

Redivider (Volume 6, Issue 1)

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March 2009

Web Address: www.redividerjournal.org

What They Publish: Fiction, Creative Non-Fiction, Poetry, Interviews, Book Reviews

Submission Guidelines: Submissions are open year round. Submissions of previously unpublished pieces should be emailed along with a cover letter that includes the title, author's name, address, phone number, and email address. Submissions must be under 25 pages, double-spaced.

Description of Publication: Biannual print journal that carries black-and-white art in addition to many different forms of writing.

Prose Per Issue: 33% / 10 stories

Prose Reviews:

The Principle by Rebecca Morey is a plainspoken realistic story in a domestic setting. Michelle, the narrator, leaves her widowed mother behind to live as a migrant farm laborer with her new boyfriend, Minnow. Minnow's parents have recently died and as a result, he was placed on many medications for depression. While they live on the road together, he decides to stop taking his medication, causing Michelle to worry about the possibility that he will end up like her father, who shot himself when she was in high school.

Morey is skilled at revealing character details. She does so slowly, mainly as asides and details during scenes. As a result, the story moves and the reader feels neither overloaded with exposition nor as if they are missing important details. A key example of this comes in the first paragraph, when Michelle says "I hope he has taken his pill today." We will later find out that Minnow is on Lithium, the same medication her father had stopped taking before taking his own life. The emotional impact of the situation is increased because the details are given naturally.

Outside the Range of Danger by Taryn Bowe is a plainspoken realistic story in a domestic setting, told in the third person. Haven, an isolated teenaged girl, becomes close to another, more outgoing girl named Maria after accidentally intruding on her in the bathroom, where Maria reveals that she may be pregnant. Maria admits that she has been attempting to miscarry by falling on her stomach and taking hot baths. Haven decides to protect her by following Maria around, which Maria encourages. The story ends at the moment before the pregnancy test, with Haven aware that once the results are in, no matter which way they turn out, her temporary friendship with Maria will be over and she will be back to her isolated life.

Bowe often hints at Haven's sexual confusion, for example, in flashbacks about a purple-haired girl she had once sat next to, but it is not discussed bluntly, which allows Bowe to write about the friendship between Maria and Haven without focusing solely on a sexual subtext. Because the focus is not on sexuality, several other themes are allowed to develop, such as Haven's loneliness and Maria's fear of progressing into a more adult life. This makes the story both rich and believable.

Rating: 6. Although the majority of Redivider is not fiction, several of its writers are published here for the first time. This in addition to the journal's attractive layout and quirky, fresh writing makes it a great venue for emerging authors.