



# The Inkwell Quarterly

Volume 10

Issue 1

Fall 2015

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Photo courtesy of Jason Klus

## Getting to Know Dr. Michelle Anthony: an Interview with the New English Department Chair

by Jeremy Miller

Following **Dr. Larry Kuhar's** departure from the position of English Department chairperson and Humanities Division chairperson this spring, **Dr. Michelle Anthony** was selected as the new chair of the English department. For many years, Dr. Anthony has been a hallmark of the English program and throughout Wilkes's campus. In order to get to know her better - or simply to enrich your previous knowledge of her - I asked Dr. Anthony several questions about her tenure at Wilkes and her thoughts on her new position.

**What about this new job position are you most excited about?**

Having a new appreciation for every English faculty member, full time and part time. I know them all in new ways now. I am impressed by every faculty member, and I am newly proud to be an English faculty member here at Wilkes.

**What do you think is going to be the biggest challenge?**

Talking with anyone outside of the department. Working with administrators. We tend to have competing interests between the faculty and the administration.

Continued on page 7.



## Faculty Updates

by Tobias Mintzmyer

**Dr. Sean J. Kelly's** article, "Symbols of Illusion in Nathanael West's *Miss Lonelyhearts*" will appear in *The Explicator* in December of this year.

**Dr. Helen Davis** is on sabbatical this semester to work on her temporarily titled book, "*I am my own Mistress*": *Narrating Professional Autonomy and Love in Charlotte Bronte's Novels*. An article based on the first chapter of Dr. Davis' book will appear in the summer issue of the *Journal of Narrative Theory*. The article is entitled "I seemed to possess two wives: Implied Narrative in Charlotte Bronte's *The Professor*."

## Office Directory

by Nicole Kutos

Dr. Mischelle Anthony	201	Dr Kathleen Kemmerer	214
Randolph Brzoska	214	Dr. Larry Kuhar	206
Dr. Helen Davis	308	Bridget McIntyre	214
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Dr. Benjamin Fiester	214	Rosanna Nunan	214
Jack Grier	106	Marcie Riebe	214
Dr. Thomas Hamill	303	Dr. Chad Stanley	209
Dr. Sean Kelly	309		

## DH Lab & Deb's Hours

by Michael Morrison

DH Lab Hours:	M-F 8:00-4:00	Kirby 204
Deb's Hours:	M-F 8:00-9:30, 1:30-4:00	Kirby 202

## Go Set a Watchman Review

by Sara Pisak

*Author's Note:* Plot details are divulged - Spoiler Alert.

I am sure many readers have been hoping, praying and even begging that **Harper Lee** would publish a second novel. Lee has only published one work, the literary classic, *To Kill A Mockingbird* which was first published 55 years ago. On July 14, 2015, the literary community was granted their elusive wish when Harper Lee released her second novel, *Go Set A Watchman*. Excitement about the work's discovery and the impending publication soon spread. However, quickly after the release many news outlets expressed disappointment as well as a narrow-minded reading of the text.

While *Go Set A Watchman* examines events from *To Kill A Mockingbird* in retrospect, a reader who (God forbid) has never read the classic text would not be left out of the loop while reading *Go Set A Watchman*. Given Lee's context of previous events and a reader's inclination to critical thinking, *Go Set A Watchman* deserves a deeper reading and appreciation.

Continued on Page 10.

## Sigma

by Gabriell

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## Sigma Tau Delta Update

by Gabriella Romanelli

On May 3rd, 2015, friends and family gathered in the Kirby Salon to celebrate the distinguished English scholars whom were inducted into Alpha Gamma Alpha's chapter of Sigma Tau Delta. The inductees, **Tara Giarratano, James Jaskolka, Jason Klus, Nicole Kutos, Christie O'Brien, Sara Pisak, Victoria Rendina, and Gabriella Romanelli** were sworn in with the welcome of former Sigma Tau Delta officers. **Kendra Kuhar**, former president, **Sarah Simonovich**, former vice president, and **Cierra Humphrey**, former secretary, presented the new members with pins, certificates, and lovely red roses. The keynote address was given by our always encouraging professor, **Dr. Marcia Farrell**, who spoke inspiring words about the students' work in the field of English, and how they are earning a degree that will provide endless intellectual and career possibilities.

Current members include Sara Pisak, President, Nicole Kutos, Vice President, Jason Klus, Secretary, Christie O'Brien, Treasurer, James Jaskolka, Public Relations, Tara Giarratano, Historian, Gabriella Romanelli, Ambassador of Goodwill, and **Charlie Hanford**. Advised by **Dr. Mischelle Anthony**, Sigma Tau Delta members held their first event on Tuesday, September 29th for Banned Book Week, during which members and student volunteers to read banned literature to Wilkes' campus from the steps of Farley Library.



New Sigma Tau Delta members gather to take a picture with departing members at the induction ceremony. Photo courtesy of Sara Pisak.

## The Inkwell Quarterly Staff

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Marcia Farrell

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Faculty Contributors: Dr. Thomas A. Hamill, Dr. Mischelle Anthony



## Love in Fireflies

by Mackenzie Egan

How does one define love? Is it the love shared between husband and wife, between lovers, between mother and child, between friends? Is it in the moments we share when the lights are off or when the sun illuminates the sky beyond the day? Does biology have a factor in the way we love? Can love be lost, never again seen, when people aren't sure what to give up? **Kristin Hannah** defines love without putting it into such straightforward terms.

