

RACHEL SHERMAN

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Education

M.F.A. in Creative Writing (Fiction), **Columbia University** May 2003

B.A. in Literature/Creative Writing and Photography, **Bard College** May 1997

Academic Employment

Columbia University Graduate School, School of the Arts, Adjunct Faculty 2010 to present

Fairleigh Dickinson University, MFA Program, Adjunct Faculty,
Online and low-residency program 2016 to 2019

Fairleigh Dickinson University, MA Program, Adjunct Faculty,
Online and low-residency program 2016 to 2019

Columbia University, Summer Sessions, Adjunct Faculty 2009 to 2018

Rutgers University, English Department, Adjunct Faculty 2008 to 2018

Columbia University, English Department, Adjunct Faculty 2008 to 2013

Literature and Creative Courses Taught:

Adolescence in Short Stories

Creative Writing: Fiction Workshop (introductory through advanced)

Divorce in 20th Century Literature

Flash Fiction

Form and Technique in Fiction

Introduction to Creative Writing (including poetry, plays, and short stories)

Novel and Short Story Collection Workshop

Pitching Your Fiction to Agents and Editors

The Role of the Mother in Short Fiction

Other Relevant Employment

Ditmas Writing Workshops, founder and instructor, Brooklyn, NY 2008 to present

- Founded and incorporated Ditmas Writing Workshops
- Offer a range of writing classes to teenagers and adults
- Teach workshops ranging from Short Stories to Novel Writing
- Facilitate both online and in-person classes
- Hire multiple authors to teach poetry, memoir and fiction classes
- Use prompts, both visual and written, to inspire new writing
- Critique and line-edit all student writing
- Assign, read and discuss published books and short stories
- Instruct students on critiquing guidelines and edits

Crimson Consulting, Director of Essay Review Team 2018 to present

- Instruct, direct, edit and lead a team of more than 40 editors
- Write, edit and review training pamphlets and brochures
- Write handbooks for multiple Crimson editing departments
- Construct guidelines for clients and editors on essay writing
- Liason between multiple departments, both internationally and nationally
- Pair mentors with editors, clients and strategists
- Supervise all aspects of the editing team
- Give constructive feedback for both the clients and the editors
- Critique, proofread and line-edit student essays
- Create SOPs for editors and mentors
- Maintain editor database

Beyond BookSmart, Executive Function Coach 2018 to present

- Create complete executive function plan for each client
- Meet weekly one-on-one to teach tools and strategies
- Work on planning, prioritizing and organizing with children, teenagers and adults
- Facilitate relationship with client's family
- Write extensive summaries of each coaching session
- Communicate with doctors, teachers, tutors and coaches for the client
- Report to a supervisor to go over clients' successes and challenges

Other Employment

Content Manager at Great Jones Street 2016 to 2017
"Fiction Expert" at About.com 2012 to 2016
Parenting Blogger, The Huffington Post 2009 to 2016

Recognitions and Awards

Judge, The George Guion Williams Fiction Prize, Rice University, 2009
25 Books to Remember of 2006, New York Public Library, 2007
Nominated, The Independent Books of 2006, UK, 2007
Short-listed, The Story Prize, 2007
Finalist, The Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award, Cork, Ireland, 2006
Nominated, The Pushcart Prize, for "Proof," Small Spiral Notebook, 2006
Project Recipient, The Literary Ventures Fund, 2006
Short Listed, The O'Henry Prize Stories, for "Homestay," Post Road 2002
Honorable Mention, 1st Annual Zoetrope Short Story Contest, 2001
Presidential Scholar in the Arts for Creative Writing, 1993
National Foundation for the Advancement of the Arts, Level 1 recipient for fiction, 1993

Publications

Books

Living Room, Open City Books. October 2009.
The First Hurt, Open City Books. May 2006.

