

# Caleb Tankersley

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## EDUCATION

- Ph.D.** in English and Creative Writing 2016  
Center for Writers, The University of Southern Mississippi  
Concentrations: Creative Writing, Native American Literature, Contemporary Fiction  
Creative Dissertation: *The Feed Corn Sea: Stories*  
Chair: Andrew Malan Milward, First Reader: Steven Barthelme
- M.A.** in English 2013  
Southeast Missouri State University  
Concentrations: Creative Writing, Publishing  
Creative Thesis: “The Constructed Character ‘I’: Using The Author In Diluting Genres”  
Chair: Susan Swartwout, First Reader: Vallie Lynn Watson
- B.A.** in English 2010  
Southeast Missouri State University  
Concentrations: Writing, Small-Press Publishing  
Graduated with Distinction

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## PUBLICATIONS

### ***Short Story Collection***

*Sin Eaters*, University of Alaska Press, 2022 (Winner of the Permafrost Book Prize in Fiction)

### ***Chapbook***

*Jesus Works the Night Shift*, Urban Farmhouse Press, Cities of the Straits Series, 2014

### ***Fiction***

- “Jebediah.” *Crosscurrents*, 2021  
“Red Tractor.” *Hobart*, 2020  
“Trains.” *Pacifica Literary Review*, 2020  
“Swamp Creatures.” *Carve*, 2020  
“Apparitions.” *Puerto del Sol*, 2020  
“Baby Lanes.” *Fiction Southeast*, 2019  
“The Feed Corn Sea.” *The Cimarron Review*, 2019  
“Fish Scales.” *New Plains Review*, 2018 (Chosen as the Editor’s Pick for Prose)  
“The Hook of the World.” *Emerging Writers: An Anthology of Fiction*, 2018  
“Superheroes of 2030.” *Monkeybicycle*, 2018  
“Felda.” *Big Muddy*, 2017  
“Instructions for the New World.” *Psychopomp*, 2017 (Pushcart and *Best of the Net* nom.)  
“Brasília, 2003.” *Pacifica Literary Review*, 2017  
“Dean.” *Sycamore Review*, 2017 (Winner of the Wabash Prize in Fiction)  
“Uncle Bob.” *Permafrost*, 2016

“A Hound.” *Product*, 2016  
“Branson.” *CutBank*, 2016 (Winner of the Big Sky/Small Prose Contest)  
“Godzilla Girl.” *Gargoyle*, 2016  
“We Have a City.” *Storm Cellar*, 2015 (Pushcart nom.)  
“You’re Beautiful.” *Cape Fear Review*, 2015  
“I Played the Farmer.” *Pinball*, 2014  
“he told me a story.” *The Knicknackery*, 2014 (Pushcart nom.)  
“The Oak Tree.” *decomp magazinE*, 2014 (Pushcart and *Best of the Net* nom.)  
“In the Clouds.” *Midwestern Gothic*, 2013  
“My Father’s Garden.” *Cave Region Review*, 2010  
“Suicide Breakfast.” *Journey*, 2010

### **Nonfiction**

“If My Book.” *Monkeybicycle*, 2022  
“Research Notes.” *Necessary Fiction*, 2022  
“Writer’s Recommend: Caleb Tankersley.” *The Next Best Book Blog*, 2022  
“A Kind of Ascendency: Lynn Casteel Harper’s *On Vanishing*.” *North American Review*, 2021  
“What We Talk About.” Craft Interview, *Carve*, 2020  
“Decline/Accept: The Feed Corn Sea.” *Carve*, 2019  
“Overtime.” *Mulberry Fork Review*, 2014

### **Poetry**

“Coffee.” *Redactions*, 2018  
“Fish Bones.” *Redactions*, 2018 (Pushcart nom.)  
“Left Eye.” *Angle*, 2014  
“Church Bells.” *Trailer Park Quarterly*, 2014  
“The Love of Saints.” *Trailer Park Quarterly*, 2014  
“Flattery.” *Cutthroat*, 2010  
“Pedophiles with Pianos.” *Cutthroat*, 2010

### **Critical Articles**

“Magical Resistance: Louise Erdrich’s use of Magical Realism in *Tracks* and *The Plague of Doves*.” Published in the proceedings for the Eleventh Native American Symposium, 2017

### **Book Reviews**

*The Bird Catcher* by Fayeza Hasanat in *Necessary Fiction*, 2019  
*Terrarium* by Valerie Trueblood in *Necessary Fiction*, 2018  
*Like a Champion* by Vincent Chu in *Necessary Fiction*, 2018  
*Planet Grim* by Alex Behr in *Necessary Fiction*, 2017  
*Stephen Florida* by Gabe Habash in *Necessary Fiction*, 2017  
*Land of Love and Ruins* by Oddný Eir, trans. by Philip Roughton in *Necessary Fiction*, 2017  
*Red Indian Road West: Native American Poetry from California*, Eds. Kurt Schweigman & Lucille Lang Day in *Redactions*, 2016  
*Juventud* by Vanessa Blakeslee in *Necessary Fiction*, 2016  
*The New York Stories* by Ben Tanzer in *Necessary Fiction*, 2015  
*Crazy Horse’s Girlfriend* by Erika T. Wurth in *Necessary Fiction*, 2015

