

ROBIN HEMLEY

Education

PhD, Creative Practice, University of New South Wales, 2020

Dissertation: *Real Toads in Imaginary Gardens: Fake, Faux, and Speculative Memoirs*

Master of Fine Arts, Fiction. The University of Iowa, 1982

B.A, Indiana University, Comparative Literature, Minor: Film Criticism, 1980

Academic Positions

- Director, George Polk School of Communications, LIU 2020 --
Co-Director, MFA in Creative Writing and Publishing
Parsons Family Chair in Creative Writing and University Professor
- Jenks Visiting Chair in Creative Writing, 2019-2020, College of the Holy Cross 2019-2020
- Professor of Humanities, Director, Writing Program Yale-NUS 2013- 2019
College, Singapore
- Distinguished Visiting Professor (Honorary), RMIT University, 2015 - 2019
Melbourne, Australia.
- Director, Nonfiction Writing Program, Professor of English, The 2004-2013
University of Iowa
- Professor Emeritus, The University of Iowa 2015 – Present
- Founder and President, NonfictioNOW Conference 2005-2018
- Professor of English, The University of Utah 2001-2004
- Faculty Chair, Vermont College Low-Residency MFA, Montpelier, 2002-2005
VT, Faculty Member, 2000-2013
- Inaugural Viebranz Distinguished Visiting Chair in Creative 2001
Writing, St. Lawrence University
- Associate, Full Professor of English, Western Washington 1994-2000
University
- Assistant, Associate Professor of English, University of North 1987-1994
Carolina at Charlotte

Selected Honors, Grants, and Awards

- Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Arts Residency 2019
- Bogliasco Foundation Fellowship (<https://www.bfny.org>) 2015/16
- Distinguished Visiting Faculty, RMIT, Melbourne, Australia 2015-18
- Pushcart Prize for my essay, "To the Rainforest Room" 2012
- Virginia Center for the Creative Arts Fellow 2011
- Hermitage Artist Retreat Fellow 2009
- John Simon Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship 2008

Scholarship, Books

- Oblivion: An After-Autobiography June, 2022
Gold Wake Press
- The Art and Craft of Stories from Asia, A Writer's Guide and
Anthology. Written and Edited by Robin Hemley and Xu Xi; October, 2021
Bloomsbury.
- Borderline Citizen: Dispatches from The Outskirts of Nationhood March, 2020
(The University of Nebraska Press).
- Turning Life into Fiction (Chinese edition, Renmin University 2018
Press).
- I'll Tell You Mine: Essays from the First Thirty Years of the 2015
Nonfiction Writing Program at The University of Iowa (University
of Chicago Press).
- Nola, A Memoir of Faith, Art, and Madness (Graywolf Press, 1998; 2013
The University of Iowa Press, reissue).
- Field Guide For Immersion Writing: Memoir, Journalism, Travel; 2012
(The University of Georgia Press)
- Reply All, Stories (Break Away Books, Indiana University Press) 2012
- The Last Studebaker, a Novel (Graywolf Press, 1992, Break Away 2012
Books, Indiana University Press, reissue).
- Do-Over (Little, Brown, Hachette) 2009
- Invented Eden (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2003, Bison Books, 2006
University of Nebraska Press)
- Turning Life into Fiction (Story Press, 1994, Graywolf Press, 2006
reissue).

- Extreme Fiction: Fabulists and Formalists, with Michael Martone (Longman). 2004
- The Big Ear, Stories (John Blair). 1995
- All You Can Eat, Stories (Atlantic Monthly Press). 1988
- The Mouse Town (Word Beat Press). 1987