Her writing in *Firefly Lane* and its companion, *Fly Away*, show that love can sprout in many forms. The story of Kate and Tully follows them through high school, college, marriage, children, and careers in the 2008 publication, *Firefly Lane*. More than a coming of age story for the incredibly amazing Tullulah Hart and the incredibly unassuming Kate Mularkey, *Firefly Lane* is the story of friendship and falling in love at the turn of the century. From their first meeting in 1974 to their last meeting over thirty years later, Hannah herself cites it as her most "complex novel ever," talking about the fact that she writes about over thirty years of friendship, the semantics of marriage, raising children in the newly forming digital age, facing the struggles of marriage in a time of war and the ability of the media to display friendships and replace modern family values. As a young girl, I was able to relate to the real time and real life struggles Hannah presents with the girls coming of age. As a young adult, I found solace in how they faced problems, inadvertently with each other. Now as I am entering the cusp of my adulthood, I can relate once again; but in this I relate to life as more than just a teenager with a dream, a lost mother, shaking interpersonal relationships, and even the push to be a perfect partner.

Hannah took the chance to make an impactful story and ran head long with it: coming up with some of the best answers I've ever heard. Love is many things. Love is riding your bike at eleven at night with your best friend, dancing with your husband six weeks pregnant and him still looking at you like you are the world and giving up a career to raise your children. Sharing love is doing the little things like eating dinner in the same room and the big things like giving up a pre-planned future for the betterment of someone else's life.

In *Firefly Lane*, there is so much love spreading through pages of literature and so much history too. Not only did Hannah incorporate life, she also incorporated major events and trends from the 1970's to the early 2000's. Everything from style trends to political actions, shown through the eyes of women growing in an age where women's empowerment was a big deal. Readers are given the first-hand view of events that could've happened before their lifetimes with the style and eloquence that really draws them in.

*Fly Away*, the sequel to *Firefly Lane*, is all about moving on after loss and finding yourself. The story of Marah, Kate's oldest child and only daughter, and Tully as they move on through a decade of loss and living. It's the story of being a child, a woman, and a survivor. Without giving too much away it's about learning how to forgive, forget, move on, and accept. Hannah does an amazing job of carrying the tone of *Firefly Lane* through this amazing sequel, written six years after the publication of the original. Again, the tone of the story brings up the question of love. How do we love?

According to Hannah we love in many different ways and many different faces. Throughout our lives we'll love, we'll lose, we'll try again, and we'll continue to live no matter the situation. Two novels, one valuable life lesson. Recommended to anyone who likes to laugh, love, learn; to anyone who has a best friend they can't imagine living without; to any person in the world who's ever had their heart broken, these novels will change the lives of anyone they touch.

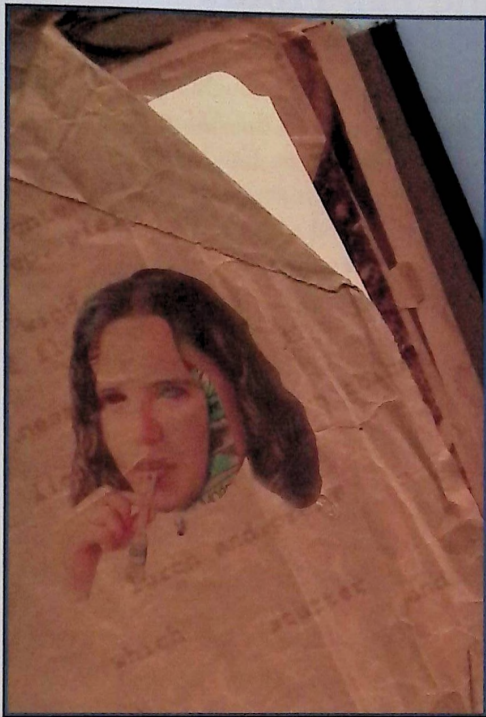


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by Elissa M

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Courtesy of Jason Klus.

## Manuscript Update

by Jason Klus

The Manuscript Society is currently accepting submissions to be considered for publication. Manuscript publishes original creative writing of all genres as well as all mediums of original visual art. Submissions to be considered for the fall semester are due by **midnight on Friday, November 6**. Submissions are accepted digitally and may be sent to [magazine@wilkes.edu](mailto:magazine@wilkes.edu).

Manuscript's annual Halloween Reading will be taking place **Tuesday, October 27 at 7:00 PM** in the **Kirby Hall Salon**. Guest are able to read a selection from an appropriate-themed piece of literature or simply enjoy the readings of others. The event is open to the public, and light refreshments will follow; Halloween costumes are encouraged.

Any questions regarding the Manuscript Society can be sent to [jason.klus@wilkes.edu](mailto:jason.klus@wilkes.edu).

## Department of English Adjunct Faculty

by Elissa McPherson

The Wilkes University English Department is home to both full-time, and adjunct faculty. Adjuncts at Wilkes are professors that work at our university part time. Since these professors do not have permanent offices, it may be easier to contact them through email or visits during their office hours.

*(see page 2 of this issue for a list of offices)*

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 Marcie Riebe ([marcie.riebe@wilkes.edu](mailto:marcie.riebe@wilkes.edu))



## Writing Center - Summer Work Recap and Fall Hours

by Tara Giarratano

The Writing Center serviced many students during the recent summer sessions. For roughly ten hours per week, from early June through early August, English minor **James Jaskolka** and I manned the Alden Learning Commons location, while fellow English Major **Em Leonick** reviewed online submissions. I had the pleasure of working as a writing mentor for **Dr. Kelly's** English 101 class during the first summer session. The class was mainly comprised of local high school juniors and seniors looking to earn some general education credits before graduating from high school. I was very impressed with their perseverance and work ethic. I am not sure if there can be anything more intense than earning four ENG 101 credits in five short weeks, regardless of your educational experience.

I worked with almost every student in the class at least twice a week. Unlike the sometimes hurried consultations which take place during the school year, when students are often looking for a peer review with one specific editing goal such as grammar, syntax, proofreading, or an MLA citation check, these students had much more open-ended needs. Thesis construction, quote integration, and paragraph structuring methods were all new frontiers for them. Helping them manage the tricky task of transforming their reading notes into topic outlines, and guiding the distillations of those organized ideas into assertive and concise theses was a true challenge for me, but watching the rapid progression of their writing abilities was a rewarding privilege. I am grateful to Dr. Kelly for letting me work with the class.

