



Rachel R. Baum is a dog behaviorist, librarian, licensed private pilot, Adirondack hiker, and kayak angler. She's the author of the *BARK! Confessions of a Dog Trainer* blog and editor of *Funeral and Memorial Service Readings Poems and Tributes* (McFarland, 1999), which isn't as depressing as it sounds. Her poems have appeared in *Raven's Perch*, *Wingless Dreamer*, *High Shelf Press*, and *Poetica Review*, among others. She lives in upstate New York with her dog, Tennyson, and cat, Giovanni.



Avery Bursey is a Toronto-based illustrator and painter. Her work frequently features the natural world and our relationship with it. In her final year at Ontario College of Art and Design University (OCADU) Avery completed a series of works exploring this theme, drawing inspiration from the often invisible, yet complex systems that exist within nature and how these can be applied to our lives. Additionally, Avery's illustration work seeks

to depict the surrealness of dreams and the subconscious and the eeriness that exists within these things. Her work draws attention to the human hand and textures that are created when working with traditional analogue mediums. Inspired by a good story, Avery seeks to create an immersive world within her artwork.



Shome Dasgupta is the author of nine books, including *The Seagull and the Urn* (Harper Collins India), *Spectacles* (Word West Press), *Tentacles Numbing* (Thirty West Publishing), *Cirrus Stratus* (Spuyten Duyvil), and a poetry collection, *Iron Oxide* (Assure Press). His writing has appeared in *McSweeney's IT*, *Hobart*, *New Orleans Review*, *American Book Review*, *New Delta Review*, *Necessary Fiction*, *X-R-A-Y*, *Magma*

Poetry, and elsewhere. He is the series editor of the *Wigleaf* Top 50. He lives in Lafayette, Louisiana. shomedome.com / [@laughingyeti](https://twitter.com/laughingyeti).



Naomi Rhema Edwards is a graduate of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and the University of Pittsburgh. Her poetry has appeared in *Tupelo Quarterly* and *Cathexis Northwest Press*, among others. She lives and works in Pittsburgh.



Michael Loyd Gray is the author of six published novels. *The Armageddon Two-Step* won a Book Excellence Award, and *Well Deserved* won the 2008 Sol Books Prose Series Prize, while *Not Famous Anymore* garnered a support grant from the Elizabeth George Foundation. He won the 2005 Alligator Juniper Fiction Prize and the 2005 Writers Place Award for Fiction. He was full-time lead faculty for creative writing and American/British literature at Aiken Technical College in South Carolina. His book of creative nonfiction, *Sort of Still Original in Unoriginal Times*, was published in 2016. Michael earned his MFA in English in 1996 from Western Michigan University, where he was a Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society scholar (3.93 GPA) and a fiction editor for *Third Coast*. At WMU, he studied with MacArthur Fellow Stuart Dybek and novelist John Smolens. He also earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois, where he studied with Flannery O'Connor Award-winner Daniel Curley. For ten years, he was a staff writer for newspapers in Arizona and Illinois.



Jack Harrell begins his daily writing hour at 6:00 AM, fueled by diet soft drinks, sunflower seeds, the music of Led Zeppelin and Tool, and an insatiable desire to know what really matters. His first college class was English 99, a course for students unprepared for freshman writing. He has since earned degrees in English and education from Brigham Young University, Illinois State University, and the University of Idaho. He is the author of the novels *Vernal Promises* and *Caldera Ridge* and the short story collection *A Sense of Order*. His interests include bird-watching, the history of the English language, and diagramming sentences while



Pamela Manasco is a writer and English instructor living in Madison, Alabama. Her poetry is forthcoming in *New South Journal* and *Rust + Moth* and has been published in *Descant* and *2River View*, among others. She's unable to commit to genre: her nonfiction has been published in *McSweeney's IT* and *The Toast*, and her flash-fiction piece, "Monarch," was a winner of the *American Literary Review's* 2020 Flash Flood Contest.



Joel Peckham is a professor of American Literature and Creative Writing at Marshall University. He's published nine collections of poetry and creative nonfiction, most recently *Bone Music* (SFAU) and *Body Memory* (New Rivers). No one has ever said anything bad about them in his presence. He is also the editor of the recently published *Wild Gods: The Ecstatic in Contemporary Poetry and Prose*. His spoken-word collection, *Still Running: Words and Music by Joel Peckham*, will soon be available from EAT Poems.



Sage Ravenwood is a deaf Cherokee woman residing in Upstate New York with her two rescue dogs, Bjarki and Yazhi, and her one-eyed cat, Max. She's an outspoken advocate against animal cruelty and domestic violence. Her work can be found in *Glass Poetry: Poets Resist*, *Temz Review*, *Contrary*, *Trampset*, *Pittsburgh Poetry Journal*, *Pioneertown Literary*, *Grain*, *Sundress Press Anthology-The Familiar Wild: On Dogs and Poetry*, *Rumpus*, *Lit Quarterly*, *PØST*, *Massachusetts Review*, *Savant-Garde*, *ANMLY*, *River Mouth Review*, *Native Skin*, *Santa Clara Review*, and more forthcoming.

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Tomislav Silipetar was born in Zagreb, Croatia. In 2014 he graduated from the Zagreb Academy of Fine Arts after studying under Igor Rončević in the Painting Department. In 2015 he became a member of HDLU. In addition to many group exhibitions, he's had a number of solo exhibitions in Croatia, as well as other countries. He won the Rector's Award for Excellence in 2013. His paintings

are mostly made with acrylics, and the themes vary from solitude and isolation to human existence in a society that condemns. His work favors simple colors and fits perfectly with the preoccupation of getting out of the "boxed life" of academia. In 2016 he gained the status of an independent artist.