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## Contributors

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## CONTRIBUTORS

**Cherise Bacalski** teaches creative writing and rhetoric in the west. Her work has been published in *Octopus*, *1913: a journal of forms*, *WordFor/Word*, and the *Breadbox Parsons*. Her poem, "moments," was recently selected for an award from the Academy of American Poets. Her inscape includes snow capped mountains, loose leaf tea, child's pose, an addiction to education, a fear of concentric patterns, the color brown, and the vowel E. She loves a good hot meal.

**Madison Beckstead Bowman** is an MFA candidate at BYU, specializing in taking a 5-month-old to class and in non-fiction. A journalist by trade, her work has appeared in *The Restored Gospel and Applied Christianity*, *Utah Valley Magazine*, and various newspapers. During her undergraduate years, she worked as a columnist for BYU-Idaho's venerable publication, *Scroll*.

**Isaac Blum** is the Emerging Writer-In-Residence at Penn State Altoona. His stories and essays have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Baltimore Review*, *The Oklahoma Review*, *Poetica Magazine*, *West Trade Review*, *YARN*, and *Humor Times*, among others.

**Drew Botcherby** is studying Advertising and English at BYU. He is from Springville, Utah and is an avid Utah enthusiast. He is also a bike mechanic, skier, and still a hiker.

**Ben Dearden** is a junior at BYU, who will soon be serving a religious mission in West Monterey, Mexico. He greatly looks forward to punning in Spanish and English both.

**Richard Dokey's** stories have been reprinted in regional and national collections, have won awards and prizes, have been cited in *Best American Short Stories*, *Best of the West* and have been nominated for the Pushcart Prize. He has several published novels to his credit, as well as several story collections, the last of which, *Pale Morning Dun*, published by University

of Missouri Press, was nominated for the American Book Award and the PEN/Faulkner Award.

**Brian Doyle** is the editor of *Portland Magazine* at the University of Portland, in Oregon. He is the author of thirteen books, among them the novels *Mink River* and *Cat's Foot*, the story collection *Bin Laden's Bald Spot*, the nonfiction books *The Grail* and *The Wet Engine*, and many books of essays and poems. His Huge Whopping Headlong Sea Novel *The Plover* will be published in April 2014 by St. Martin's Press/Thomas Dunne Books, bless their mad hearts. Brian James Patrick Doyle of New York is cheerfully NOT the great Canadian novelist Brian Doyle, nor the astrophysicist Brian Doyle, nor the former Yankee baseball player Brian Doyle, nor even the terrific actor Brian Doyle-Murray. He is, let's say, the ambling shambling Oregon writer Brian Doyle, and happy to be so.

**Nicholas Gulig** is from Wisconsin. Currently, he lives in Colorado where he is a PhD candidate in poetry at the University of Denver.

**Jacob Haupt** is a Studio Art student and artist's assistant whose oeuvre emphasizes design over technicality, blurring the lines between high and low art. Inspired by artists Jack Teagle, Jango Jim, Thomas Howes, and the artists of *Adventure Time*, Jacob creates weekly webcomics for his website *Cat & Crystal*—as well as exclusive print zines—that deal with cliché plot developments in the retro comic realm. He lives in Provo with his wife and daughter.

**Rigdon Holmquist** is from the small farming community of Fairfield, Montana; located where the plains meet the Rocky Mountains. He is the second oldest of ten children and one of only two boys in the bunch. After being homeschooled from Elementary school through High School he now studies Interdisciplinary Humanities with an emphasis in English and a Global Studies minor at BYU.

**Lexi Johnson** has never had an affair, has never been a husband/father/grandfather and has never miscarried. Lexi Johnson has an aversion to goldfish, Red Vines and Oreos. Lexi has been partial caretaker to RRRR the cat, Cinnabun the bunny and Tarzan the Hamster. Lexi will not take care of her things, cannot take care of your things and should not be allowed to drive your car.

**Dallin Law** studies English and editing at BYU. His main artistic influences include challah and Sade and the color gray. His favorite plant is an aspen tree; favorite animal: the kestrel. When it rains, Dallin takes out his bike to get muddy. Dallin lives in Utah and has found his heart stony.

**Sophie Lefens** is from Chicago, Illinois. She is an English major at BYU. "Wolves" is her first published poem. Her greatest influences are Matilda, Dave Eggers, Farmer Hogget, Christian Wiman, Kathleen Kelly and that coach from Friday Night Lights.

**Melissa McNamara**, a native of Provo, is currently a student of art history and curatorial studies at BYU. Beauty in all forms influences Melissa to create art. She admires impressionism and its ability to uplift and inspire. The biggest aspiration she hopes to facilitate through her art is to create positivity through self-reflection, which concludes in a positive outlook on life. Optimism is her word of choice.

