

# The Crumby

The “C” is capitalized. The “u” is in the middle. “The” is a definite article.

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Vol. 99, No. 9                      **The Lamby Edition**                      Thursday, August 22, 2024  
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Our *Crumby* editors are taking a well-earned day off, so today’s *Crumby* is created the old-fashioned way. With crayon, glitter, and a generous amount of support cookies.

## Today’s Events

**7:00 A.M. – 8:00 A.M.**

Yoga  
Barn 008

**7:30 A.M. – 8:30 A.M.**

Breakfast  
Bread Loaf Inn

**9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.**

Lecture: “The Posthumous Self: The Poet as Clairvoyant,” by Mark Wunderlich  
Little Theater

**10:10 A.M. – 12:10 P.M.**

Fiction Workshops

**10:15A.M. – 11:15 A.M.**

Special Talk featuring editors of *Poetry* and *Poetry Northwest*  
Little Theater

**11:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M.**

Lunch  
Bread Loaf Inn

**2:30 P.M. – 3:45 P.M.**

Craft Classes

**4:15 P.M – 5:15 P.M.**

Reading: ‘Pemi Aguda, Erin Marie Lynch, and Samantha Hunt  
Little Theater

**5:15 P.M – 6:45 P.M.**

Gala Reception

West Lawn (Rain Location: Barn Tent)

**7:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.**

Dinner

Bread Loaf Inn

**8:15 P.M. – 9:15 P.M.**

Reading: Jamel Brinkley and Margot Livesey

**9:15 P.M. – 10:15 P.M.**

Blue Parlor presents: *From the Dark Tower* Reading

Barn Tent

**9:15 P.M. – 12:00 A.M.**

Barn Pub

Barn

## **Fiction Workshop Locations**

Ladee Hubbard – Cherry Porch

Rebecca Makkai – Barn 203

Garth Greenwell – Barn 204

Samantha Hunt – Barn 205

Dinaw Mengestu – Barn 206

Mat Johnson – Inn West Seminar

Margot Livesey – Library Upstairs (Front End of Building)

Helen Schulman – Barn Tent

Jamel Brinkley – Blue Parlor

Marie-Helene Bertino – Tamarack Porch

## **Craft Classes: The Final Chapter**

Today, alas, is the final day of craft classes. *Handouts for some classes are available on the table in the lobby.*

**Please note the location of your craft class.**

Writing in Tongues, with Laila Lalami – Barn Classroom 101

*Craft Class Locations continued...*

Little Endings Everywhere, with Joe Milan, Jr. – Barn Classroom 204

The Art of the Notebook, with Catherine Barnett – Barn Classroom 102

Seeking Breakthroughs, with Jesse Nathan– Barn Classroom 203

The Beloved Poem: Lucille Clifton, with Paul Tran – Barn Classroom 205

## **Special Talk Today**

Today at 10:15 a.m., the editors of *Poetry* and *Poetry Northwest* will give a special talk about their publications in the Little Theater. Lindsay Garbutt, the senior editor of *Poetry* magazine edits the print publication and, from 2013 – 2021, she was a co-host of the *Poetry* magazine podcast. Kevin Craft, the executive editor of *Poetry Northwest Editions*, directs the Written Arts Program at Everett Community College.

## **Gala Event Today**

Each year, the conference celebrates the hard work and dedication to craft of its attendees with a gala reception at 5:15 p.m. on the West Lawn. This gala reception is one of the best-attended events of the conference. Participants gussy up to enjoy complimentary drinks and hors d'oeuvres and a hayride through the fields surrounding campus. As some may know, *The Simpsons* episode about Bread Loaf was factually incorrect except for the hayride. If the weather turns on us, the reception will take place in the Barn Tent, but keeping with tradition, the ride will take place rain or shine.

## **COMMUNITY ITEMS**

### **Thursday, August 22**

#### **Words for Palestine Reading Today**

Please join us for a reading to hold space and grief for Palestine here at Bread Loaf. The reading will at 1:15 PM today in the Barn Tent and will feature Jenny Johnson, Umair Kazi, Marie Helene-Bertino, Dana Alsamsam, Jamel Brinkley, Tobi Kassim, Joseph Earl Thomas, Swati Sudarsan, Adrian Matejka, Kenny Carroll, Jameelah Lang, and Abdelrahman ElGendy. Together, we hope to create a collective space that forefronts our shared humanity through language, solidarity, and radical love.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Lost and Found**

Catherine has lost her pen. Without it she can't write again!

Description: Fountain Pen, LAMY brand, red in color (not in ink)

Send leads to [cfisher396@gmail.com](mailto:cfisher396@gmail.com) or turn in to the lost & found please! I will be so grateful -- it was a special gift.