This semester, the Writing Center is operated by a full staff of students across a variety of majors, and is open from 9 A.M. until 6 P.M. Monday through Friday.

## Autumn Pumpkin Bread Recipe

by Mackenzie Egan

The nights are getting longer, days are getting colder, and the smell of pumpkin is in the air. Autumn's favorite flavor, pumpkin, is coming back with a vengeance as summer says its goodbyes and the holidays rear their heads in stores across the country. This recipe goes along with pumpkin flavored coffees and scented candles - and is easy to follow! Here is some pumpkin bread to go along with that latte from Dunkin.

### Ingredients

1 fifteen ounce can of pumpkin puree	3 and ½ cup of all-purpose flour	½ teaspoon of ground cloves
4 eggs	2 teaspoons of baking soda	¼ teaspoon of ground ginger
1 cup of vegetable oil	1 and ½ teaspoon of salt	1 cup of baker's choice nuts, chopped
2/3 cup of water	1 teaspoon of cinnamon	You will also need three 7x3 loaf pans
3 cups of sugar	1 teaspoon of nutmeg	

### Directions

- Grease the loaf pans and preheat the oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit
- Mix pumpkin puree, eggs, oil, water, and sugar in a large bowl
- In a separate bowl, mix the flour, sugar, spices, and baking soda
- When pumpkin mixture is well blended stir in the dry mixture
- Pour into loaf pans
- Bake for fifty minutes (loaves are done when a toothpick is stuck in and comes out clean).

If you do not have or do not want to use baking spray to grease your loaf pans you can use tin foil to line the pans instead. This makes for less mess and more moisture in the loaves themselves.

For people who have to watch their sugar, you can also reduce the sugar from 3 to 2 cups add a ½ cup of applesauce instead. Taking out nuts due to allergies does not mess with the ratios of the other wet and dry ingredients.

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Continued from page 1.  
Interview by Jeremy Miller

**What English classes do you currently teach at Wilkes?**

Thank goodness I only have gen-ed classes this semester – 101 and 120. It's nice to have a lighter planning load for my teaching schedule, because I'm new to all the chair tasks.

**How long have you been at Wilkes?**

Thirteen years – since august 2003.

**What brought you to Wilkes?**

There was an opening for a visiting assistant professor on a national humanities database M.L.A.

**Where are you from?**

Oklahoma.

**Where did you go to school?**

Oklahoma State. The Cowboys, not the Sooners.

**What motivated you to become an English professor?**

It's the only thing I know how to do in my life that gives me so much joy. An English professor's life is writing, reading, and critical thinking, and if I'm not doing some combination of those three things every day, my work life, and my self identity are impoverished.

**What are your favorite classes to teach?**

Of course Gothic Novel. Memoir. Domestic Violence in Literature, and frankly, English 101. Oh, and English 120. It's just nice to get to know the new majors and the people who are here for their first year at Wilkes. It's great to hear their perspectives.

**How have you seen the English department grow and evolve since being here?**

We have introduced two new minors, the workplace writing and creative writing minor, and a new concentration, the Digital Humanities concentration, so our curriculum has expanded. All of this was under Larry Kuhar's leadership. I have seen each of my colleagues' professional lives flourish in different ways, whether it be in the class room, in traditional scholarship, or innovative scholarship, through community service, or through committee service on campus.

**What changes do you anticipate for the department in the future?**

I would say, a deepening, a further flourishing of all that I mentioned above. I think we'll continue to be leaders on campus, in scholarship and service, and in the classroom. I think the big change, the one change that we had begun to work on under Larry's leadership, is one that I want to focus on, which is more recognition of our accomplishments, and our students accomplishments, here in the department.

**What academic and/or creative writing projects are you working on at the moment?**

I'm working on my second poetry collection; it's called *Barbed Wire*, and I meet monthly with a writing group to facilitate that.

Game Answers:  
Jason: D1; Tara: B2; Nicole: A3; Dr. F: C4



# The Good Girl Book Review

by Elissa McPherson

*The Good Girl* is Mary Kubica's debut novel. Readers that enjoyed Gillian Flynn's *Gone Girl* will also enjoy this story because of its similarities in plot, but the similarities end there. This novel falls into the psychological thriller category, which hints that the story will be full of suspense, drama, as well as exciting, pathological characters.

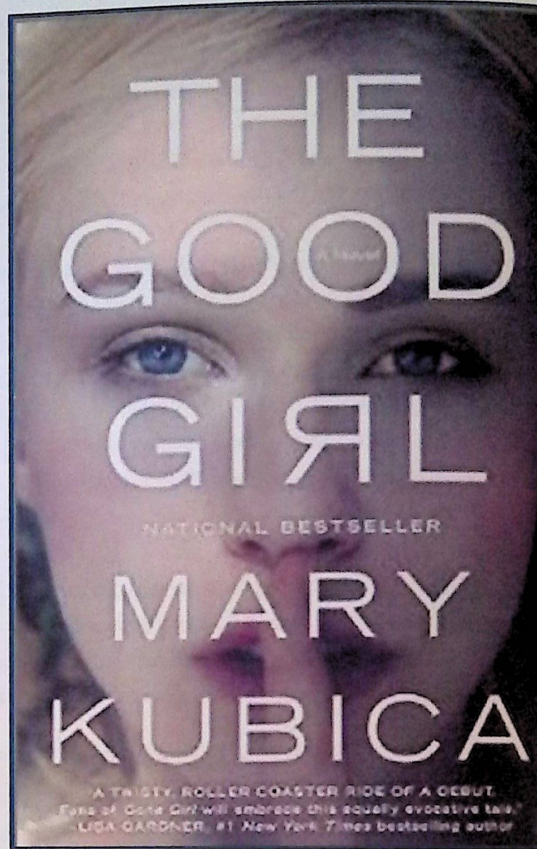
The storyline follows the life of a young adult named Mia, and her unhappiness with the dysfunction in her family. She is the daughter of a well-known and respected judge in Chicago, whose public reputation exceeds how he is perceived by his own family. One day, Mia is kidnapped by a man who reveals himself to her as "Owen." He was hired by a man named Dalmar who intended to hold her for ransom. Owen was supposed to concoct a plan to kidnap Mia and then deliver her to Dalmar, but at the last minute he decided that he must save Mia from whatever Dalmar intended to do with her. He rushes her to an icy cabin in Minnesota, where he believes he can keep her safe. This decision sets Mia and Owen on a path that neither one could've ever imagined, and enforces the notion that things never go as planned.

