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Letters from the Editors

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Letters from the Editors

Authors

Amrine Kt, Cassidy Crane, Lucy Dale, Ikera Olandesca, Nor Osborne, and Sofia Monteleone

Letter from the Editors

Dear Readers,

Allow us to welcome you to the Spring 2024 issue of *Exile*, a collection of brilliant works from talented writers and artists all across campus. We hope that you enjoy the artistry in these pages as much as we do.

When we joined the board of editors-in-chief, *Exile* was still recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic. We are happy to have been a part of *Exile*'s revival, to watch our submission numbers grow and grow each year and to have seen two issues published for the first time in eighteen years. At the beginning of the year, we doubted if this was even possible: would we have enough submissions, enough time, enough resources to actually make this happen? Lo and behold, our contributors, editors, and English department advisors came through and helped us make this dream a reality. We are so happy to be able to showcase not one, but two incredible collections of stories from this year. We would like to especially thank our wonderful poetry and prose editors, our twenty-eight contributors, and our faculty advisor Peter Grandbois for making this issue possible and for believing in us.

Reflecting back on our three years with *Exile*, we feel both loss and fulfillment at the thought of leaving. While we are so sad to leave this wonderful publication, we are so proud of the accomplishments we were able to make during our short time as editors-in-chief. We are also honored to leave it in the hands of such capable people. Kee, Sofia, Nor, and Lucy, we know you will accomplish great things, both with *Exile* and beyond. Kee, we cherish the time we had to work with you on *Exile* and value your creativity more than you know. Sofia, Nor, and Lucy, we regret not being able to work with you more, but we know you will thrive on *Exile*'s editorial board and that the magazine will blossom under your leadership.

Whatever you need right now: to laugh, cry, smile, reflect (all things we find ourselves doing at the thought of ending our time with *Exile*), we hope you can do it within these pages, with these stories, with us.

— Kt Amrine and Cassidy Crane

Dear Readers,

For the spring issue, it's fitting to comment on the themes of passing time, the endings of cherished chapters, and the beginnings of bright journeys. With the blooming of daffodils around Denison's campus, comes the seemingly perfect time to gain closure for the school year passed while also leaping full-heartedly onto the next page.

At a college where we are constantly moving fast, focused on creating the futures we desire, we must also take pause to honor the past, which has shaped and expanded our possibilities for the present. Exile has thrived with a community of talented editors and contributors thanks to the inspiring leadership of Cassidy and Kt. Cassidy, you've been a pillar that holds us together and the warmth that keeps us rooted. Kt, your bold vision and tenacious drive set a standard for excellence we will strive to uphold for years to come. You've both left an indelible mark on Exile, and we are thrilled and honored to carry your legacies forward.

Lucy, Sofia, and I are all so honored to be joining this talented team. We've been endlessly inspired by the dedication of Cassidy, Kee, and KT, all of them being such incredibly welcoming and intelligent people. We have big shoes to fill, but I have no doubt we can continue what our past Editor-In-Chiefs have started, and put all of our love and dedication into this magazine. In this edition and the editions to come, we will push ourselves to explore the creative ways we curate the magazine, encouraging our editors to be the best they can be as we take on the beautiful work of our community. We are so excited to continue to generate this collection of the very best work Denison has to offer.

There is nothing like Exile at Denison. It is special, a kaleidoscope of voices and perspectives across our campus. Every year, every edition brings with it new excitements and challenges, and we are so excited to continue this legacy and foster the kinds of poignant, moving, and laugh-out-loud writers in our campus' creative scene. So a promise from me: every piece of writing that passes through my hands and into the pages of this magazine will be something special, something worth picking up and picking apart. Maybe you'll read it and find new inspiration. Maybe you'll find a writer to look up to. But there will be something that speaks to you, because there is always something here that speaks to us.

—Lucy Dale, Ikera (Kee) Olandesca, Nor Osborne, and Sofia Monteleone