

VICTORIA BARRETT

Department of English
Ball State University
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EDUCATION

M.F.A. in Creative Writing, 2002

New Mexico State University

Thesis: *House on Fire*, stories and introductory essay, directed by Kevin McIlvoy

Course Work: Master's Workshop in Fiction, Advanced Fiction Workshop, Theories of Discourse: Gender and Language, Introduction to Critical Theory, Form and Technique of Fiction, Form and Technique of Poetry, Advanced Writing—Composition (creative nonfiction), Twentieth Century Novels, Composition Theory and Pedagogy

B.A. in Professional Writing and Creative Writing, 1998

Purdue University

Dual Majors: Professional Writing and Creative Writing

Course Work: Advanced Professional Writing, Computer-Aided Publishing, Introduction to Professional Writing

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2014 Adjunct Instructor, Butler University
2004-present Assistant Professor of English, Ball State University
1999-2002 Graduate Assistant, New Mexico State University

BOOKS

As Author

My Business Life Cycle: How Innovation, Determination, and Evolution Made Paul Harris Great. Memoir co-written with Gerald Paul. Purdue University Press. 2007

As Editor and Publisher (Engine Books and its imprints)

Patricia Henley, *Other Heartbreaks: Stories*. October 2011
Debra Monroe, *On the Outskirts of Normal: A Memoir*. Reprint. June 2011
Debra Monroe, *Shambles: A Novel*. Reprint. June 2011
Myfanwy Collins, *Echolocation: A Novel*. March 2012
Sybil Baker, *Into This World: A Novel*. May 2012
Courtney Elizabeth Mauk, *Spark, A Novel*. September 2012
Gregory Spatz, *Half as Happy: Stories*. April 2013
Nan Cuba, *Body and Bread: A Novel*. May 2013
Claudia Zuluaga, *Fort Starlight: A Novel*. September 2013
Lisa Borders, *The Fifty-First State: A Novel*. October 2013
Snowden Wright, *Play Pretty Blues: A Novel*. November 2013
Kristin Waterfield Duisberg, *After: A Novel*. February 2014
Courtney Elizabeth Mauk, *Orion's Daughters: A Novel*. May 2014
Barbara Shoup, *Looking for Jack Kerouac: A Novel*. August 2014
Sarah Yaw, *You Are Free to Go: A Novel*. September 2014.
Elizabeth Stuckey-French & Patricia Henley, *Where Wicked Starts: A Novel*. October 2014
MB Caschetta, *Miracle Girls: A Novel*. November 2014
Sarah Layden, *Trip Through Your Wires: A Novel*. February 2015

Myfanwy Collins, *The Book of Laney: A Novel*. March 2015
John McNally, *Lord of the Ralphs: A Novel*. October 2015
Scott Nadelson, *Between You and Me: A Novel*. November 2015
Pamela Painter, *Ways to Spend the Night: Stories*. January 2016
Robin Black, *Crash Course: Essays on Fiction Writing*. April 2016
Steven Schwartz, *Madagascar: New and Selected Stories*. September 2016
MB Caschetta, *Pretend I'm Your Friend: Stories*. November 2016
Andrew Roe, *Where You Live: Stories*. May 2017
Amy P. Knight, *Lost, Almost: A Novel*. November 2017
Scott Nadelson, *The Fourth Corner of the World: Stories*. February 2018

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Creative Nonfiction: Personal Essays

