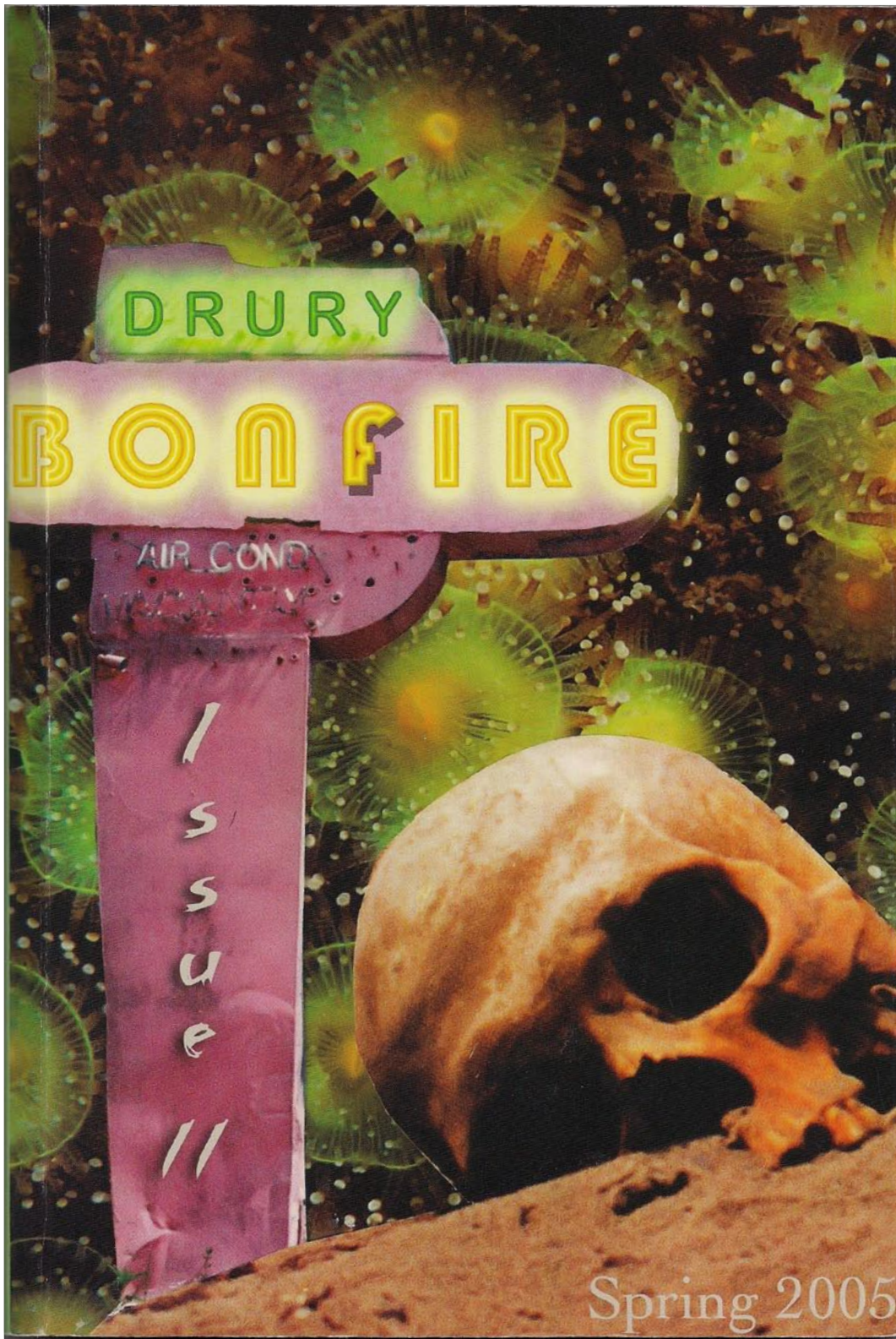


Foreword

FOR ME, an editor is everyone's servant. An editor works to bring an author's meaning out in a better way than the author ever could alone. An editor works to help readers to understand a piece of writing more easily. This involves attention to the rules of grammar, but it also requires an ability to discern the heart of a writing and to polish that writing artistically. As an editor, I am dedicated to bridging the gap between authors and readers. I seek to work closely with an author, not to force anyone's hand, but to help the author to craft something that belongs even more to the author than it did before. The end result provides me with the utmost satisfaction as I see the author's well-deserved pride and the readers' delight and edification.