Fiction in Journals and Magazines

"Dementia." The Michigan Quarterly Review (2023)
"Purpose." The Michigan Quarterly Review (2023)
"Intervention." The Literary Review (2016).
"Jolie Laide." Catapult (2015): online.
"Torture Receipts." The Offing (2015): online.
"The Job." Five Chapters (2014): online.
"The Girls." n+1 (2013): online.

- “Women in the Grass.” Five Chapters (2010): online.
“First They Came For...” Fence (2009)
“The Jews on the Hill.” New York Tyrant (2009).
“The Contraption.” Illustrated by Joan Reilly. New York Tyrant (2008).
“Sitter.” Fanzine (2008): online.
“Last Will and Testament.” New York Tyrant (2008).
“Menage a Trois: A Definition in Three Parts.” Nerve (2007): online.
“The Land Between Two Brush Shaped Hills.” Five Chapters (2007): online.
“Jewish Hair.” Nerve (2006): online.
“Two Stories; Single Family; Scenic View.” Open City 21 (2006): 77-88.
“The Reaper.” n+1 2 (Spring, 2005): 83-91.
“Proof.” Small Spiral Notebook 1.2. (2005): 84-90.
“Straight Talk on Hair Village.” Mr. Beller’s Neighborhood. (June 2006): online.
“Keeping Time.” Open City 20 (2005): 81-91.
“The Neutered Bulldog.” McSweeney’s 12 (2003): 45-58.
“The Barber Shops on Amsterdam.” Mr. Beller’s Neighborhood (October 2002): online.
“Homestay.” Post Road 2 (2001): 57-64.
“Bestiality.” Nerve (2000): online.
“Other Mothers.” Insurance 1 (2000): 63-65.
“Reunion.” Nerve (1999): online
“Hysterectomy,” Del Sol Review Anthology (1999): online.
“Nose.” Conjunctions (1998): online.
“Pep Rally.” 5_Trope (1998): online.
“Ida.” StoryQuarterly 32 (1996): 25.

Fiction/Essays in Anthologies

- “Family Myth.” (Interview.) Talk Show: On the Couch with Contemporary Writers (PFP Publishing, 2013)
“Two Stories; Single Family; Scenic View.” (Story.) They’re at It Again: Stories from Twenty Years of Open City (Open City Books, 2011)
“The Neutered Bulldog.” (Story.) The Better of McSweeney’s, Vol. II-Issues 11-20 (McSweeney’s Books, 2010)
“The Baby Between Us.” (Essay.) Dirt Is Good For You: True Stories from Imperfect Parents (Chronicle Books, 2009)
“Straight Talk on Hair Village.” (Essay.) Lost and Found: Stories from New York (Mr. Beller’s Neighborhood Books, 2009)
“The Neutered Bulldog.” (Story.) McSweeney’s Field Recordings, Volume 3 (McSweeney’s, 2009)
“Menage a Trois.” (Story.) Dirty Words: The Unabridged Encyclopedia of Sex (Bloomsbury, 2008).
“Over Chinese.” (Story.) The Best of Nerve: Full Frontal Fiction (New York: Three Rivers Press, 2000: 266-267.

Articles/Personal Essays:

- “Two Rings.” Los Angeles Review of Books (2020); online
“I Hate Dogs (But my Daughter Sure as Hell Won’t).” Kveller (2017): online
“Swinging Upstate.” Salon (2014): online
“DIY Ideas for Incorporating Children into Second Weddings.” The Huffington Post (2014): online
“Letting my Daughter Quit: a choose your own adventure story.” The Huffington Post (2013): online.
“On Death and Daughters.” The Huffington Post (2012): online.
“Taking Words from my Mouth.” The Huffington Post (2012): online.
“The Real Cry: A Daughters Expression Evolves.” The Huffington Post (2012): online.
“How Not to Learn About Sex.” Babble (2011): online.
“My Mother, Myself.” Babble (2009): online.
“The Baby Between Us.” Babble (2009): online.

Sherman, Rachel

“Tree Envy.” ReadyMade Magazine (2007).

“S and M, B and B.” Jane Magazine (2006).