The story is narrated through the perspectives of three protagonists: Eve (Mia's mother), Gabe (the lead detective in the case), and also through Colin (or Owen, as Mia knows him), each describing their experiences during Mia's kidnapping. Through Mia, these characters' lives and stories slowly began to intertwine, each depending on the other, whether it'd be for the other person's failure or success, for Mia's sake. Each character is driven by emotion, which isn't always helpful in ensuring that Mia returns home soon, alive, and emotionally sane. The author also alternates between past and present; revealing Mia's kidnapping through flashbacks and showing the events that took place before and after in the present tense.

Mia's point of view is saved for the epilogue, which unexpectedly reveals the final twist that pieces the entire story together flawlessly. All of Kubica's characters are dark, flawed characters that leave the reader with mixed emotions about the roles they play and their intentions throughout the story. The characters' flaws and imperfections make the story seem even more real, and even with such an unlikely event, make them relatable. The reader may end up falling in love with the "bad guy" and may end up questioning their thoughts about all the characters in general.

This novel is full of anguish, twists, and excitement. The characters are fully developed, and their voices are clearly heard through the alternating points of view. Because of this, we can see how everyone involved in Mia's life, either before or after her kidnapping, was affected by her disappearance. Because the reader knows every element throughout the story, including who kidnapped Mia, why she was kidnapped, and where she was being held, the reader does not expect the twist that reshapes their entire thoughts on the events that took place during the story.

From the moment it begins, *The Good Girl* hooks the reader in through its characters. It is hard not to care about each of them individually, and hope that the events that follow will be in their favor. The writing is fast paced, engaging, and well written, a great accomplishment for an author's first novel. It's an emotional read, containing joy and happiness as well as sadness and tragedy. The epilogue alone is enough to evoke a multitude of emotions and leave the reader thinking about the novel long after its conclusion. Because of Kubica's amazing writing style, fans of this book are excited to get their hands on her second novel, *Pretty Baby*, released earlier this year.



# Go Set a Watchman

by Sara Pisanelli

July 1, 2015  
years, *Go Set a Watchman* is available solely on the Kindle edition.

The book is a chronological prequel to the original *To Kill a Mockingbird*, set in the same town and time period.

After *To Kill a Mockingbird* was published, many people were shocked by Lee's life and how it would have been a headline from the time of the book's publication.

Other people who have read and delighted in the book have shared it with me. I am humbled by their belief that "The Good Girl" is a hard, wonderful read of attention-grabbing phrases equating to a roller coaster ride.

I struggle to decide her character. *Entertainment Weekly* says "These skyrockets publishing house's sensationalist marketing strategy."

In its feature...

- 2nd paragraph ended
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## Go Set a Watchman: The Original Controversy

by Sara Pisak

July 14, 2015 marked a historic day for the literary world as **Harper Lee** released her first new text in 55 years, *Go Set A Watchman*. Instead of celebrating this gift to the literary community, most media outlets have focused solely on the controversial aspects of the text.

The timeline of events surrounding the publication of *Go Set A Watchman* is as unique as the text itself. *Go Set A Watchman* was originally written by Lee before her classic work *To Kill A Mockingbird* but the story itself chronologically takes places after the events of *To Kill A Mockingbird* unfold. Deciding against the work, Lee shelved the piece and began work on *To Kill A Mockingbird* instead. It was not until late 2014 that Lee's lawyer discover the original *Go Set A Watchman* manuscript attached to an old typeset of *To Kill A Mockingbird* stored in a safe deposit box. The skewed timeline of composition has led some readers to consider the work a sequel of *To Kill A Mockingbird*, while others consider the text an early draft of what became *To Kill A Mockingbird*.

After its publication a great deal of press attention has focused on the controversy surrounding *Go Set A Watchman*. The public has forgotten the original controversy surrounding the text arose before the book was even published. Many in the writing community began to question the timing of events. Lee had just suffered a stroke and was recovering when news of the long awaited book began to make waves. The public questioned if those in Lee's life were taking advantage of her momentary confusion. Further, people began to question why after fifty-five years would Lee risk her reputation and place her notoriously reclusive wariness of the press on the back burner? A headline from *Newsweek* shouted, "Friends Say Harper Lee Was Manipulated."

Others took exception with Lee's statement which reads: "I hadn't realized it had survived, so was surprised and delighted when my dear friend and lawyer **Tonja Carter** discovered it. After much thought and hesitation I shared it with a handful of people I trust and was pleased to hear that they considered it worthy of publication. I am humbled and amazed that this will now be published after all these years." As the *New Republic* heralds, many believe "Those crafty touches—'much thought and hesitation,' 'my dear friend,' 'people I trust'—are trying a tad too hard, wouldn't you say? The spotlight-shunning Lee is "amazed" that she will once again be subjected to a freshet of attention, the very soaking she'd organized her life to avoid." The public was quick to point the finger that these phrases equated to Lee's manipulation even though Lee herself has denied these allegations.

I strongly believe Lee, who possesses a steady dose of fortitude and stubbornness, is more than capable to decide her creative future as an author. Apparently, the public believes so as well as several news outlets, including *Entertainment Weekly*, have reported *Go Set A Watchman* has sold over 1.1 million copies in its first week of print. These skyrocketing sales records give the novel the distinction of being the fastest-selling book in HaperCollin's publishing history. Instead of focusing on Lee as a prolific and a compelling writer, the media has chosen to create a sensationalized story.