*Blacken Me, Blacken Me Growled* by Cassandra Troyan in *Necessary Fiction*, 2014  
*Marry or Burn* by Valerie Trueblood in *Big Muddy*, 2013  
*The Archipelago: A Balkan Passage* by Robert Isenberg in *Newpages*, 2011  
*Visitation* by Jenny Erpenbeck, trans. by Susan Bernofsky in *Newpages*, 2011  
*Our Chrome Arms of Gymnasium* by Crystal Curry in *Newpages*, 2011  
*The Captain Asks for a Show of Hands* by Nick Flynn in *Newpages*, 2011  
*Dunstan Thompson: On the Life & Works of a Lost American Master*, Eds. D. A. Powell & Kevin Prufer in *Newpages*, 2010  
*Kids of the Black Hole: Punk Rock in Postsuburban California* by Dewar MacLeod in *Newpages*, 2010  
*Falling Off the Bicycle Forever* by Michael Rattee in *Newpages*, 2010  
*The Evolutionary Revolution* by Lily Hoang in *Newpages*, 2010  
*Impotent* by Matthew Roberson in *Newpages*, 2010  
*National Monuments* by Heid E. Erdrich in *Big Muddy*, 2010  
*Earth Shattering: Ecopoems*, Ed. by Neil Astley in *Big Muddy*, 2008

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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

*Visiting Assistant Professor, University of St. Thomas, 2022-Present*

GENG-698 Graduate Independent Reading  
ENGL-422 Literary Magazine Practicum II  
ENGL-421 Literary Magazine Practicum I  
ENGL-255 Introduction to Creative Writing  
ENGL-121 Critical Thinking: Literature and Writing

*Associate Faculty, Edmonds College, 2018-2022*

ENGL-152 Writing Poetry II  
ENGL-151 Writing Poetry I  
ENGL-102 Composition II: Geography and Identity  
ENGL-101 Composition and Analysis  
ENGL-099 Critical Reading and Writing  
AENGL-93 Composition for College  
AENGL-96 Editing for College  
WRITE 101 Writing Skills III

*Literary Arts Instructor, Mississippi School of the Arts, 2016-2017*

LA-430 Senior Publications  
LA-400 Writer's Studio  
LA-320 Advanced Fiction  
LA-310 Advanced Poetry  
LA-230 Playwriting  
LA-220 Intermediate Fiction  
LA-210 Intermediate Poetry  
LA-110 Introduction to Literary Arts

*Graduate Teaching Instructor, The University of Southern Mississippi, 2013-2016*

ENG-333 Professional Writing  
ENG-203 World Literature  
ENG-102 Political Discourse and Argument  
ENG-101 Composition and Analysis

*Graduate Teaching Instructor, Southeast Missouri State University, 2011-2013*

EN-275 Introduction to Creative Writing  
EN-140 Rhetoric and Critical Thinking  
EN-100 Introduction to College Writing

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SERVICE

*Creative Writing Curriculum Committee, U of St. Thomas, 2022-Present*

The committee oversees the Creative Writing Emphasis major. This includes monitoring the curriculum, nominating students for the spring ACTC English Majors Conference readings, the Lon Otto prize and other awards, and judging the writing prizes.

*Washington State Antiracist Curriculum Initiative, 2021-2022*

I am an Edmonds College representative in a statewide study to implement antiracist teaching practices and to facilitate antiracist institutional change across all Washington state colleges.

*Various Department Services, Edmonds College, 2018-2022*

I participate in a wide variety of department services, including BTCE, I-Best, and Roundtable scoring. I assisted in the implementation of DSP through placement readings, and I currently serve on the 101+ Committee, which is working to close equity gaps in our completion rates.

*Instructor and Tutor, Learning Support Center, Edmonds College, 2018-2019*

I taught a number of personalized writing and tutoring courses, WRITE-095 Writing Skills I and WRITE-101 Writing Skills III.

*Online Writing Tutor, Upswing, 2017-2018*

I served as an online composition tutor and instructor to young and returning-adult students from a wide variety of small universities and community colleges.

*Director, Literary Arts Program, MS School of the Arts, 2016-2017*

In this role, I oversaw all aspects of the Literary Arts program, including budgeting, admissions, textbooks, SLOs, and course redesigns. I also organized a visiting writers series and a summer camp for young writers.