Current Projects

Your House Without You In It, (novel-in-progress)

Affiliations

Freelancers Union

Author’s Guild

New York Writer’s Workshop (New York, NY)

JCC Upper West Side (New York, NY)

Selected Public Readings

Franklin Park Reading Series, (Brooklyn, NY) 2016

Brooklyn Writers Space Reading Series (Brooklyn, NY) 2014

How I Learned Reading Series, (New York, NY) 2013

Sunday Salon Prose Reading Series (New York, NY) 2013

Second Person Plural Reading Series (New York, NY) 2013

Rutgers Faculty Reading Series (New Brunswick, NY) 2013

Happy Hour Fiction Reading, NYU Creative Writing Program (New York, NY 2011)

Writers in New York, NYU Summer Writing Program (New York, NY 2011)

It Came From Brooklyn, Guggenheim Museum (New York, NY 2009)

Writers in New York, NYU Summer Writing Program (New York, NY 2008)

McNally Robinson Booksellers for Nerve (New York, NY 2007)

Mixer Reading Series at Cakeshop (New York, NY 2007)

Mo Pitkin’s for The Small Press Center (New York, NY 2007)

Bookcourt (Brooklyn, NY 2006)

Newtonville Bookstore (Newton, MA 2006)

Munster Literature Center (Cork, Ireland 2006)

KGB Bar (New York, NY 2000, 2004, 2006)

Small Press Celebratory Reading, The New School (New York, NY 2006)

Readings at the Writer’s Voice, West Side YMCA (New York, NY 2006)

Essentials (Northampton, MA 2006)

City Lights Bookstore (San Francisco, CA 2006)

Pegasus Books Downtown (Berkeley, CA 2006)

Powell’s Books (Portland, OR 2006)

Book Revue (Huntington, NY 2006)

Barnes & Noble (New York, NY 2006)

Pete’s Candy Store (Brooklyn, NY 2006)

Nova Art Fair, Chicago, IL 2006)

Elliott Bay Book Company (Seattle, Washington 2006)

Lectures and Panels

Life after the MFA Writing Panel (Columbia University, 2014)

Careers for Writers: Life after the MFA (Lillian Vernon Creative Writers House, New York University, 2009)

Bluffs Author Series, (Council Bluffs Public Library, Iowa, 2007)

Seventh Annual Juniper Festival, STRANGE COURAGE: First Books (University of Massachusetts at Amherst, April 2007)

First Book Panel, Munstre Literature Centre (Cork, Ireland 2006)

Reapers and Rented Companionship, Tristel Toibin (Cork, Ireland 2006)

Editor/Author Discussion Series, McNally Robinson Bookstore (New York, NY 2006)

Q & A with Joanna Yas of Open City, The New School (New York, NY 2006)

Dossier and confidential recommendations are available upon request:

The following persons have written letters of recommendation on my behalf:

Thomas Beller: author most recently of *J. D. Salinger: The Escape Artist*; publisher and founder of Open City Magazine and Open City books; Assistant Professor of English, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA 70118 (tbeller@tulane.edu)

Jill Eisenstadt: author most recently of *Swell*; assistant professor, Eugene Lang College, The New School for Liberal Arts, 65 West 11th St, New York NY 10011 (jeisenstadt@nyc.rr.com)

Sam Lipsyte: author most recently of *Hark*; assistant professor, School of the Arts, Columbia University, 305 Dodge Hall, Mail Code 1808, 2960 Broadway, New York, NY 10027 (spl2104@columbia.edu)

Helen Schulman: author most recently of *Come with Me*; fiction coordinator and professor, The New School University, MFA in Creative Writing, 66 West 12th Street, Room 401 New York, NY 10011 (schulmanh@aol.com)

Dani Shapiro: author most recently of *Inheritance*; visiting writer at the Wesleyan University College of Letters, Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, 06459 (dani@danishapiro.com)

Deb Olin Unferth: author most recently of *Barn 8*; Assistant Professor, Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, 06459 (dunferth@gmail.com)