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In issue 9.4 of *The Inkwell Quarterly*, copy edits were made to Hamill's Hunches (featuring on pages 14 and 15). However, these edits were not reflected in the published issue. The edits, made by Dr. Thomas A. Hamill, are listed below:

--2nd paragraph, 5th line: Mets just-ended **should be** Mets' just-ended

--2nd paragraph, 8th line: Johnny W. **should be** John Wycliff

--4th paragraph, 2nd line: Game 2 **should be** Game 3

--4th paragraph, last line: Kiner's Korner **should be** Kiner's Korner

--5th paragraph, 2nd line: read "cardboard" **should be** red "cardboard"

--5th paragraph, 4th line: church Bizarre **should be** church bazaar

--5th paragraph, last line: "Kiner's Korner") at the close of the 1947 season. **should be** "Kiner's Korner" at the close of the 1947 season).

--6th paragraph, 1st line: the renaming **should be** that renaming

--6th paragraph, 4th line: A young man **should be** He is a young

man

--7th paragraph, 1st line: (and perhaps also Pynchonian) **should be** (and of course Pynchonian)

--7th paragraph, 4th line: "any...spectrum" **should be** 'any... spectrum'

[in other words single quotation marks around that brief quote, not double]

9th paragraph, 2nd line: for only few **should be** for only about seven

9th paragraph, 2nd line: stir I'm told **should be** stir I'd imagine

12th paragraph, only line: Korner has **should be** Korner's have

13th paragraph, only line: Kuhar's Corners **should be** Kuhar's Corners



Continued from page 2.  
Article by Sara Pisak

The media frenzy surrounding *Go Set A Watchman* focuses on Atticus' recent racism and few articles mention the major factor that allows *Go Set A Watchman* to step out of *To Kill A Mockingbird's* shadow: Scout's emergence as a hero. Clearly, Atticus' defense of Tom Robinson brands him as the hero of *To Kill A Mockingbird*. However, in *Go Set A Watchman*, Lee does exactly what she has built her literary career upon: she turns the tables on the reader in order to break societal stereotypes.

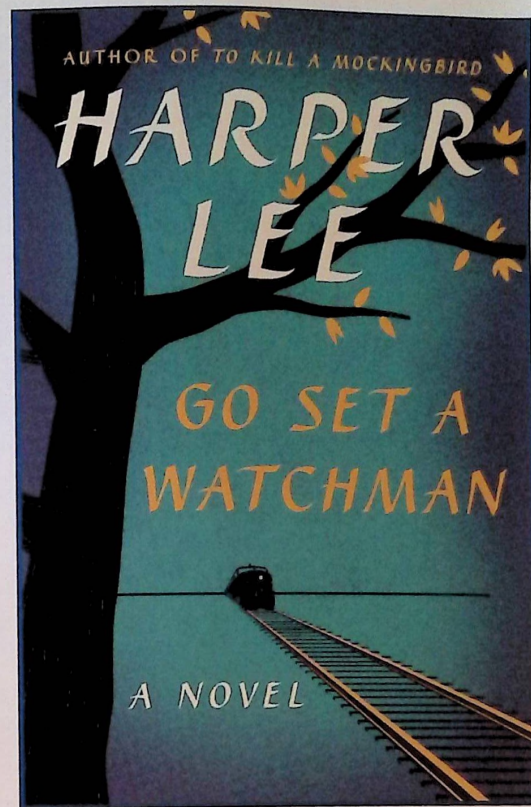
While *Go Set A Watchman* addresses race relations, personally this text deals with answering to one's conscience when faced with adversity. In my opinion, the overlooked point of the novel can be found on pages 264 and 265. These pages read, "Every man's island, Jean Louise [Scout], every man's watchman is his conscience. There is no such thing as a collective conscience." Atticus is merely the backdrop bringing the theme of Scout staying true to her morals and her "watchman" (conscience) to the forefront. Media outlets focusing exclusively on Atticus' racism have missed the mark of Lee's text, thus doing the work a grave injustice.

In *Go Set A Watchman*, Atticus is no longer the knight in shining armor. When Scout confronts Atticus about his changing views, she is shocked, horrified, and betrayed. The reader cannot help but share her feelings as both Scout and the reading public see their hero tarnished. As the reader sympathizes with Scout, he or she begins to see Scout as the hero of the text. Scout follows her conscience and ignores the "collective conscience" of the town and her father. As Scout adheres to her morals, the reader begins to follow their own conscience. The reader views Scout in terms of her own humanity instead of associating her with Lee's other characters.

In fact most articles associated with the release of *Go Set A Watchman* contain derivatives of "Atticus Finch is an overt racist." This exact phrase can be found in the article, which appeared in *The New Yorker*, entitled "The Atticus We Always Knew." While a great deal of articles critiquing *Go Set A Watchman* make no mention of the main protagonist Scout and her search to break free of the world's "collective conscience." It is not until the very end of "The Atticus We Always Knew" does interviewee Mary Murphy state, "The character of Scout [...] is an innocent, and she's trying to find her own way in this very imperfect time." After scouring articles surrounding the book's release, it seems someone has finally taken it upon themselves to state, the world is imperfect, those heroes we admire are not perfect either and it is up to our own watchman to develop a sense of morality.

Personally, the only article I could find portraying the full story of the text appeared in National Public Radio under the title, "*Go Set A Watchman* Is A Revelation On Race, Not A Disappointment" written by Errin Whack. Whack speaks of Atticus' racism and his thoughts on the race movement advancing too quickly. However her main focus is on Scout as an emerging hero, and how the truths of life can be hard to accept as these truths often fall within a gray area of morality. Whack is, so far, the only author to mention the biblical verse from Isaiah 21:6 that contains Lee's watchman idea.

