
MADVILLE

P U B L I S H I N G

New Titles for 2022

Obama's Children

by Earl S. Braggs

ISBN: 978-1-948692-72-4 paperback

ISBN: 978-1-948692-73-1 ebook

November 2021

poetry

A universal quest for human dignity and acknowledgement made specific through the Black experience.

A country boy from Wilmington N.C., **Earl S. Braggs** is a UC and Battle Professor of English at the U of Tennessee at Chattanooga. His awards include the International Jack Kerouac Literary Prize and the Anhinga Poetry Prize. Braggs is the author of fourteen poetry collections including *Negro Side of the Moon* and *Ugly Love*.



Dead Fish Wind

by Cooper Levy-Baker

ISBN: 978-1-948692-74-8 paperback

ISBN: 978-1-948692-75-5 ebook

December 2021

fiction

Cicely has problems. She's working a job with no future, living just a step up from homelessness, and caring for a deadbeat dad. And then comes the red tide, which leaves scores of rotting fish all over the beaches of the small Gulf Coast city where Cicely lives. But then Cicely makes a friend, perhaps her first, and begins trying to find a way out. Along the way, she finds herself caught up in a plot to steal placentas from the local hospital, meets the outlaw doula running the operation, and confronts her mother, who abandoned her a decade ago.

Cooper Levey-Baker is a writer and journalist. He lives in Sarasota, Florida.

Judgment Day and Other White Lies

by **Mike Hilbig**

ISBN: 978-1-948692-76-2 paperback

ISBN: 978-1-948692-77-9 ebook

January 2022

short stories

Judgment Day and Other White Lies is a short fiction collection that examines how we construct the stories we tell about ourselves through the intersections of personal identity and cultural traditions. In particular, it looks at how stories of whiteness are based on misshapen interpretations of classical myths. Therefore, this collection borrows characters from the Greek and Christian traditions and retells their stories through a contemporary lens, one that looks to re-imagine human selves as collections of intersecting historical narratives, with all the attendant biases, conflicts and make-believe positions that such an interpretation naturally entails.

Mike Hilbig graduated in 2017 from Sam Houston State University with an MFA in Creative Writing, Editing, and Publishing. He lives in Houston, TX and teaches English at the University of Houston-Downtown and at Lone Star College.

The Pursuit of Happiness:

A Meditation

by **Gerry LaFemina**

ISBN: 978-1-948692-78-6 paperback

ISBN: 978-1-948692-79-3 ebook

creative nonfiction

February 2022

It's CNF. Like the Stones' *Exile on Main Street*, it's a hodge-podge: memoir, philosophy, lit crit, pop culture, history, and reflection. Gerry calls it a meditation. It really is an essay in the French way of being a trial or an experiment.



Gerry LaFemina's poetry collections include *Baby Steps in Doomsday Prepping*, *The Story of Ash* and *Little Heretic*. His essays on prosody, *Palpable Magic*, came out in 2015 and Kendall Hunt recently released his textbook, *Composing Poetry: A Guide to Writing Poems and Thinking Lyrically*. He teaches at Frostburg State University and in the Carlow University MFA Program. <https://gerrylafemina.com/>

Watermark

by Jeff Hardin

ISBN: 978-1-948692-80-9 paperback

ISBN: 978-1-948692-81-6 ebook

poetry

March 2022

At the heart of Jeff Hardin's inventive seventh collection *Watermark*, a devotional, philosophical faith seeks "to know what can't be known," to step into, as if a sanctuary, "some deeper / deep / than what our words / can touch." In each poem, his meditations stitch back through a visible, vertical phrase—a whispered prayer, a "watermark"—that serves not only to anchor *thought* but also to align and to re-align *the purpose of thought* within "this bent and broken world." Borne from Frost, Dickinson, Rilke, Whitman, and others, these phrases bind us and bless us at a time "when it seems the words / to enter others' lives / are disappearing." In an age in which it is increasingly difficult to "sort out what is true," Hardin's poems invite us to wake to the mystery all around us, to time's revelatory unfolding, and to how our minds might find healing, if not communion, if only we listened intently enough to hear "the intercessions / made on our behalf."