## **Lanyards**

We know that you can get emotionally attached to lanyards, but if you don't mind parting with yours, please return it to glass bowl in the lobby across from the Front Desk. Future name tag holders will appreciate it.

## **Counselor on Campus**

For mental health matters, please contact our counselor, Antonia Losano, at [alosano@middlebury.edu](mailto:alosano@middlebury.edu) to make an appointment. Meetings are confidential and free for faculty, students, and staff. Antonia's available daily between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. and can arrange a time and place that will work best for you; in-person and Zoom sessions are available. Faculty and participants are also welcome to contact the director, assistant director, administrative director, or coordinator (Jennifer Grotz, Lauren Francis-Sharma, Noreen Cargill, or Jason Lamb) for a referral.

## **Please Remember to Close Doors Quietly**

This is a reminder to please be mindful when entering and exiting your room and the buildings as some of the doors can be very loud and may disrupt those who are trying to get a good night's sleep.

## **Shared Departure Taxis with Vermont Tour & Charter**

Saturday's departure schedule will be posted by this evening. If you have not yet made your reservation with Vermont Tour & Charter, be sure to call them by noon today at 1-802-734-1293 or fill out the Bread Loaf form on their website. If taking a train or bus to Middlebury, please arrange transportation with the Front Desk. On Saturday, please be sure to show up at the Inn 15 minutes before your departure time.

## **Share a Ride**

Bread Loafers willing to share a ride should leave their names on the carpooling sheet posted outside the Dining Room. Those looking for a ride will contact you.

## **Please Return Library Books**

If you borrowed library books, please be sure to return them before 4:00 p.m. Friday.

## **Stop by the Bookstore**

There are only two more days to get all your books before you leave the mountain. The store will be open today until 4 p.m. and tomorrow until 5:45 p.m.

The Bookstore is not open Saturday. *If you have books on consignment, please pick them up by 4 p.m. tomorrow. Books left in the store will not be returned.*

## **Conference Evaluation Forms**

Please check your email soon for a conference evaluation form. Take a few minutes before you leave the mountain to let us know about your experience at the conference. We go over evaluation forms carefully to see how things went and consider changes for the future.

## **Blue Parlor Presents:**

There are only two more Blue Parlor Readings left! Tomorrow is the One Minute in Heaven Reading at 10:15 a.m. 40 readers will gather to give us their very best minute in Heaven (the Little Theater, of course!). The full list of readers will be published in tomorrow's *Crumb*.

and...

## **Tonight - *From the Dark Tower* Reading in the Barn Tent at 9:15 p.m.**

We proudly invite everyone on the mountain to join us in carrying on this longstanding Bread Loaf tradition.

### **A History of the *From the Dark Tower* Reading**

The title of this reading comes from the poem by Countee Cullen, in which he addresses how discussions of race are often kept in the dark. Cullen rallies for elevating such communication to a tower, whereby all can hear and benefit. *From the Dark Tower* also references the reading series and salon hosted by A'Lelia Walker, daughter of Madame C.J. Walker. In the 1920s, Walker converted the top floor of her home in Harlem into a dedicated salon hosting musicians, artists, actors, political figures, and of course, writers, and it was called The Dark Tower. The salon was formed in a place and time of tremendous literary energy, and its focus was to be a welcoming space where writers of color could spotlight and share their work, and also explore political implications of their craft. Nearly twenty years ago, writers of color at Bread Loaf began to hold readings in their rooms. Over the years, this tradition grew and began to be hosted by the Blue Parlor series. Poet Amaud Jamaul Johnson named this reading *From the Dark Tower*. It's in this spirit that the reading continues at Bread Loaf.

*Affirmations and questions welcome. Contact Danielle Harms or Tobi Kassim.*

### **Tonight's readers will be:**

1. Nik Nadeau
2. Tamara Love
3. Nadaa Hussein
4. Jameelah Lang
5. Sullivan Summer
6. Cindy Tran
7. Hermine Pinson
8. Kenneth Capers
9. River Ying Dandelion
10. L. Renée
11. Dāshaun Washington
12. Matthew Lawrence Garcia
13. Laura Jane Lee
14. Mimi Wong
15. Olga Jobe
16. Aaron Banks
17. Nick Makoha



### **From the Dark Tower**

We shall not always plant while others reap  
The golden increment of bursting fruit,  
Not always countenance, abject and mute  
That lesser men should hold their brothers cheap;  
Not everlastingly while others sleep  
Shall we beguile their limbs with mellow flute,  
Not always bend to some more subtle brute;  
We were not made eternally to weep.

The night whose sable breast relieves the stark  
White stars is no less lovely being dark,  
And there are buds that cannot bloom at all  
In light, but crumple, piteous, and fall;  
So in the dark we hide the heart that bleeds,  
And wait, and tend our agonizing seeds.

- *Countee Cullen*