Allowing the reader and the character to simultaneously following their own consciences, not only connects a reader to a character but is the basis of Lee's literary career. In *To Kill A Mockingbird*, Atticus' defense of Robinson establishes him as the cornerstone of morality, thus bonding him with the readers. *Go Set A Watchman* allows Lee to create the same type of link but this time with Scout, an invaluable lesson which should not be pushed aside by narrow-minded critics.



Fresh  
by Erin

Grace

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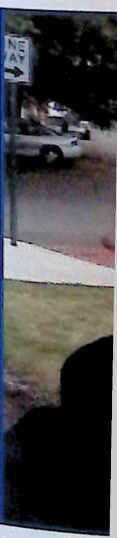
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## Freshman Faces

by Erin Michael

### Grace Graham

**Q: Where are you from?**

A: Long Island, New York

**Q: What lead you to Wilkes?**

A: I first heard of Wilkes through the tennis coach, but I loved the rest of the school when I visited

**Q: When and why did you decide to become an English Major?**

A: I decided to become an English Major my senior year of high school, because I realized that I really love to read and write, and knew that English would be the right major for me

**Q: Who is your least favorite literary character and why?**

A: My least favorite literary character would have to be Professor Umbridge, and I think the reason is self-explanatory.

### Mackenzie Egan

**Q: Where are you from?**

A: I'm from Honesdale, Pennsylvania but I was raised in Lake Huntington, New York

**Q: What lead you to Wilkes?**

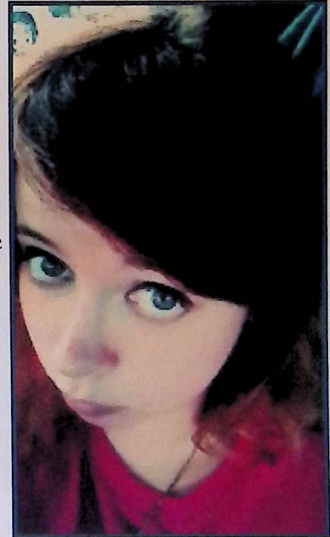
A: I came to visit Wilkes at an open house and thoroughly enjoyed the atmosphere. Compared to my other top pick this place just had a lot more friendly faces

**Q: When and why did you decide to become an English Major?**

A: I've always been a huge English person. Ever since I was a young child, I would tell people these outrageous stories, which were always different and always had a complete beginning and end. I love to write and literature has helped me through some tough times. Plus, I've always wanted to go to law school and English is a pre-law major.

**Q: Who is your least favorite literary character and why?**

A: My least favorite literary character would probably be Nellie Olsen, from Laura Ingalls Wilder's "Little House on the Prairie" series. Why? They were the first series of books I fell in love with as a child and she was the first "literary villain" I ever encountered. She was bitter and she was rude. She acted so much better than everyone else when really she was far from it. As I got older, I came to realize more and more that she's just the petty kind of human I aspire to never be and to this day I still smirk knowing Almanzo picked Laura over her.



### Tobias Mintzmyer

**Q: Where are you from?**

A: Syracuse, New York

**Q: What lead you to Wilkes?**

A: My creative writing teacher advised me of Wilkes great writing program, and I liked its campus best out of all.

**Q: When and why did you decide to become an English Major?**

A: I knew I wanted to be an English major at the beginning of senior year. It wasn't really a big decision, English had always been something that I loved.

**Q: Who is your least favorite literary character and why?**

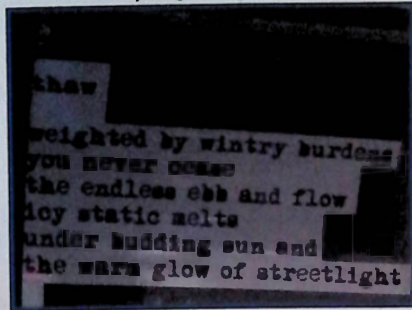
A: My least favorite literary character is Joffrey Baratheon. He's such a horrible person it just makes him so easy to hate.



## Sharing Our Love Of Creative Writing

by Sara Pisak

Photo courtesy of James Jaskolka.



Throughout this past year English minor **James Jaskolka** and myself have been able to share our love of reading and writing with the public through separate and joint endeavors. James and I were both featured in the 2015-2016 selections for The Poetry in Transit Program. James' work "Thaw" and my work "Crystalline Waters" were selected for publication. This year's poems followed these creative guidelines: six lines or fewer and must reflect a river theme. The Poetry in Transit Program was founded by Wilkes University's own English Department Chair **Dr. Mischelle Anthony**. Poetry in Transit, founded nine years ago, strives to showcase the work of local poets in public busses.

At this year's launch, Anthony spoke of her inspiration to create the program. She stated, "In 2007, I thought about the gap between Wilkes University and the city of Wilkes-Barre as I rode the #6 into school with people I would not see again for the rest of the day. I read the strategically-placed ads, angled just above the seats, and I heard other passengers discuss them:

"McDonald's country breakfast—that looks good."

"I already had a sausage biscuit."

"From McDonald's?"

"No, frozen."

*What if, instead of ads, these people were discussing poetry?*

Anthony's idea worked as the program flourished in spreading poetic works to the local community. On being selected for this honor James said, "I was honored to have been accepted into Poetry in Transit. I think the program in itself is something wonderful, and the fact that I get to be a part of it is even better." You can view this year's place cards, which include our work on 33 area busses or by visiting: [http://golaszewski.us/PiT2015/PIT\\_15\\_Proof-3.pdf](http://golaszewski.us/PiT2015/PIT_15_Proof-3.pdf) Being included in a program such as Poetry in Transit not only works to distribute art to the local community but allows writers such as James and myself the opportunity to share our love of writing in creative publishing venues.

