *Main Street Rag*, *North Atlantic Review*, *Quercus Review*, *riverSedge*, *descant*, *Existere*, and *Jet Fuel Review*. Her collection of published short stories “Radio Days” is available on Amazon and Barnes and Noble. She is working on a memoir of her time teaching in the inner city of Seattle during the Sixties.

Cyndy writes: Fortunately, right after finishing “Act Your Age” I went to a doctor who uses PRP and stem cell therapies to treat injuries. I had both injected into my knee and now I’m back walking three miles a day. I feel a lot younger than I did a year ago! And because of COVID, I’m embracing my elder stateswoman status even more. While being as wise as I can to help my bewildered kids and grandkids in these unprecedented times, I’ve learned having someone go the market and Costco for me is WONDERFUL! Instacart is my best friend.

**Patrick Pfister**’s recent books—*Far From Home* and *North Beach Hotel*—are available from Spuyten Duyvil Press. His poetry book, *El Camino and Other Travel Poems*, was published by Literary Laundry. His poems

have appeared in many literary magazines, including *Gargoyle* and *Juked*. He lives in Barcelona, Spain. [www.patrickpfister.com](http://www.patrickpfister.com)

**Susie Potter** was the first in her family to graduate college. After earning a degree in English from Meredith College, she went on to earn an MA in English and an MA in teaching from North Carolina State University. Past stories, dating from 2009 to the present, have been published in *The Colton Review*, *Raleigh Quarterly*, *Broken Plate Magazine*, *Big Muddy: A Journal of the Mississippi River Valley*, *The Chaffey Review*, *NoD*, *Existere*, and *Grasslimb*. When she's not busy writing, Susie loves taking ballet lessons, participating in competitive figure skating, and doing everything else people think she's too old for. She is actively seeking representation for a memoir and several novels. Connect with her at [SusiePotter.com](http://SusiePotter.com).

**Carson Pytell** is a writer living outside Albany, NY whose work has appeared in numerous venues online and in print, including *The Virginia Normal*, *NoD Magazine*, *Artifact Nouveau*, *Rabid Oak* and *Runcible Spoon*, among others. He serves on the editorial board of the journal *Coastal Shelf* and his short collection, *First-Year* (Alien Buddha Press, 2020) and chapbook, *Trail* (Guerrilla Genesis Press, 2020) are both now available. In December 2020 he is participating in the Tupelo Press 30/30 Project.

**Frank Richards** is currently working toward an MFA in fiction. His short stories have appeared in literary reviews such as *The Menda City Review*, *War, Literature and the Arts*, *Sanskrit Literary Arts Magazine* and *The Penman*

*Review.* Portions of *Soldier of a lesser War*, his novel in progress, have appeared in *The MacGuffin*, *Village Square* and *O-Dark-Thirty*, the *Review*. He and his wife live in rural Virginia, where they care for an assortment of rescued cats and German shepherd dogs.

**Kelly R. Samuels** is a Pushcart Prize and Best of the Net nominee. She is the author of *Words Some of Us Rarely Use* (Unsolicited, 2019) and *Zeena/Zenobia Speaks* (Finishing Line, 2019). Her poems have appeared or are forthcoming in *Salt Hill*, *The Carolina Quarterly*, *The Pinch*, *RHINO*, and *The Massachusetts Review*. She lives in the Upper Midwest.

Kelly writes: Blue holes (submarine caverns) found in the Bahamas are helping scientists better understand the history of hurricanes and possibly predict future activity.

**Carla Sarett's** recent work appears in *Prole*, *Third Wednesday*, *isacoustic*, *Neologism*, *Hamilton Stone Review*, *Halfway Down the Stairs* and elsewhere; her essays have been nominated for Best American Essays and the Pushcart Prize. Her debut novel, *A Closet Feminist*, will be published in 2022 (Unsolicited Press). Carla has a Ph.D. from University of Pennsylvania and lives in San Francisco

Carla writes: "This poem grew out of meditation, a practice I started after my husband's death. The seemingly mundane process of clearing his closet led me to reflect on what we keep and we lose."

**Eva-Maria Sher** was born in Germany a year before the end of WWII. At seventeen she emigrated to the United States and currently lives on a farm in Clinton, Washington with her husband Ron and their two Leonberger puppies Minnie and Tasha. Her poems have appeared in *Euphony*, *Prism Review*, *Soundings East*, *Westview*, *Willow Review* and others. She recently published her first book, *Chewing Darkness*, the love story of her parents during the Hitler regime.

**Catherine Stansfield**'s work is featured or is forthcoming in *The MacGuffin*, *Mount Hope Magazine*, *Open: Journal of Arts & Letters*, *Presence: A Journal of Catholic Poetry*, and *The Virginia Normal*. She has a BA in English from Caldwell University in New Jersey. Currently, she works as a publishing assistant and graphic designer.

**Cash Myron Toklas** is a new, young American poet, in precisely the way that Umberto Eco once described himself as a "young novelist" well into his fifties, because he had started so late. Otherwise, Toklas is quite hoary. His work has lately appeared or is forthcoming in *Cold Mountain Review*, *J Journal*, *Midwest Quarterly*, *Penn Review*, *Potomac Review*, *Red Rock Review*, and elsewhere.

**Will Walker** lives in San Francisco with his wife and dog. He is a former editor of the *Haight Ashbury Literary Journal*. He has two books of poetry available: *Wednesday after Lunch*, and *Zeus at Twilight*. He's working on a third collection, currently titled *The World Until Yesterday*.

**Cynthia Yancey** was an English major before a mother and then a medical doctor. Now after working over 30 years in the trenches of public health, from the Himalayas to the Andes to her downtown clinic in Asheville, NC, she is getting back to her roots and is writing the stories of her life. She has published a children's picture book entitled *Zak and Niki: A First Look at Rising above Racism*. She has also published personal essays in *Entropy*, *Streetlight Magazine*, and *The MacGuffin*. Other essays are forthcoming in *Broad River Review* and *Evening Street Review*.

These essays are all parts of her memoir entitled *Love Songs to My Children: a Medical Mother's Musings from Blues to Rhapsody. My God, My Father, Such Confusion* is one of its chapters.

**Matt Zambito** is the author of *The Fantastic Congress of Oddities* (Cherry Grove Collections), and two chapbooks, *Guy Talk* and *Checks & Balances* (Finishing Line Press). News poems appear in *Slipstream*, *Green Hills Literary Lantern*, *Hiram Poetry Review*, and elsewhere.