"How to Build a Nursery for a Dying Baby," June 21, 2016. *Maximum Middle Age*.
"How I Cobbled Together a Grown-Up Life From the Unwanted Scraps of Others,"
July 13, 2016. *Maximum Middle Age*.
"Where We Live Now: A DIY Remodel of My Entire Life," August 3, 2016. *Maximum Middle Age*.
"Cocktails of Our Lives: A Seriously Questionable Screwdriver," August 4, 2016. *Maximum Middle Age*.
"It Takes a Village to Raise a Child, and I Have a Very Small Village," August 29, 2016. *Maximum Middle Age*.
"On Fear and Brock Turner's Freedom: What it's Like When Your Assailant Gets Released,"
September 7, 2016. *Maximum Middle Age*.
"I Hate Your Girl-Shaming *Girls Life* Meme: Here's Why," September 20, 2016, *Maximum Middle Age*.
"25 Years Later: *Nevermind* and a Cheerleader From the Burbs," September 27, 2016. *Maximum Middle Age*.
"The Elena Ferrante Exposé: Man Feels Entitled to Woman's Identity, Defends Himself By Calling Her a Liar" October 3, 2016. *Maximum Middle Age*
"25 Years Later: *Blood Sugar Sex Magik* and Finding My Power," October 4, 2016. *Maximum Middle Age*.
"Cocktails of our Lives: The Apple Jack," October 11, 2016. *Maximum Middle Age*.

Creative Nonfiction: Humor

"Must-Haves for Your Wedding/Murder Registry," August 15, 2016. *Maximum Middle Age*.
"10 Things I Totally Blame on Feminism," August 30, 2016. *Maximum Middle Age*.
"10 Treasures From the 1970 *Better Homes and Gardens* Cookbook," September 21, 2016. *Maximum Middle Age*.
"10 Mostly Gross Things I Never, Ever Thought I'd Do When I Was Childfree," September 29, 2016. *Maximum Middle Age*.
"You, Too, May Be Attracted to Middle-Aged People! Science Says So," October 5, 2016. *Maximum Middle Age*.
"Hello, I'm the Ghost of Feet Past," October 7, 2016. *Maximum Middle Age*.

Nonfiction: Politics

"Trump's VP Pick Mike Pence is a Garbage Dump in Flames for More Reasons Than You Know," July 15, 2016. *Maximum Middle Age*.

Short Stories

- “Small Planes, Flying Low,” *Indy Writes Books: A Book Lover’s Anthology*, edited by Travis DiNicola (solicited for non-profit bookstore’s anthology, with work by John Green, Dan Wakefield, Susan Neville, and other Indiana writers), 2014
- “Streaker,” *You Must Be This Tall to Ride*. 2009
- “Not Sold in Stores,” *Puerto del Sol*. 2006
- “Better as a Wish,” *Colorado Review*. 2005
- “Gustavo’s Wedding,” *Massachusetts Review*. 2003
- “Tall for a Girl,” *Colorado Review*. 2003
- “Quarry,” *Confrontation*. 2002

As Editor (online and print literary journals)

- Freight Stories*. No. 8. October 2012
Featuring stories by Tatjana Soli, Kirsten Sundberg Lunstrum, and others.
- Freight Stories*. No. 7. October 2011
Featuring stories by Patricia Henley, Kevin McIlvoy, Lise Saffran, and others.
- Freight Stories*. No. 6. February 2010
Featuring stories by Robin Black, Terese Svoboda, Midge Raymond, and others.
- Freight Stories*. No. 5. June 2009
Featuring stories by Michael Martone, Margaret McMullan, and others.
- Freight Stories*. No. 4. February 2009
Featuring stories by Lee Martin, Daniel Wallace, Jim Tomlinson, and others.
- Freight Stories*. No.3. September 2008
Featuring stories by Cathy Day, Patricia Henley, Susan Neville, and others.
- Freight Stories*. No.2. June 2008
Featuring stories by Larry Watson, Gina Ochsner, Kyle Minor, and others.
- Freight Stories*. No.1. March 2008
Featuring stories by Mary Swan, Robert Boswell, John McNally, and others.
- Puerto del Sol: A Journal of Literature and Fine Art*. Vol. 38.1. Spring 2003
Featuring stories by Sherrie Flick, Marian Pierce, and others.
- Puerto del Sol: A Journal of Literature and Fine Art*. Vol. 37.2 (double-issue). Summer 2002
Featuring stories by Valerie Miner, Manuel Muñoz, Alyce Miller, and others.
- Puerto del Sol: A Journal of Literature and Fine Art*. Vol. 37.1. Spring 2002
Special issue featuring contemporary Cuban literature in translation.
- Puerto del Sol: A Journal of Literature and Fine Art*. Vol. 36.1. Spring 2001
Featuring work by Angela Pneuman, Marilyn Abildskov, and others.