In addition to our publications in Poetry in Transit, James and I have also been fortunate to share our writing in other creative manners. James was featured in *River & South Review*. A creative nonfiction piece entitled "Bicycle" by James was featured in the Winter 2014 edition. *River & South* is a semiannually published student run literary journal. The editorial team is comprised of graduate students in the Wilkes University's M.A./M.F.A program. A highly competitive journal, *River & South* searches for qualified pieces which are innovative. Everyone at *The Inkwell Quarterly* and in the English Department congratulates James on his publication, which can be viewed at: <http://riverandsouth.blogspot.com/2014/12/bicycle-by-james-jaskolka.html>

Also during the winter of 2014, I was able to share my love of creative writing with my former high school drama club. Serving as the class's guest speaker for the fourth time, I conducted a writing session where together students and I read some of my creative works, and the works of famously published authors. As a class, we discussed current television dramas and their possession of literary elements. I find most of the students are familiar with classic and standard works of drama. Finding a poem, a feminist portrayal or a metaphysical element in current television shows or movies and how the elements of drama such as lightning and costuming affect the work, allow students to relate to current scripts and have a greater appreciation of writing.

While James and I are only two students, we represent many others in the English Department who work as writing mentors, editors and student teachers in order share their love of reading and of writing with the community.

Arnold  
by Tara G

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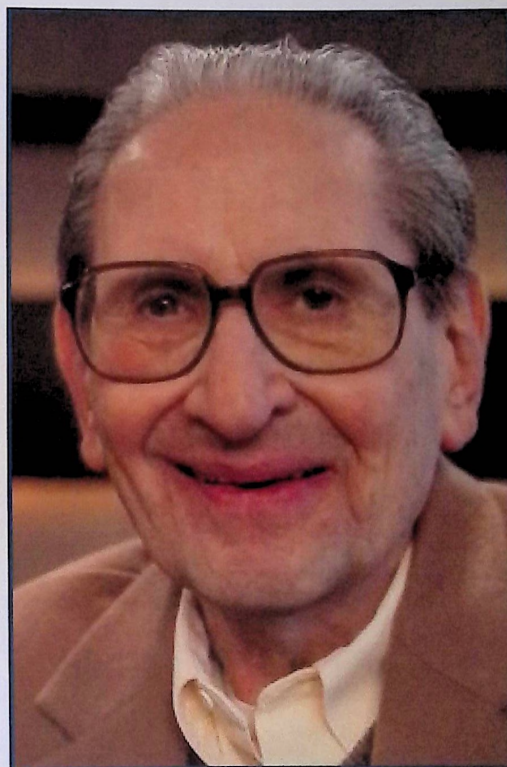
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## Arnold Rifkin, In Memoriam

by Tara Giarratano

Wilkes University's beloved trustee emeritus, **Arnold Rifkin**, passed away on August 3, 2015. A local philanthropist and World War II Veteran, Mr. Rifkin dedicated much of his life to enriching our campus. Aside from providing contributions, which covered the lobby of Evans Hall and the initial construction of Rifkin Café in the Henry Student Center, Mr. Rifkin and his wife, Sandy, famously donated their former residence on South River Street to Wilkes in July of 1989. The Rifkins also sustained a scholarship fund in their name at Wilkes for over three decades. My mother had the chance to sit with them at a scholarship event in the late 1980s, when her roommate was the recipient of their scholarship. They took great interest in all of the students seated at their table, and at the end of the night, gifted them with tickets to the Philharmonic. I had the pleasure of meeting the Rifkins myself at a scholarship luncheon in the spring of my freshman year at Wilkes. My mom accompanied me, and asked Bridget Husted, who was sitting with us as a representative of the Alumni Association, to take us over to say hello as soon as she learned that they were in attendance. The Rifkins could not have been more sweet and cordial. They seemed thrilled to be partaking in the day celebrating academic excellence at Wilkes. The Rifkins' generosity seemed only to be matched by their humility. When I mentioned that I hoped to live in Rifkin Hall, the mammoth mansion divvied up into student apartments, the following year, they were so pleased. Mrs. Rifkin took my hand and told me that when she and her husband moved to Wilkes-Barre in 1948, their first apartment was a modest one on the third floor of the building. They were hopeful that students would enjoy their former home as much as they had for years to come. It is with great sadness that Wilkes mourns the loss of Mr. Rifkin. He was a wonderfully generous man, and the Wilkes community will forever be touched by his legacy.




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Spring Registration is already upon us! Make sure to meet with your academic advisor to begin the registration process for the Spring 2016 semester. Course descriptions for upper-level English Department course offerings can be found in the first floor lobby of Kirby Hall and on the second floor window landing.

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## Much Ado About Nothing

by Tobias Mintzmyer

Shown entirely in black and white, the creative mind behind *Firefly*, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and *The Avengers* does a beautiful interpretation of *Much Ado About Nothing* by **William Shakespeare**.

**Joss Whedon's** faithful translation from the stage to the movie screen is playful and funny. Whedon's cast is full of his usual host of charming and vibrant actors including **Reed Diamond, Sean Maher, Nathan Fillion, Clark Gregg, Amy Acker and Alexis Denisof**. The cast get so into their rolls on screen that it's easy to forget that they are acting. The movie keeps the Early English dialogue as Shakespeare wrote it, but places the fiction into a modern setting. Guns take the role of swords, tuxedos of tunics, and cars of horses.

By sticking to the original script, Whedon exposes several pervasive societal flaws of the time. In the English Renaissance virginity was paramount to a woman's success at life. For a female to lose her virginity before marriage meant social condemnation. Hero is shamed into faking her own death when Don John orchestrates a misunderstanding with her fiancé, Claudio. Don John tricks Claudio into thinking that Hero is having sex. During the wedding ceremony, Claudio and Don Pedro berate and humiliate her in front of the whole town. She faints, and her father tells her to stay dead knowing that she would not be able to marry again. The only way she could carry on in society is to fake her death.