Jeff Hardin is the author of six previous collections of poetry, most recently *A Clearing Space in the Middle of Being*, *No Other Kind of World*, and *Small Revolution*. His work has been honored with the Nicholas Roerich Prize, the Donald Justice Poetry Prize, and the X. J. Kennedy Prize. Originally from Savannah, Tennessee, he has taught for almost three decades at Columbia State Community College in Columbia, Tennessee.

Worrisome Creatures

by Kate Sweeney

ISBN: 978-1-948692-82-3 paperback

ISBN: 978-1-948692-83-0 ebook

poetry

April 2022

This is a collection of the body, of the failings of history and family. The range is wide and balanced—in geography, in tenderness and trauma, in startling imagery, craft, and heart. Kate Sweeney's work takes me within and outside myself, making both realms real and seen/felt as if for the first time. In fact, much of the collection feels like entering uncharted territory—and how intriguing to explore it! Here is a master poet and, as the highest compliment, I wish I could write poems like those in *Worrisome Creatures*.

—Linda Parsons
Madville Publishing Poetry Editor

Kate Sweeney Kate Sweeney is the author of the chapbook [*Better Accidents*](#) (Yellow Jacket Press, 2009). Her work has appeared in [*Best New Poets*](#), *Meridian*, [*Tampa Review*](#), and [*Poet Lore*](#), among others. She is currently a stay-at-home mom.

Genesis Road

by **Susan O'Dell Underwood**

ISBN: 978-1-948692-84-7 paperback

ISBN: 978-1-948692-85-4

fiction

May 2022

Glenna Daniels faces a midlife cul-de-sac. She bears a recent miscarriage and third divorce the way her Appalachian parents taught her to cope with tragedy—in stoic secrecy. She quits her social work position in Knoxville and runs away from home at the age of thirty-six, heading west with childhood friend, Carey, a gay professor in Atlanta. During their years in school, Glenna protected him from bullies. Now Carey is her savvy guide as she tries to heal her fractured life. Through the wilds of America Glenna grapples with the past and reconciles a way back home.

Susan O'Dell Underwood grew up in Bristol, Tennessee, the daughter and granddaughter of public school teachers who also farmed. She earned an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and holds a PhD in English from Florida State University. She directs the creative writing program at Carson-Newman University, where her husband, artist David Underwood, also teaches. Besides two chapbooks, she has one full-length collection of poetry, *The Book of Awe* (Iris Press), and her poems, nonfiction, and stories are published in many journals and anthologies, including *Oxford American*, *Ecotone*, *Bellevue Literary Review*, *Still: The Journal*, and *A Literary Field Guide to Southern Appalachia*.

Madville's Blue Moon Novel Prize Winners X 2

June 2022 publication

Judged by Clay Reynolds

**\$1000 advance
+ publication for the top two novels.**

\$35 entry fee

**Accepting submissions from October 1,
2020 through February 28, 2021
(DEADLINE EXTENDED)**

Winners will be announced May 1, 2021.
We've called it *The Madville Blue Moon Novel Competition* in honor of the last blue moon we'll see until August 2023, but don't think of the moon or the blue moon, for that matter, as a theme. We hope to receive submissions in various styles and on various themes.



BLUE MOON NOVEL COMPETITION

\$1000 PRIZE + 2022 PUBLICATION FOR THE TOP TWO NOVELS
JUDGED BY AWARD WINNING NOVELIST CLAY REYNOLDS

Clay Reynolds is the author or editor of twenty books, ranging from novels to short stories to essays to scholarly analysis, as well as more than 1500 other publications including hundreds of book reviews and essays on education and culture, and well academic and scholarly articles.

SUCCESSFUL ENTRIES IN THIS CONTEST are typically those that do one thing: they tell a simple story well, without the garnish of fashionable trends, fancy experimental styles, or attempts to write abstractly rather than directly. Clay looks for great characterization, natural and credible dialogue that fits the characters, accuracy and vividness of setting, consistency in point of view and technique, and above all else, a well-written piece of fiction that is free of misused words, over use of contemporary slang and jargon, grammatical and mechanical error, and stylistic flights of fancy... (read more on our website.)