**Kylie McQuarrie** is a second-year grad student studying African literature. She is from Provo, Utah, and has taken first prize in the Vera Hinckley Mayhew, though this is the first time she has had any poetry published. She met her husband while studying abroad in England.

**Carin Olavson** writes: "Can a soul be described in forty words? Nonetheless I attempt. I went to the essay genre to learn deliberately, to front only the essential facts in life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach."

**Shane Peterson** is a senior from Las Vegas, NV, who is studying English Literature with a double minor in Editing and Writing & Rhetoric.

He currently works as a writing tutor for the BYU Writing Center and Writing Fellows and as one of the editors-in-chief for *Criterion: A Journal of Literary Criticism*. He is planning on pursuing a PhD in literary studies with an emphasis on British Modernism.

**Jesse Nicholas Quebbeman-Turley** is a musician living in Provo, Utah. He is a co-founder of the Deseret Experimental Opera company, a regular performer/composer in the Utah avant garde scene, and his poetry has been published previously in *likewise folio*. He also loves kale and yams.

**Kylan Rice** has poetry published or forthcoming in *BROWN GOD*, *death hums*, *Bodega*, *Birdfeast*, *ILK Journal*, *Gigantic Sequins*, and elsewhere. He is editor for *likewise folio*, *likewise books* and *Inscape: A Journal of Literature and Art*. He produces the podcast *likewise audio* and lives in Utah.

**Rachel Rueckert** is a writer, photographer, high school teacher, and a travel addict. She studied anthropology and English at Brigham Young University where she did field work in Ghana and India for her thesis, a collection of travel essays. Her research is posted at [www.rachelpassagetoindia.blogspot.com](http://www.rachelpassagetoindia.blogspot.com). When Rachel is not teaching English in urban education, she is calculating how much money she needs for her next plane ticket to anywhere.

Pushcart Prize nominee **Frank Scozzari** resides in Nipomo, a small town on the California central coast. His award-winning short stories have appeared in numerous literary magazines including *The Kenyon Review*, *The Berkeley Fiction Review*, *Ellipsis Magazine*, *The Nassau Review*, and *The MacGuffin*, and have been featured in literary theater.

**Rachel Sherman** is an interdisciplinary humanities major from Grand Junction, Colorado. Her interests include eating out, existentialism, and amateur detection. She hopes to one day solve the mystery of what to do after graduation.

**Sam Thayne** is from American Fork, Utah. He writes short short fiction and prose poetry to sad music. His work has been rejected from *Tin House*, *SOFTBLOW*, *Ilk Journal*, *Diode Poetry Journal*, *Anti-*, *Sixth Finch*, *Ninth Letter*, and *Revolution House*. He hopes to be rejected from many more publications in the future.

**Katie Wade-Neser** is from Southern Utah and is thoroughly obsessed with all things relating to red rock and desert. She completed both her BA and her MFA at BYU. She has only ever truly loved three things: poetry, sports, and Cj Neser, a man far too interesting and lovely to be the subject of any poem she is prepared to write.

**Daniele Vickers** is a photographer who also makes art. She is pursuing a BFA in photography at BYU. She is interested in contradictions and dualities and often explores these themes in her work to better make sense of a chaotic world. Sometimes she writes, but is often left to explore her ideas visually. Other than photography, she enjoys puns and visual poetry.

**Amber Smith Watson** graduated this past spring from BYU's Masters of Fine Arts program in creative writing, with an emphasis in fiction. Her creative work has appeared in *Touchstones Literary Journal*, *Cutbank*, and *The Normal School*, and she is currently in the submission process for a number of the pieces which appeared in her master's thesis: *Boiling Over*. Amber is now adjunct faculty at BYU, teaching composition and creative writing courses. A Columbus, Ohio native, Amber currently lives in Pleasant Grove, Utah with her husband, her two children, a yorkie-poo, and a tank full of fish.

**Lindsey Webb** studies English at Brigham Young University. Her poetry has been published in *ILK Journal*, *SOFTBLOW*, and elsewhere.

**Natalie Wood** was born and raised in the mountains of Southern California. She is currently a BFA student at Brigham Young University working toward getting licensed as an art educator. Her work is based in

photography, video and installation, and has been shown in various parts of Utah.

**Darlene Young** has published in various journals and anthologies, most recently in *Fire in the Pasture: 21st Century Mormon Poets*. She won BYU's Academy of American Poets prize, first place in the Elsie C. Carroll Creative Nonfiction Contest, and second place in the Vera Hinckley Mayhew and Hart-Larson poetry contests. Currently pursuing an MFA in poetry, she lives in South Jordan with her husband, four sons, and a very fat cat.

**Abigail Zimmer** lives in Chicago where she teaches first year writing and is an editor for *Columbia Poetry Review*. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in *Spork*, *ILK*, *The New Megaphone*, likewise *folio*, and *Black Tongue Review*, among others.

## **EDITORS**

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