Though society has advanced somewhat in the area of premarital sex, there is still an uncomfortable focus on virginity. The unfortunate fact is that "slut-shaming" is still prevalent to this day. Much of today's derogatory language is based around overly sexual females. These words have roots that go back to the male-domination of western society that kept the genders unequal. Though Shakespeare is simply reflecting the society around him, it is important to note that gender inequality is still a problem. It is vital for our ability to love each other as a species for us to break down our barriers.

Joss Whedon brings attention to this issue by presenting this particular piece of filmography with the original script. By being set in a modern environment he compares current values to old ones, and shows us how views of morals and virginity have changed. He produces a fine piece of entertainment as well as a social commentary that helps to start the discussion for advancement. Overall, the movie rates a 9/10. I would definitely see it again.

## Wilkes University Theatre Performances

by Nicole Kutos

Be sure to check out some of WUT's performances this season!

Upcoming shows:

*Shout! The Mod Musical*  
November 13, 14, 20, 21 at 8pm  
15, 20 at 2pm

*Dogfight: The Musical*  
February 19, 20, 26, 27 at 8pm  
21, 28 at 2pm

*Twelfth Night*  
April 14, 15, 16 at 8pm  
17 at 2 pm



## June's A

by Jason Kl

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## Mische

by Dr. Misc

## Bloom

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## June's Arrival

by Jason Klus

Unable to contribute his much anticipated Hunches to this issue of *IQ*, **Dr. Thomas A. Hamill**, in coordination with the *IQ* staff, would like to use his space in this issue to introduce his new daughter, **June Olivia Hamill**, to *IQ* readers. June was born on July 1, 2015. Dr. Hamill has assured the *IQ* staff that his Hunches will return in a future issue.



Photo taken October 20, 2015

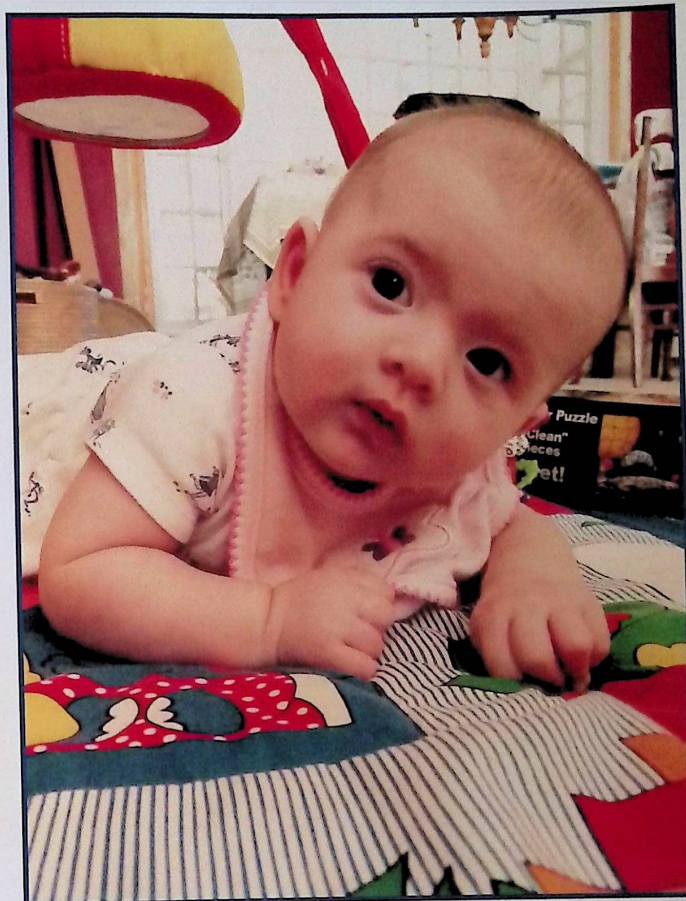


Photo taken October 11, 2015

Photos courtesy of Dr. Thomas A. Hamill

## Mischelle's Musings

by Dr. Mischelle Anthony

### Bloom

When you realize  
you're no longer living in spite  
of, but because.

Mischelle's Musings is a new addition to the *Inkwell Quarterly* this issue. Each issue (we hope), Dr. Anthony will provide us with some inspiration in the form of an original haiku. A special thanks to Dr. Anthony for her cooperation in this effort and for allowing us to showcase her poetic "musings".



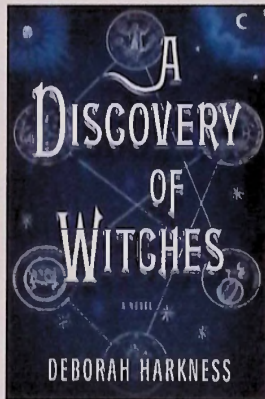
Match the IQ Staff member to a book they are currently reading and music they are currently listening to! Answers on page 7.

**Staff Bank**  
 Jason Klus  
 Tara Giarratano  
 Nicole Kutos  
 Dr. Marcia Farrell

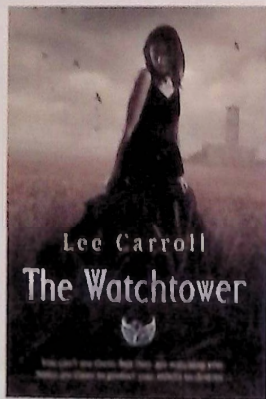
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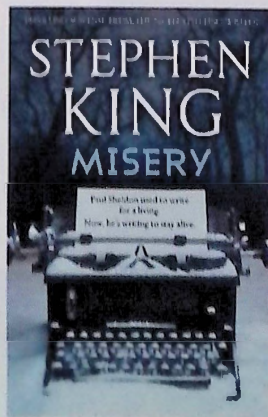
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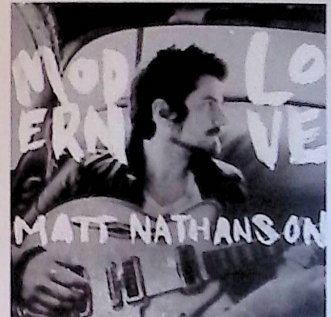
D.



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