Selected Publications 2014-2021

- “Cooties,” a short story in *Conjunctions* December, 2021
- Mr. Chen’s Mountain” *Pacific Standard* February, 2019
- “The Great Land Swap” *Pacific Standard* November, 2019
- “Restaurant” in *Conjunctions*, #70 April, 2018
- “The Dachshund,” an essay in *Flash Nonfiction Funny*, edited by Dinty Moore and Tom Hazuka, Woodhall Press. March, 2018
- Two stories “Boondocks” and “Coconuts” published in *The Iowa Review*. February, 2018
- “Travel Writing in the 21st Century,” a keynote address I delivered at The 2016 Asia Pacific Writers and Translators Association at Sun-Yat Sen University in Guangzhou, China published in Australia and the Philippines (and as the introductory chapter of a book-in-progress), in a forthcoming issue of *Text* and in a special issue on creative nonfiction in *Tomas*, the literary magazine of The University of Santo Tomas, Manila. February 2018
- “The Perfect Word,” a short story, in *Crossing Borders*, Stories and Essays about Translation, Ed by Lynne Sharon Schwartz, with contributions by Joyce Carol Oates, Primo Levi, Lydia Davis and others, Seven Stories Press, New York. November, 2017. <https://www.sevenstories.com/books/4042-crossing-borders> November, 2017
- “No One Will See Me Again Forever,” an essay in *Panorama: the Journal of Intelligent Travel*. <http://www.panoramajournal.org/seen-no-one-will-see-forever/> October, 2017
- “Majestic Ruins,” an essay on the work of James Agee in *How We Speak to One Another, an Essay Daily Reader*. Edited by Ander Monson and Craig Reinbold, Coffee House Press, Minneapolis. April, 2017
- “The Imagined Parakeet: Invention and Fact-Irrelevance in the Speculative Essay” in *Text*, Special Issue Series, *The Essay*. #39. <http://www.textjournal.com.au/speciss/issue39/content.htm> April, 2017

- “Reading History to My Mother” and interview in *Kept Secret, The Half Truth in Nonfiction*. Edited by Jen Hurt and Tina Mitchell (Michigan State University Press). 2017
- “They Have Forgotten Many Things,” an essay about the Falkland/Malvinas, *The Iowa Review*. Winter 2016/17
- An Erasure story/essay of mine, “Boy Scouts in the Philippines, or the Key to the Treat Box,” in which I uncovered an anti-colonial text within a racist, colonial Young Adult novel from 1911, appeared in *Esquire, Philippines*. August, 2016
- An excerpt from my novel, *The Diplomat’s Daughter* in *The Near and the Far: New Stories from the Asia Pacific Region*, (Scribe/Penguin, Australia) July, 2016
- “Riding the Whip” in *Family Resemblance, An Exploration of 8 Hybrid Genres*, Edited by Marcela Sulak and Jacqueline Kosolov. (Rose Metal Press) November, 2015
- “Present” in GET LUCKY, An Anthology of Philippine and Singapore Writings, Edited by Manuelita Contreras-Cabrera, Migs Bravo-Dutt, and Eric Tinsay Valles (Ethos Press, Singapore) November, 2015
- Three lyric essays in *Eye/Feel/Write, Experiments in Ekphrasis*, edited by Desmond Kon Zhicheng-Mingde (Squirrel Line Press, Singapore) October, 2015
- “Field Notes for the Graveyard Enthusiast” in *UNION: 15 Years of Drunken Boat, 50 Years of Writing From Singapore*, Edited By Alvin Pang and Ravi Shankar (Ethos Books, Singapore) October, 2015
- “On the Affection of Fathers for Their Children” in *After Montaigne*, edited by David Lazar and Patrick Madden (University of Chicago Press) October, 2015
- “Border Crossing” an essay in *ORION Magazine*, Volume 34, #4 July/Aug 2015
- “Riding the Whip,” a story, anthologized in *Life is Short, Art is Shorter*, Edited by David Shields and Elizabeth Cooperman (Hawthorne Books) April 15, 2015
- “Why My Students and I Met with a Potentially Violent Felon in Cuba.” *The New York Observer*. February 7, 2015

- “Remembrance: Merry Prankster, Robert Stone,” *The New York Observer* Jan., 5th, 2015
- Review of *Lost Tribe of Coney Island* by Claire Prentiss in *The New York Times Sunday Book Review* Nov. 14th, 2014
- My short documentary, “Jewish Caviar,” played several international film festivals: The Wine Country Film Festival (Sonoma, CA), The Starz Denver Film Festival, and The San Diego Jewish Film Festival Sept, 2014
- “Lines that Create Motion” in *The Far Edges of the Fourth Genre, An Anthology of Exploration in Creative Nonfiction*, Edited by Sean Prentiss and Joe Wilkins (Michigan State University Press) March, 2014

Editorial Positions

- Editor-in-Chief, *Bellingham Review* 1994–2001
- Editor-in-Chief, *Defunct* 2007–2013
- Co-Editor, Speculative Nonfiction (Speculativenonfiction.org) 2018– Present
- Contributing Editor, *The Iowa Review* 2016– Present
- Contributing Editor, *Fourth Genre* 2005–Present

Affiliations

- National Book Critics Circle (USA, Voting Member)
- PEN American Center
- Authors Guild
- Associated Writing Programs
- NonfictioNOW (Founder/Board Member)
- Asia Pacific Writers and Translators Association (Board Member)
- International Writing Program, The University of Iowa (Board Member)