

### **Somewhat Awkward, But . . .**

by Margaret D. Bauer, Editor

I'm just going to start with it: my own co-edited collection on Paul Green is the subject of an essay in this issue. When Sally Greene sent me her review essay of the Paul Green book *Georgann Eubanks* and I co-edited, I could not turn it away. I didn't think that would be fair to Georgann, the twelve authors writing about Green, or Paul Green himself, who gave so much of himself to North Carolina's literary heritage. All of the book's writers have. And as the state's literary journal of record, *NCLR* would be remiss in ignoring this book's publication, which certainly reflects our mission to preserve and promote the state's rich literary history. I'll take this opportunity to thank Georgann for allowing me into this project after she did the heavy lifting of soliciting the content and Sally for writing such a substantive review of the book. And thank you to the Paul Green Foundation for once again supporting *NCLR* with the Paul Green Prize, which encourages submissions related to Green with funding that allows us to provide honoraria for authors like Sally Greene and to pay the talented graphic designer (in this case, Karen Baltimore) for her design of the essay.

When (not if) Sally's essay inspires you to want to read more about Paul Green, [click here](#) to find our package deal on all back issues featuring Green.

Next up in and later in this section, read seven more poems from the 2024 James Applewhite Prize contest, finalists and semifinalists who have been published in *NCLR* before (welcome back!).

[Subscribe](#) so you don't miss final judge Jessica Jacobs's selections for first, second, and third place, which are coming out in the print issue. (Read the honorable mentions and a few more of the finalists and semifinalists in the [Winter 2025 issue](#).)

The Flashbacks section of our online issues tends to include numerous reviews. Read here reviews of books by writers who have previously published their creative writing in *NCLR*, including Paul Crenshaw, Jennifer McGaha, Dale Neal, and Allan Wolf, or have been a featured writer, like Michele Tracy Berger, who was interviewed in [Fall 2022](#) and now has a new short story collection reviewed. Other reviews hearken back to the special feature topics of previous issues: fantasy literature (2001); the Outer Banks (2005) and Appalachia (2010); children's literature (2006); "North Carolina Literature and the Other Arts" (2017), music and visual arts playing key roles in poetry and fiction reviewed in these pages; and African American literature (2019). All of these back issues (indeed, all of our back issues) are available for purchase, though some back issues are in short supply (1998, 1999, 2007). I invite you to check out our [back issues page](#), which includes a listing of all issues' special feature topic and links to each issue's table of contents. Don't miss the opportunity to have a complete set of North Carolina's literary journal of record on your shelves. Your purchase supports future issues.

Thank you for that support. ■