50-75,000 WORDS
OPEN OCTOBER 1, 2020
THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2021
WINNERS ANNOUNCED
MAY 1, 2021
MADVILLEPUBLISHING.COM/SUBMIT

MADVILLE
P U B L I S H I N G

madville.submittable.com/submit/176216/the-madville-blue-moon-novel-competition



Clay Reynolds Will Be Our Judge This Year.

Award-winning novelist Clay Reynolds is a retired professor of Arts and Humanities from the University of Texas at Dallas, where he taught creative writing and literature and humanities. He previously served on the faculties of the University of North Texas, Villanova University, The University of South Dakota, and Lamar University. He holds academic degrees from UT Austin, Trinity University, and the University of Tulsa, where he took his PhD in Modern Letters. He is the author or editor of twenty books, ranging from novels to short stories to essays to scholarly analysis, as well as more than 1500 other publications including hundreds of book reviews and essays on education and culture, and well academic and scholarly articles. He lives with his wife, Judy, in Lowry Crossing, TX.

When asked what sort of entries he hopes to receive for this contest, Reynolds has this to say:

Successful entries in this contest are typically those that do one thing: they tell a simple story well, without the garnish of fashionable trends, fancy experimental styles, or attempts to write abstractly rather than directly. I look for great characterization, natural and credible dialogue that fits the speaking characters, accuracy and vividness of setting, consistency in point of view and technique, and above all else, a well-written piece of fiction that is free of misused words, contemporary slang and jargon, grammatical and mechanical error, and stylistic flights of fancy. I am not interested in work that appears to be argumentative or tries to sell me on a particular perspective or point of view, that is trendy or that tries too hard to be fashionable. I also shy away from work that imitates some other contemporary, popular writer, either in style or content. Don't reinvent the wheel. Be original. I look for honesty and directness in the writing, something that entertains and holds interest and gains admiration, even envy for its creativity.

Submission Guidelines:

- **Length:** 50-75,000 words
- **Formatting:** 12pt. Times New Roman, double spaced, 1" margins, pages numbered.
- **Blind submissions:** There should be no information on the manuscript or in its file name that identifies the author. Use the story title to name your file with dashes between words, like this: story-title.docx.

The Iron Scar:

A Father and Son in Siberia

by Bob Kunzinger

with photographs by Michael Kunzinger

ISBN: 978-1-948692-86-1 paperback

ISBN: 978-1-948692-87-8 ebook

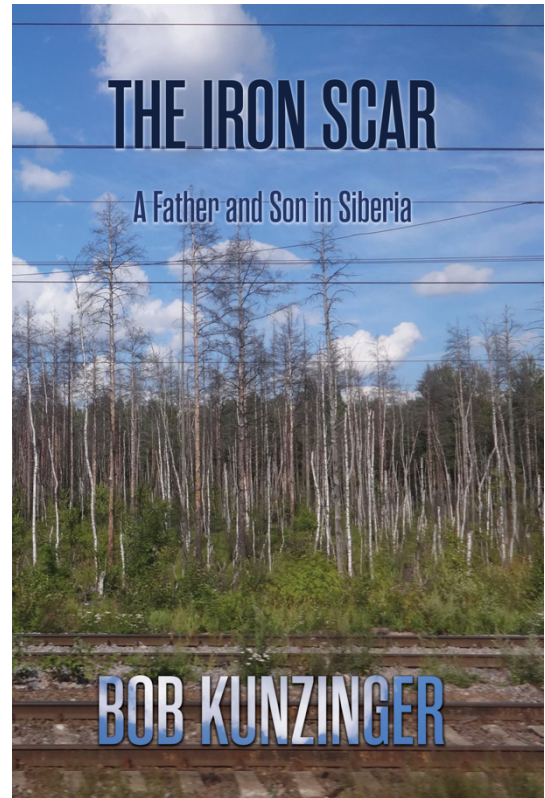
essays

July 2022

The Iron Scar is both a literal journey by a father and son on the longest railway journey in the world, and a metaphoric pilgrimage of not just the author and his adult son, but all of us learning to let go on our way through life.



