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Contributors

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Contributors

Kevin Acers, to the extent that he is known, is known as a cat person. A clinical social worker by trade, he lives in Oklahoma City with his wife, their cat, and a tubercular houseplant named Fronds Kafka. Acers has published three collections including *Time Machine: Prose Poems & Vignettes*, *Dead Mouse Poems*, and *The Murder of Crows and Other Quirky Poems* (finalist for the Oklahoma Book Award). His writings have appeared in a number of literary journals and other publications. His fourth book of poetry, *I Am Not a Dog*, is a work in progress.

Guy R. Beining's work has recently appeared in *The Iowa Review*, *The South Carolina Review*, *Fiction International*, *Cairn*, *SKidROw PeNtHouSe*, *The Bitter Oleander*, and *Creosote*. This year, *Placing Stones in the Right Spots* will be out via Marimbo Press, and Unarmed will print *Heisting Hesse 1-18*.

Mark Belair's poems have appeared in numerous journals, including *Alabama Literary Review*, *Atlanta Review*, *Harvard Review*, *Michigan Quarterly Review*, *Poetry East*, and *The South Carolina Review*. His books include the collection *While We're Waiting* (Aldrich Press, 2013) and two chapbook collections: *Night Watch* (Finishing Line Press, 2013) and *Walk with Me* (Parallel Press of the University of Wisconsin at Madison, 2012). A new collection, *Breathing Room*, is to be published by Aldrich Press this year.

Kwyn Bollinger is currently a senior at Southwestern Oklahoma State University studying to become an English education major. Reading and writing are two of her favorite hobbies, and her dream is to become a teacher and author. She has a big family with a deep appreciation for faith and fun. Her family inspires her to see the metaphors in everyday life and capture them in her writing.

Gregory Brown spent years as a literary editor and award-winning newswriter at Oral Roberts University before graduating in 2015. His work has appeared in literary journals both at home and abroad, including *Promethia Literary Magazine*, *Peeking Cat Poetry*, *Midnight Circus*, and others. He lives in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he works as a digital content producer for a local news station.

Terri Brown-Davidson's work has appeared in *North American Review*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *Triquarterly*, *The Denver Quarterly*, *Puerto Del Sol*, *The Beloit Poetry Journal*, *The South Dakota Review*, and elsewhere. She has received the AWP Intro Award and a Yaddo fellowship, among other honors.

Michael Catherwood has recent work in *Bluestem* and *The Minnesota Review*. He's been an Associate Editor at *Plainsongs* since 1995, where he also writes essays. His first book is *Dare* from The Backwaters Press. His second book, *If You Turned Around Quickly*, is from Main Street Rag. His third book, *Projector*, is forthcoming from Stephen F. Austin University Press. He is the editor at The Backwaters Press.

Robert Cooperman's latest collection is *Just Drive* (Brick Road Poetry Press). Forthcoming from FutureCycle Press is *Draft Board Blues*. Cooperman is a past contributor to *Westview* and has had work in *The Sewanee Review*, *Cimarron Review*, and elsewhere.

Born and bred in New Jersey, **Frank De Canio Jr.** works in New York. He loves music from Bach to Dory Previn and from Amy Beach to Amy Winehouse. Shakespeare is his idol, writing his hobby. He monitors a café philo workshop in lower Manhattan on alternate Thursdays.

Richard Donnelly lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota, a cold northern prairie town where everyone huddles in crumbling steam-heated cafés drinking wine and writing poetry. What else is there to do? His first book, *The Melancholy MBA*, is issued by Brick Road Poetry Press of Columbus, Georgia.

Michael Fraley has contributed to *Ship of Fools*, *The Road Not Taken*, and *Plainsongs*. M.A.F. Press published his chapbook *First-Born*. Tamafyhr Mountain Press published his e-chapbook *Howler Monkey Serenade*. Michael's poems have appeared internationally in five countries. He received a B.F.A. in photography from the San Francisco Art Institute and an M.A. in writing from the University of San Francisco. Michael lives within walking distance of the San Francisco Zoo with his wife Gail, daughter Bunny, and four cats. Besides reading, he also enjoys photography and vintage cameras.