Creative Writing Craft and Pedagogy

- “What Do You Think You’re Doing? On Starting a Fiction Press When the Book is Supposed to Be Dead.” Ball State University English Department blog. August 2011
- “An Interview with Debra Monroe.” *Glimmer Train Stories*. Summer 2011
- “Read Like a Writer.” *Associated Writing Programs Pedagogy Papers*. 2006
- “Myth and Memory: The Advantages of Writing Fiction About Place.” *Literally: News from the Writers’ Center of Indiana*. March 2005
- “Creative Writing in Other Kinds of Classrooms.” *Associated Writing Programs Pedagogy Papers*. 2002
- “A Big, Bad Toolbox: Teaching Creative Writing to the Reluctant.” *Associated Writing Programs Pedagogy Papers*. 2001

Interviews as Subject

- “Boutique Press Engine Books’ \$2.7 Million Big Dream,” by Scott Shoger, *NUVO Newsweekly*. 2014
- “Indy Spotlight: Engine Books,” by Kate Flaherty, *Ploughshares* blog, online. 2014
- “Interview: Editors of *Freight Stories*,” *WITTS: What I’m Trying to Say* blog, online. 2013
- “Victoria Barrett Launches Literary Press as Act of Faith,” by Jennifer Haupt, *Psychology Today*, online. 2011
- “Profile: Victoria Barrett and Engine Books,” by Emma Faesi, *NUVO Newsweekly*. 2012
- “A ½ Dozen for Victoria Barrett,” by Julianna Baggott for her blog, online. 2012
- “The Little Engine That Would: A Tiny New Publisher Where Books Really Matter,” *Newcity Lit*, online. 2011
- “Meet Victoria Barrett and Andrew Scott, Editors of *Freight Stories*,” *Novel Rocket*, online. 2008

Works In Progress

- Four Points Gin*, a novel.
- Accidents of Cell Division*, a memoir.

PRESENTATIONS, INVITED LECTURES, AND READINGS

- Two literary editing and publishing presentations: “The Life of a Book” and “Careers in Publishing,” Illinois Wesleyan University, February 25, 2016.
- Excerpts from *Ghost Road*: Fiction reading and Q&A, Clermont College (University of Cincinnati), September 27, 2016.
- Lecture, Gemini Ink, San Antonio, TX. May 2013
- Lecture on Editing and Publishing, Morehead State University, Morehead, KY. January 2013
- “Promoting Your Book.” Panelist, Indiana Authors Fair. Indianapolis. September 2012
- “Working With Editors.” Panelist with Brenda Copeland (St. Martin’s Press), Matthew Dicks, and Myfanwy Collins, Newburyport Literary Festival. Newburyport, MA. April 2012
- “Editing and Publishing.” With Andrew Scott. Butler University MFA Program Editing and Publishing graduate course. Indianapolis. November 2011
- Excerpts from *Four Points Gin* and *Ghost Road*. Fiction reading with Frank Bill. Indy Underground Reading Series. Indianapolis. September 2011
- “Introduction to Online Publishing.” With Andrew Scott. Writers’ Studio. Butler University. Indianapolis. March 2010
- “Publishing Your Work Online.” With Bryan Furuness and Andrew Scott. The Gathering of Writers. The Writers’ Center of Indiana. Indianapolis. November 2009
- “Casting and Setting Memorable Scenes.” New Years’ Resolution: Write! The Writers’ Center of Indiana. Indianapolis. January 2008
- “Scholarship for Sisters.” Purdue University Panhellenic Officers’ Roundtable. Purdue University. West Lafayette, IN. January 2007
- “On Determination” (guest lecture). Purdue University. West Lafayette, IN. September 2007
- Excerpts from *Four Points Gin*. Fiction reading. The Writers’ Center of Indiana. Indianapolis. December 2006
- “On Keeping a Notebook.” New Years’ Resolution: Write! The Writers’ Center of Indiana. Indianapolis. January 2005
- “Building a Writing Community.” Panelist, New Years’ Resolution: Write! The Writers’ Center of Indiana. Indianapolis. January 2005
- “Days Like This.” Fiction reading. NMSU Reading Series. With Jane Hamilton. New Mexico State University. Las Cruces, NM. March 2001
- “Not Sold in Stores” (short story) and selected poems. Fiction and poetry reading. Marathon Fundraiser, Department of English. With Robert Boswell, Antonya Nelson, Kevin