Michael Kunzinger's photography has appeared in publications such as *Kestrel*, *Blue Planet Journal*, and *St Anthony Messenger*, and has been in solo and group shows in Virginia, New York, and Galway, Ireland. His abstract work was featured for a solo exhibition at the renowned Quick Center for the Arts in New York, a finalist in an International Competition featured at The Louvre in Paris, and he is the author of the photo essay book, *Across This Wild Land: A Photographic Journey on the Trans-Siberian Railroad* from Blurb Books www.blurb.com/b?ebook=638486.



Bob Kunzinger is the author of nine collections of essays, including *A Third Place: Notes in Nature*, and *Penance: Walking with the Infant*. He lives in Virginia.



I Tell You Now

by Pauletta Hansel

ISBN: 978-1-948692-88-5 paperback

ISBN: 978-1-948692-89-2 ebook

poetry

August 2022

I Tell You Now is a poetic exploration of the intersection of gender and place, specifically Appalachia. Family stories are interwoven with poems from my own girlhood, and letter poems written from the aging woman I am to the girl I was. Female relationships, especially mother/daughter, are also examined. Implicit and occasionally explicit is the responsibility of the poet to speak the forbidden stories of her own and other women's lives.

Pauletta Hansel is a poet, memoirist and teacher who is author of eight poetry collections including *Friend*, *Coal Town Photograph* and *Palindrome*, winner of the 2017 Weatherford Award for best Appalachian Poetry. Her writing has been widely anthologized and featured in print and online journals including *Oxford American*, *Rattle*, *The Writer's Almanac*, *American Life in Poetry* and *Verse Daily*. *Appalachian Journal*, *Appalachian Review*, *Cincinnati Review*, and *Still: The Journal*, among others. Pauletta was Cincinnati's first Poet Laureate, 2016-2018 and for ten years served as managing editor of *Pine Mountain Sand & Gravel*, the literary publication of Southern Appalachian Writers Cooperative.

Secret City

by Katherine Smith

ISBN: 978-1-948692-90-8 paperback

ISBN: 978-1-948692-91-5 ebook

poetry

August 2022

Secret City explores belonging and power through the eyes of children and adults, whether the relationships in question are to a family, to a religion, to a region or to a country. The imagery of the natural world weaves in and out of the dreams of a young Jewish girl brought to live with a Christian family in Oak Ridge, Tennessee during World War II. A woman with a childhood of being bullied moves north only to find herself an authority figure, teaching students who are themselves outsiders marked for deportation. In the midst of confusion and ideology, where victim and perpetrator ceaselessly exchange roles, the voices in these poems search for a ground of belonging in the natural world, in serving others, and in the intimately textured language of poetry.

Katherine Smith's poetry publications include appearances in *Boulevard*, *North American Review*, *Cincinnati Review*, *Missouri Review*, *Ploughshares*, *Southern Review*, and many other journals. Her first book *Argument by Design* (Washington Writers' Publishing House) appeared in 2003. Her second book of poems, *Woman Alone on the Mountain* (Iris Press), appeared in 2014. She works at Montgomery College in Maryland.

Arthur Smith Poetry Prize

September 2022 publication for winner
Judged by Jesse Graves

The winning poet receives a \$1,000 advance, a standard royalty contract, and 20 copies of the published book. Finalists will also be considered for future publication.

There are no restrictions on the type of poetry we will consider.

The submission period will run from May 1, 2021 to September 1, 2021.



