

2023

## Front Matter

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# Masthead

## **Editors-in-Chief**

Kt Amrine

Cassidy Crane

Kee Olandesca

## **Faculty Advisor**

Peter Grandbois

## **Poetry Editors**

Cassidy Crane, Lauren Ehlers, David Luffman, Mary Hodgkins, Rebecca Hurtado,  
Lydia Maynor, Kee Olandesca, Ava Reischuck, Estan Rodriguez, Emily Toohey

## **Prose Editors**

Kt Amrine, Maura Metts Austin, Ella Diehl, Mia Fischel, Malina Infante, Natalie Isberg,  
Elizabeth Koeppen, Sofia Monteleone, Robert Neithart, Nor Osborne, Thea Pederson, Shaye Phillips

Like a rite of life  
I take a book in my hands.  
In it the earth burns, scorched,  
the syllables,  
the verses,  
the mythical horizon blinded by the sun.  
El Cid rides, lost in words,  
way of the poem and exile

- Jose Vernon Gormaz

All writers—all beings—are exiles as a matter of course. The certainty about living is that it is a succession of expulsions of whatever carries the life force...All writers are exiles wherever they live and their work is a lifelong journey towards the lost land...

- Janet Frame

Oft him anhaga are gebideð,  
metudes miltse, þeah þe he modcearig  
  
geond lagulade longe sceolde  
hreran mid hondum hrimcealde sæ,  
wadan wræclastas. Wyrð bið ful aræd!”

Often the solitary one experiences mercy for himself,  
the mercy of the Measurer, although he, troubled in  
spirit,  
over the ocean must long  
stir with his hands the rime-cold sea,  
travel the paths of exile – Fate is inexorable.”

- “The Wanderer”

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## Letter from the Editors

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Dear Reader,

Once upon a time, it was standard for *Exile* to produce two issues per year, or once per semester. Sometime around the year 2006, for whatever reason, *Exile* shifted to producing only one issue per year. This is how it has been every year since then: the history of an issue each semester buried so deep that none of us, the current Editors-in-Chief, knew there used to be more than one issue of our beautiful literary magazine each year. Once we discovered this, we thought: why not return to form? And after the success of *Exile 2023* last spring, we knew we could.

This semester's edition of *Exile* is a rollercoaster, from funny Google searches, to retellings of Greek myths, to grappling with international issues, and everything in between. Whether you want to laugh, mourn, reflect, or just enjoy a good story, we invite you to do so with us and all the incredible work held in the pages of this magazine. To all 21 of our contributors: thank you for sharing your creativity with us. This magazine is made possible by your vulnerability, by your willingness to tell your story.

We couldn't have done it without our ever-growing editorial team's efforts. They were prepared to put in the extra time and effort to help us advertise our submission window to their friends and classmates, share our posters around campus and online, and read our large number of submissions this semester. Even during one of the busiest times of the year, they came to our final decision meeting prepared to help us curate a great magazine with their thoughtful commentary and insight. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you.

We hope you enjoy reading through this semester's edition of *Exile*. We can't wait to do it all again soon. See you in the next edition!

Your Editors-in-Chief,  
Kt, Cassidy, and Kee