Part Texan, part Okie, **Blake Kilgore** fell for a Jersey girl and followed her east. A history teacher by day, he also coaches basketball and performs original folk music. Blake is a skeptic who still believes. As such, he is grateful for much that is still good, and particularly for his wife and four sons. Blake's stories have recently appeared or are forthcoming in *The Alembic*, *Forge*, *The Bookends Review*, *ginosko*, *Stonecoast Review*, and *Thrice Fiction*.

Norbert Kovacs lives and writes in Hartford, Connecticut. His stories have appeared, or soon will appear, in *Foliate Oak*, *Squawk Back*, *Corvus Review*, *Ekphrastic*, and *No Extra Words*.

Denise Landrum-Geyer is an associate professor of English (specialty—Composition and Rhetoric) & Writing Center Coordinator at Southwestern Oklahoma State University. She is interested in the ways in which creative writing and composition pedagogy intersect, especially in creative nonfiction. Her research interests also include essay studies, genre theory, computers and composition, qualitative research, feminist and critical pedagogies, composition history, invention studies, writing across the curriculum, and writing center theory. In addition to being a professor and essayist, she is a bit obsessive about dogs: dachshunds, shih tzus, German shepherds, and Newfoundlands are particular favorites. She has been in Oklahoma since July of 2009, and she is constantly learning what it means to live life on the Great Plains, especially as a wife, mother, and University of Kentucky alum and sports fan.

Kelley Logan is a faculty member of Southwestern Oklahoma State University. Her last publications were "Transubstantiation" and "The Doppelganger" in the Sugar Mule anthology *Ain't Nobody That Can Sing Like Me*. She lives in Weatherford, OK with her husband, an aging cat, and dark thoughts.

Parker Montgomery Long was born in Weatherford, Oklahoma. His father, Keith, was an English professor at Southwestern Oklahoma State University, and his mother was a homemaker. In his poetry, he primarily wrestles with issues like identity, duality, and the particularly difficult problem of being an outdoorsman.

Richard Luftig is a Midwesterner now living in California. He is a recipient of the Cincinnati Post-Corbett Foundation Award for Literature and a semi-finalist for the Emily Dickinson Society Award for Poetry. His stories have appeared in numerous magazines including *Bloodroot*, *Front Porch Review*, *Broadkill Literary Review*, and *Pulse*.

Kaylee Patton is 20 years old and from Perryton, Texas. She is an orientation leader at Southwestern Oklahoma State University and is also in a sorority. She is a health science major for pre-physical therapy with a minor in child development psychology. Patton's dream is to be a pediatric physical therapist and to be able to work with children who have disabilities.

Dennis Ross taught and did research at Iowa State University. Now retired, he has gone back to his first love, writing poetry, as a second career. He has about 180 poems published. *Relatives and Other Strangers*, his first chapbook, appeared in Finishing Line Press.

Loren Smith's work is forthcoming or has appeared in *The North Central Review*, *Prairie Margins*, *Enormous Rooms*, *Coup d'Etat*, *Red Cedar Review*, *Scribendi*, *Green Blotter*, *Straylight*, *Westward Quarterly*, *The Oakland Arts Review*, *30 North*, *Illumen*, *The Great American Wise Ass Poetry Anthology*, *Trysts of Fate*, *Outposts of Beyond*, and *Detectives of the Fantastic V2*.

Scott Thomas has a B.A. from Bard College, a M.S. in Library Science from Columbia University, and a M.A. in English from the University of Scranton. He is currently employed as Executive Director of Pennsylvania Integrated Library System. He lives in Dunmore, PA with his wife Christina and his son Ethan. His poems have appeared in *Mankato Poetry Review*, *The Kentucky Poetry Review*, *Sulphur River Literary Review*, *Poem*, *Philadelphia Stories*, *Floyd County Moonshine*, *Talking River*, *Pointed Circle*, and other journals.

James Valvis has placed poetry or fiction in *Arts & Letters*, *Barrow Street*, *Ploughshares*, *River Styx*, *The Sun*, *Westview*, and many others. His poetry was featured in *Verse Daily*. His fiction was chosen for the Sundress Best of the Net. A former U.S. Army soldier, he lives in the Seattle area.

George Young is a retired physician living in Boulder, Colorado. Recent publications include a chapbook, *Bird of Paradise* (Parallel Press, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2011), and a book, *The Astronomer's Pearl* (Violet Reed Haas Poetry Prize given by Snake Nation Press, 2013).

Photos and illustrations

cover Maggie Tran

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