

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. Lecture is Canceled
10:10 a.m. - 12:10 p.m. Poetry and Nonfiction Workshops
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Nature Walk with Marc Lapin Meet on Barn Porch
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch, Bread Loaf Inn
2:30 p.m. Craft Classes
4:15 p.m. Reading: Sigrid Nunez, Little Theater
5:15 p.m.- 6:15 p.m. Barn Social
5:30 p.m. Blue Parlor Reading Series, Barn Tent
6:15 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. Dinner, Bread Loaf Inn
9:30 p.m. - Midnight Barn Pub

SCHEDULE CHANGE:
David Treuer's lecture is canceled.

**Poetry and Nonfiction
Workshop Locations**

Erin Belieu - Dining Tent
Jennifer Finney Boylan - Barn 203
Victoria Chang - Barn 101
Vievee Francis - Little Theater
Elisa Gabbert - 206
Tomás Q. Morín - Inn West Seminar
Matthew Olzmann - Barn 102
Carl Phillips - Barn Tent
Patrick Phillips - Barn 204
David Treuer - Barn Observatory

Craft Class Corner

Please note that any required handouts are available on the table in the Inn. Sign-ups for tomorrow's classes will go out this morning at 8 a.m.

TODAY'S CLASSES:

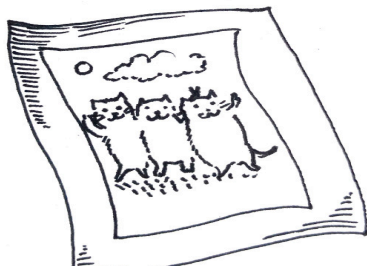
"Fiction from A-Z: Ask Me Anything!" with Jess Row – Barn 101
"What Is Real? What Is True? Crafting Unreliable Narrators," with
Monica West – Barn 204
"Figuring Out Creative Nonfiction," with Beth Nguyen – Barn 206
"Building Character Through Voice," with Caleb Tankersley – Barn
205
"Love Poems," with Matthew Olzmann – Barn 102
"Dead Ends as On-Ramps," with James Davis May – Barn 203

ANNOUNCEMENTS!**From the Front Desk**

While you are here at the conference, you have the chance to order 5x7 or 8x10 color group photos of your workshop. There will also be group photos of Scholars, Administrative Staff, Fellows, and Faculty. Photos of each group cost \$12 or \$15 per picture (according to size). Shipping costs \$6, and order forms are available at the Front Desk. If ordered by 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 24, pictures will be available for pickup by Friday lunch.

If you plan to ship boxes home, they need to be sent from the Front Desk by Friday at 12:00 p.m. (This includes boxes shipped UPS or U.S. Postal Service). This will come in handy for all those books you've just bought. There are a few shipping boxes available by the Front Desk near the mailboxes. The Front Desk will help you price-compare various shipping options.

Please also stop by the Front Desk if you plan to leave Middlebury by bus or train Saturday morning, so that a van to town can be arranged. There will be a sign-up sheet for space in the van.

**Today: Reading by Sigrid Nunez**

Special guest Sigrid Nunez will read today at 4:15 p.m., in the Little Theater. Nunez has published eight novels, including *The Friend*, winner of the 2018 National Book Award, and, most recently, *What Are You Going Through*. She is also the author of *Sempre Susan: A Memoir of Susan Sontag*. Her honors and awards include a Whiting Writer's Award, a Berlin Prize Fellowship, the Rome Prize in Literature, and a Guggenheim. Her books have been published in thirty countries. She lives in New York City and is on the faculty of the MFA creative writing program at Hunter College (CUNY).

The Blue Parlor Strikes Back!

Don't cry for us, Bread Loaf. The truth is, Blue Parlor never left you. The reading series returns tonight at 5:30 p.m. in the Barn Tent with another hour of poetry, fiction, nonfiction, humor and more—delivered to you in three-minute increments. Tonight's lineup features: Christina Yang Hull, Alicia Winter, Amelia Barros, Danya Bush, Melissa McEver Huckabay, Bruce Morrow, Allison Reavis, Rachel Goldberg, Naila Mahadeo Hess, Benjamin Steinhorn, Haley Hutchinson, Mary Williams, Julia Hou, Jack Foraker, and Evan Brooke.

Big shout-out to all the folks who have been coming out to the Blue Parlor readings—you have continued to pack the house and make it such a vibrant and meaningful space! If you're wondering what all the fuss is about, then join us, tell your friends to come!

Mark your calendar for the rest of our exciting Blue Parlor events: the From the Dark Tower reading happening on Thursday August 24th at 9:30 p.m. in the Barn Tent; the One Minute in Heaven reading, happening on Friday August 25th at 10:10 a.m. in the Little Theater; and the final Blue Parlor reading on Friday August 25th at 5:30 p.m. in the Barn Tent. We look forward to seeing you there!

Affirmations and questions welcome. Contact Megan Pinto or Sebastián Páramo.

GUESTS

Today we bid a fond farewell to Emily Everett, Hafizah Geter, and Marc Lapin.

WEATHER

Partly cloudy

High: 70°
Low: 47°

A History of the From the Dark Tower Reading

The Blue Parlor's From the Dark Tower reading will take place tomorrow at 9:30 p.m. in the Barn Tent. 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'Levia 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.



A gathering in A'Levia Walker's Dark Tower literary salon, Harlem, 1929

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.

