PRESS RELEASE
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"A CONSTANT STATE OF WARFARE" IN *NCLR ONLINE* FALL 2026

The *North Carolina Literary Review* closes the 2026 Feature, "Military Writing in North Carolina," with the *NCLR Online* Fall 2026 issue. Guest Feature Editor Anna Froula reflects on the long-lasting impacts of war and its ramifications for future generations, noting how "this generation of students has never known peace" in a post-9/11 world marred by constant warfare. While she hopes that her fears of the cyclical nature of war do not come to fruition, she takes solace in the fact that, devoid of peace, the works of various writers and artists "will always remember the feelings of war and its indelible impressions upon the humanity that such violent conflict sacrifices and leaves behind."

Among the reviews in the feature section is Jonathan Vincent's review of Daniel Kraus's Pulitzer Prize novel *Angel Down*. Creative writing includes poetry and fiction by veterans Louis Girón, Russell Worth Parker, and Mariah Smith. The art in this section is also by veterans: Amy Louise Brown, Robert Bates, Phillip W. Jones, Ben Long, and Kristopher J. Battles, whose work also appears on the cover of this issue.

NCLR Editor Margaret Bauer introduces the issue's Flashbacks section with congratulations on new books by *NCLR* "alumni" such as Oswaldo Estrada and Hannah Bonner, reviewed here. Also reviewed is a book by Melissa D. Birkhofer and Paul M. Worley, a chapter of which appeared in *NCLR* 2023. Bauer also recounts one of the literary events the *NCLR* editors attended in Spring 2026, which was a gathering of the descendants of the playwright Paul Green and of the parents of Rassie McLeod, an African American boy whose family were tenant farmers on the land owned by Green's family. The story Green wrote about his friendship with Rassie is republished in this issue, along with a prose poem by Jaki Shelton Green, North

Carolina Poet Laureate. In addition to more reviews, this section also includes an interview with the writer/teacher Nancy Peacock.

This issue's North Carolina Miscellany section is introduced by *NCLR* Fiction Editor Rebecca Bernard, who notes the common thread in the section's content: women's voices in fiction. Read here Justine Busto's honorable mention short story from the 2025 Doris Betts Fiction Prize contest.

NCLR Online issues are open access. Find the full table of contents of this issue and, upon its release, a link to the issue here.

Produced since 1992 at East Carolina University, the *North Carolina Literary Review* has the mission to preserve and promote North Carolina's rich literary culture. *NCLR* introduces new and emerging writers; reintroduces forgotten authors; showcases work in literary criticism, interviews, book reviews, fiction, creative nonfiction, and poetry; and reports on the state's literary news. The featured artwork is by exclusively North Carolina artists. *NCLR*'s award winning journal is published by the University of North Carolina Press and is supported by ECU, the North Carolina Literary & Historical Association, North Caroliniana Society, North Carolina Arts Council, and Friends of *NCLR*.