Miscellaneous Literary Treasures

by Margaret D. Bauer, Editor

Capturing the spirit of this section's intent - not to miss anything by limiting submissions to a theme – is the "poem that almost got away," for which we thank our longtime supporter Jim Clark, who found the previously unpublished poem by Frank Borden Hanes, Sr. and requested permission to send it to NCLR – and the Hanes family for granting permission to publish it. Such gems fulfill NCLR's mission to preserve and promote North Carolina's rich literary heritage. This poem was among the selections sent to Editorial Board member Tanya Long Bennett for consideration for our John Ehle Prize, and of "Evening Hatch," she wrote, "Hanes captures in sublimely crafted lines the human desire to keep casting our lures in hopes of a catch, despite 'old spine[s]' and 'resentful bones.' His observation that the hooked and released fish 'glides off in her foredoom' generates a special brand of pathos, a reminder of the mortality/life bind that gives existence its splendor."

We welcome other sunken treasure brought up from the deep by our readers, so if you've come across some long-forgotten literary treasure, please send it for *NCLR*'s consideration.

Another welcome goes to Heather Bell Adams, winner of the Doris Betts Fiction Prize in 2021. This is her first time to be published in *NCLR*, though she is likely familiar to many readers, as she is the Piedmont Laureate, winner of several recent awards, and a popular novelist.

As you reach the end of this issue, I invite you to flip back through and admire the beautiful layouts created by our talented design team, which is led by Art Director Dana Ezzell Lovelace. I was just telling someone recently that when I took over as editor 25 years ago. I didn't even know what an Art Director was. I've had the excellent fortune of working with three incredible women in this capacity, as well as the other designers who have joined the team. Appropriate for this issue's focus on teaching, the design team this year includes our Art Director Dana Ezzell Lovelace, former student of the original NCLR Art Director Eva Roberts; Stephanie Dicken, a graduate from the design program Eva created at ECU: Karen Baltimore, who was Dana's student; and new to the team, Sara Elks, who was Karen's student - i.e., the student of a student of a student of the original Art Director. I thank them all for their generosity in sharing their talent with us, with our writers, and with our readers. Even after all these years, it is still like Christmas morning when I receive an email from one of them and open the .pdf that reveals the magic they've done with the words and art we sent them.

NORTH CAROLINA

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