McIlvoy, et. al. New Mexico State University. Las Cruces, NM. October 2001

TEACHING

Butler University

ENG 303: Studies in Professional Writing: Introduction to Literary Editing and Publishing

Ball State University

ENG 287: Fiction Writing

ENG 285: Introduction to Creative Writing

ENG 114: Honors English Composition

ENG 104: Composing Research (research- and literature-based curricula)

ENG 103: Rhetoric and Writing

New Mexico State University

ENG 220: Imaginative Writing

ENG 211: Writing in the Humanities: Revisions, Remakes, and Re-imaginings

ENG 211: Writing in the Humanities: The Making of Myth

ENG 203: Business and Professional Communication

ENG 111: Rhetoric and Composition

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2010 ASPiRE Creative Arts Faculty Grant, Ball State University (\$6,000)

2007 Individual Artist Grant, Indiana Arts Commission (\$1,000)

2006 Writing Program Excellence in Teaching Award, Ball State University (\$500)

2005 Creative Arts Summer Salary Award, Ball State University (\$6,300)

2005 Individual Artist Grant, Indiana Arts Commission (\$1,000)

2004 Pushcart Prize Nominee

2003 Finalist, *Fiction Magazine* Short Story Award

2000 Frank Waters Fiction Fellowship, New Mexico State University, selected by Laura Kasischke

2000 Joe Somoza/Keith Wilson Poetry Fellowship, New Mexico State University,
selected by Edward Hirsh

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Ball State University

2009-2013 Graduate Student Mentor (teacher training)

2008-2010 Mentor for New Faculty

2009 Judge, Undergraduate Writers Gala

New Mexico State University

2000-2002 Managing Editor, *Puerto del Sol: A Journal of Literature and Fine Art*

2000-2002 Instructor, Writers in the Schools (community outreach)

2000-2002 Department of English Phone-a-Thon Fundraiser

2000 Freshman Academic Advisor

1999-2000 Writing Consultant, Writing Center, Department of English

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2011-present Editor and Publisher, Engine Books
2008-present Editor, *Freight Stories*
2005-present Manuscript reviewer, various publishers (Pearson, Bedford/St. Martin's, et al.)
2004-2011 Instructor, The Writers' Center of Indiana
2005-2008 Reader, Advanced Placement Exam Scoring. Educational Testing Service

AFFILIATIONS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

2015-present Patient Advocate, Planned Parenthood of Indiana and Kentucky
2007-11 Coordinator, The Gathering of Writers and Readers. The Writers' Center of Indiana. Indianapolis
2010 Judge, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) Graduate Fiction Competition. Indianapolis
2009-2010 Web Designer and Branding Consultant. The Writers' Center of Indiana. Indianapolis
2006-2007 Grant Writing Consultant. Dance Kaleidoscope. Indianapolis
2005-2006 Scholarship Advisor. Gamma Phi Beta, Delta Iota Chapter. Purdue University. West Lafayette, IN
2003 Panelist, Indiana Arts Commission Arts Organization Grant Adjudication. Indianapolis
2002-present Member, The Writers' Center of Indiana. Indianapolis
2000-present Member, Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP)
1999-2001 Volunteer, Share Our Strength Benefit Reading Series. Las Cruces, NM