*Fiction Chair, Center for Writers, University of Southern Mississippi, 2014-2015*

I advocated and promoted fiction students in the Center for Writers. This involved facilitating submissions, organizing and hosting readings, and raising money for scholarships.

*Writing Tutor, Writing Center, Southeast Missouri State University, 2011-2012*

I tutored students in a center catering to first-generation and non-native English students. I also tutored students online and at remote campus locations via Adobe Connect.

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**PUBLISHING EXPERIENCE**

Faculty Advisor, <i>Summit Avenue Review</i>	Aug. 2022-Present
Managing Director, Split/Lip Press	Aug. 2017-Present
Faculty Advisor, <i>The Phoenix</i>	Aug. 2016-June 2017
Associate Editor, <i>Mississippi Review</i>	Aug. 2014-May 2016
Press Assistant, Southeast Missouri State University Press	Jan. 2013-Aug. 2013
Assistant Editor, <i>Big Muddy</i>	Aug. 2012-May 2013
Managing Editor, <i>Journey</i>	Aug. 2009-May 2010

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**AWARDS**

Winner, 2021 *Permafrost* Book Prize in Fiction, selected by Julie Iromuanya  
 Finalist for the 2020 UNO Press Publishing Lab Prize  
 Finalist for the 2020 Iowa Short Fiction Awards  
 Editor's Pick for Prose in the 2018 issue of *New Plains Review*  
 Winner, *Sycamore Review's* Wabash Prize in Fiction, selected by Adam Johnson, Spring 2017  
 Winner, *CutBank's* Big Sky, Small Prose Contest, selected by David Gates, Spring 2016  
 Runner-Up, *The Pinch's* Literary Contest, Spring 2015  
 Nominated five times for a Pushcart Prize between 2014 and 2018  
 Nominated for inclusion in the *Best of the Net* Anthology in 2014 and 2018  
 Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, SEMO, Spring 2013  
 Student Award at the 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Missouri Writers Guild Conference, February 2009  
 United Nations Millennium Development Goals Special Project, Summer 2008

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**SELECTED READINGS AND PRESENTATIONS**
***Creative Readings***

Short Stack Stories, Season 3, Forthcoming  
 All Together Now: A Split/Lip Celebration Reading, November 2022  
 A Conversation with Allison Wyss, Subtext Books, November 2022  
 Swamp Creatures and Ghosts: Faculty Colloquium, October 2022

Orcas Island Lit Fest, June 2022  
*Big Muddy* and *Laurel Review* Reading, AWP 2022  
*Sin Eaters* Book Launch, Elliott Bay Book Company, March 2022  
Short Stack Stories Podcast, Season 2, May 2021  
Midnight Transmission Reading Series, Diné College, August 2020  
*Pacifica Literary Review* Issue 14 Launch Party, Seattle, WA Apr. 2019  
The Waves LGBT Reading Series, New Orleans, LA, Dec. 2016  
*Product* 30<sup>th</sup> Issue Launch Party at The Thirsty Hippo, Hattiesburg, MS, Apr. 2016  
Best of the West Reading at Villain's Tavern, AWP in Los Angeles, Mar. 2016  
Mid-South Book Festival, Center for Writers Reading, Memphis, TN, Sept. 2015  
Center for Writers Graduate Reading Series, USM Oct. 2013 & Sept. 2015  
Graduate Journey Reading Series, SEMO Dec. 2012 & Apr. 2013  
Wordsfair, SEMO Feb. 2012  
Serena Wandering Art Exhibit, SEMO Mar. 2010  
KRCU NPR affiliate, reading and interview, Cape Girardeau, MO, Feb. 2010  
*Journey* Reading Series, SEMO, Mar. 2008-May 2010

### ***Presentations***

"Influence and Evolution", Short Story Fest, May 2022  
Visiting Writer to Lusher Charter School, New Orleans, LA Dec. 2016  
"Flash Fiction in the Deep South," Radical Writes Conference, Cape Girardeau, MO Apr. 2016  
"Magical Resistance: Louise Erdrich's use of Magical Realism in *Tracks* and *Plague of Doves*,"  
Eleventh Native American Symposium, Durant, OK Nov. 2015  
"Writing in the Pines: Poetry, Prose, and Discussion from The University of Southern  
Mississippi's Center for Writers," Mid-South Book Festival, Memphis, TN Sept. 2015  
"The Inevitability of Suffering: Humor in Creative Writing," National Graduate Creative  
Writing Conference, Carrollton, GA Mar. 2014  
"The Submission Process," Guest Lecturer in Intro. Creative Writing Course, SEMO Oct. 2012  
"Equal Disciplinary Status: Changing the Mentor-Apprentice Creative Writing Model" Radical  
Writes: Midwest Writing Conference, Cape Girardeau, MO Mar. 2012

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### PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society  
The Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP)  
Modern Language Association (MLA)