Jesse Graves is the author of four poetry collections, including *Tennessee Landscape with Blighted Pine*, *Basin Ghosts*, *Specter Mountain* (co-authored with William Wright), and *Merciful Days*. His work has received the James Still Award for Writing about the Appalachian South from the Fellowship of Southern Writers and the Philip H. Freund Prize for Creative Writing from Cornell University, as well as two Weatherford Awards from Berea College and the Appalachian Studies Association. Graves has been an editor on several collections of poetry and scholarship, including three volumes of *The Southern Poetry Anthology* and *The Complete Poems of James Agee*. He teaches at East Tennessee State University, where he is Poet-in-Residence and Professor of English.

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Judged by
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The winning poet receives a \$1,000 advance, a standard royalty contract, and 20 copies of the published book. Finalists will also be considered for future publication. There are no restrictions on the type of poetry our judges will consider. The submission period will run from May 1, 2021 to September 1, 2021.

Competition Guidelines

Eligibility: We will be happy to receive work by any poet writing in English. Poems published in print or online periodicals, anthologies, or chapbooks may be included, but the manuscript itself must be unpublished. Original work only; translations are ineligible.

Format: Minimum of 48 pages. There is no maximum length, but we expect manuscripts not to be much more than 90 pages. Pages should be numbered with no more than one poem per page. Please include a title page with title only, a table of contents, and an acknowledgments page.

Simultaneous Submissions: Simultaneous submissions are acceptable. Please notify Madville Publishing immediately if your manuscript is accepted elsewhere.

Multiple Submissions: Submission of more than one manuscript is acceptable, but each manuscript must be submitted separately and include a separate entry fee.

International Submissions: We accept international submissions.

Revisions: The winner will have the opportunity to revise the manuscript before publication. No revisions will be considered during the reading period.

Entry Fee: \$25

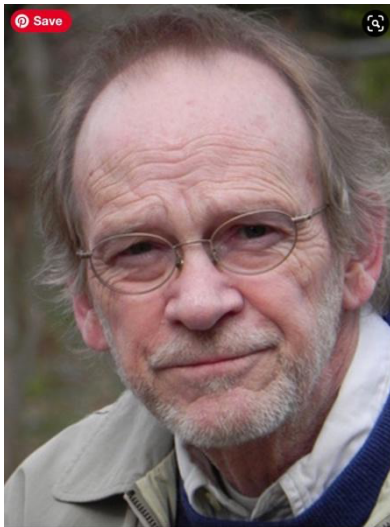
Deadline: September 1, 2021.

Winner will be announced by December 31, 2021, and the winning collection will be published Fall 2022. MadvillePublishing.com/Submit

Competition Guidelines

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- **Entry Fee:** A \$25 entry fee.
- **Deadline: September 1, 2021.**
- Winner will be announced by December 31, 2021, and the winning collection will be published Fall 2022.



ARTHUR SMITH was born in central California. He received degrees from San Francisco State University (B.A., M.A.) and from the University of Houston (Ph.D.). He passed away on November 9th, 2018. To those who knew and loved him, he was a master teacher and a masterful poet. His first book of poems, *Elegy on Independence Day*, was awarded the Agnes Lynch Starrett Poetry Prize and was published by the University of Pittsburgh Press in 1985. That same year, it was selected by the Poetry Society of American to receive the Norma Farber First Book Award. His second book of poems, *Orders of Affection*, was published by Carnegie Mellon University Press in 1996, and his third book, *The Late World*, was published in 2002, also by Carnegie Mellon University Press. His most recent book of poems is *The Fortunate Era* (2013). His work has been honored with a “Discovery”/The Nation Award, a National Endowment for the Arts Creative Writing Fellowship, two Pushcart Prizes, and he was selected as the Theodore Morrison Fellow in Poetry for the 1987 Bread Loaf Writer’s Conference. He served two terms as an advisory member of the Tennessee Arts Commission Literary Panel, and he was a Professor of English at the University of Tennessee. His poems have appeared in numerous journals including *The Nation*, *The New Yorker*, *Poetry*, *The Southern Review*, *The Kenyon Review*, and *North American Review*.
—Curt Rode

MORE INFO: Email questions/comments to info@madvillepublishing.org, but please do not send your manuscript to this email address. We only accept submissions through Submittable.