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

COMMUNITY ITEMS

*In addition to the Blue Parlor's From the Dark Tower reading, two community-organized readings **today** will spotlight the brilliant work of writers of color.*

AAPI Reading Today at 1:15 p.m.!

Calling all Asian American Pacific Islander readers! We will have an AAPI reading today at **1:15 p.m. in the Barn Tent**. Sign-ups for readers who identify as AAPI will happen at the Barn Tent on a sign-up sheet, first come, first serve: please keep your readings to 3 minutes each so everyone who wants to read can read! Everyone is welcome, of course, as audience.

BIPOC Reading Tonight at 8:15 p.m.!

Calling all BIPOC writers! In addition to the Dark Tower reading, we will hold another BIPOC Reading **in the Barn Tent tonight at 8:15 p.m.** during the free evening time. Priority will go to anyone who hasn't read or will read at Blue Parlor or otherwise, but hopefully everyone will get to read! Sign-ups will be on a physical sheet at the event.

For more information/questions about either reading, contact Annie Tan at (646) 525-8587.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ride-Share Bulletin Board

If you are willing to offer a ride on departure day, note your name on the carpooling sheet posted near the Dining Hall. Those looking for a ride can then contact you to make a plan.

Special Talk Tomorrow

Tomorrow at 10:10 a.m. in the Little Theater, there will be a special talk featuring editors from *Poetry* and *Poetry Northwest*.

Last Chance for a Nature Walk with Marc Lapin!

Meet in front of the Barn before heading off into the woods to practice some deep observation. Today from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Marc Lapin is the College Lands Ecologist and Assistant Laboratory Professor of Environmental Studies at Middlebury College.

A Reminder

Please don't smoke near the entrances to buildings and the Barn Tent. Leaving a bit more space will stop smoke from wafting inside. If you're smoking near the Inn, go across the street if possible. Thank you!

Lost and Found

There is a Lost and Found at the Front Desk and one on the mantle at the Little Theater. All items of high value (phones, wallets, etc.), are taken to the Front Desk for safekeeping.

COMMUNITY ITEM

There's now a Facebook group for all participants of our esteemed conference. To join the group, email Yvonne Liu at yvonneliuwriter@gmail.com. You don't have to be Facebook friends with her to join the group. You can also DM her on Twitter @yvonneliuwriter with your email address. Happy posting! —*Yvonne Liu*

Highlights from Workshop!

Take a peek at the work of your brilliant fellow Bread Loafers! Laura van den Berg submitted this excerpt from her fiction workshop.

“Rose sank to the floor as the cheap air mattress she had been sleeping on slowly deflated. She placed her hand on her growing stomach and poked around until she could feel the hard, solid handle of the coffee mug. Earlier that day, she returned from an appointment with her OBGYN and received the results of her ultrasound. Yes, the doctor confirmed, it appeared that this time she was pregnant with a mug. A medium-sized coffee mug with a two-finger handle.”

from “Gestation” by Aerial Merillat



WEATHER DOG by Carl Phillips

Tiny HORRORSCOPES



ARIES
Haunted mirror



LIBRA
BATS



TAURUS
Talking cat



SCORPIO
Fake blood



GEMINI
Vampire bunny



SAG.
Mysterious groans



CANCER
Slime



CAP.
Cobwebby castle



LEO
Goth wedding



AQU.
Zombie mermaid



VIRGO
Fluttering curtains



PISCES
Clowns

OVERHEARD

“Can I hug you? I won’t breathe on you!”

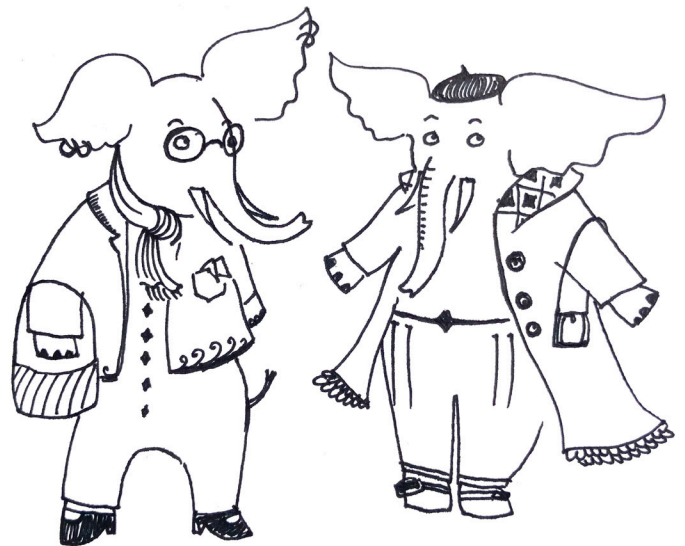
“Nice is bad. Nice can be like...euthanasia.”

“I write love poems sometimes. When I’m in love. I’m not in love right now.”

“Do NOT give me a hot strawberry.”

“Overheard? I’ve been *under* heard.”

*Keep sending these in! We love them! We love you!
blcrumb@gmail.com*



The Elephants of Style

Notes on the Frost Cabin

In the Frost cabin, you see so many things just the way he left them. His fireplace. His little bed. But what many people find most touching is that kitchen, complete with a refrigerator from the 1940s.

That refrigerator has long been broken.

In the absence of that cabin’s owner, you could say it has been.... deFrosted.

—Jennifer Finney Boylan