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Spring 2005

Editing Portfolio

PROSE EDITORS

Jennifer Altenau, Nicole Breedlove, Amanda Brockus, Amanda Callaway, Hannah Clemens, Rebekah Cooper, Rita Fabin, Kelly Main, Miranda Noland, Melinda Piler, Lauren Rapp, Erica Schneider, Jessica Stong, Andrea Strong, Lindsay Westbrook, Glen Wolfe

Edited Works Include

MEG MYERS

Scar Tissue

MINDY PLILER

Family Portrait

Scar Tissue

I felt the scar tissue before the cut was even made. I saw the glass, in slow motion, shatter from its sheet and spin and curve in the air, beautifully dancing through the horror of it, and soar toward my face and slice through my skin, ripping it, dividing it and wedging itself down below the layers of my neck, over my chest and drip, drip, dripped on my foot. I could hear all the commotion, the sirens, the screaming, the shattering glass, but I was mute as I sat with my hand, pressing like death, on my cheek as it pulsed underneath my trembling fingers.

I woke up with the feeling of liquid creeping over my face. Just sweat. The blood had stopped flowing. Where was my husband? My daughter? I couldn't move. My mouth was swollen, my throat burning, my cheek a maze of stitches. I lay there in the bed choked with worry and pulsing with pain. My cheek was lumpy and hard under my limp hand. The stitches covered the length of my face. What did I look like? No. What did *that* matter—where was my family?

The nurse came in my room with such caution that I already knew before she spoke. I lost control. I wept and screamed, taking such a strong hold of the bed sheets that the stiff, sterile material ripped between my clenched fists.

The nurse, still not having said a word, came to me, holding

SCAR TISSUE

Meg Myers

I FELT THE SCAR TISSUE before the cut was even made. I saw the glass, in slow motion, shatter from its sheet and spin and curve in the air, beautifully dancing through the horror, and soar toward my face and slice through my skin, ripping it, dividing it and wedging itself down below the layers of my cheek. The blood seeped, hesitant to leave my veins, and glistened, down my neck, over my chest and drip, drip, dripped on my foot. I could hear all the commotion, the sirens, the screaming, the shattering glass, but I was mute as I sat with my hand pressing like death on my cheek as it pulsed underneath my trembling fingers.

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my arms, lying across my convulsing body. I wrestled with her; trying to claw her, push her off of me so I could freely go insane. I fought and kicked for so long that my body fell limp and my mind melted away. The nurses and doctors said I had slipped into some sort of catatonic state and they were unable to rouse a response from me. But I was there. Alert. Back at the scene.

Pictures of unwanted memories pierced my eyes as I watched my child grow, my husband age, my life evolve. Not just the flash bulb instant of the glass-shattering madness, losing control of the wheel, the screaming tires; but the fights, the financial problems, her first recital, our wedding day. How often did I complain about the stretch marks, my widened hips, my swollen feet? Did I ever feel the joy of pregnancy? And when she entered our life, did I spend as much time listening to her laugh as I did out of breath on the Stairmaster? I loved her. I loved him. But how many times did I compare myself to his secretary? Was she thinner? Younger?

I woke up in a panic. The doctor sat uncomfortably beside me in the stale room, looking down at his feet, continually clicking the pen in his hand. My face, it seemed, would never heal correctly. He said they had done all they could do, and perhaps with more surgeries they could reconstruct the shape of my cheek, but for now, and maybe forever, I was burdened with a disfigured face.

Deep within my cheek, tissue bonded and knotted into a mass of tenderness. Healing from the inside out. Blood clotted and skin mended and the deep laceration slowly began repairing itself. This shapeless sever, that years from now would be fading will still be a discolored jagged fissure on the left side of my face so that every time I peered into the mirror, and wondered how much weight I had gained, or worried about the crows feet around my eyes, I could look at the formation of cells that had worked together to heal me—but not heal me perfectly—so that I would always remember to never forget.

Deep inside my soul, down beneath my layers, I can feel the scar tissue. I am surviving, not continually bleeding, but healing, as the pain and guilt have formed together within me and solidified to a deformation that feels lumpy and hard down deep.

Even now, so many years since the cut, the ripping of my face and those sheets, I still see the scars in the crown, beneath which they lie together. The earth that was torn, severed and dug out is now packed with their bodies, and millions of cells and tissues and pain and my mistakes. The earth above them, underneath the constant heap of flowers and prayers is still slightly mounded. Though it has been years since they dug into the soil and lacerated the earth, the dirt has never quite healed the same and is still lumpy and hard in a disfigured scar on the surface of something so painful below.

Editing Portfolio

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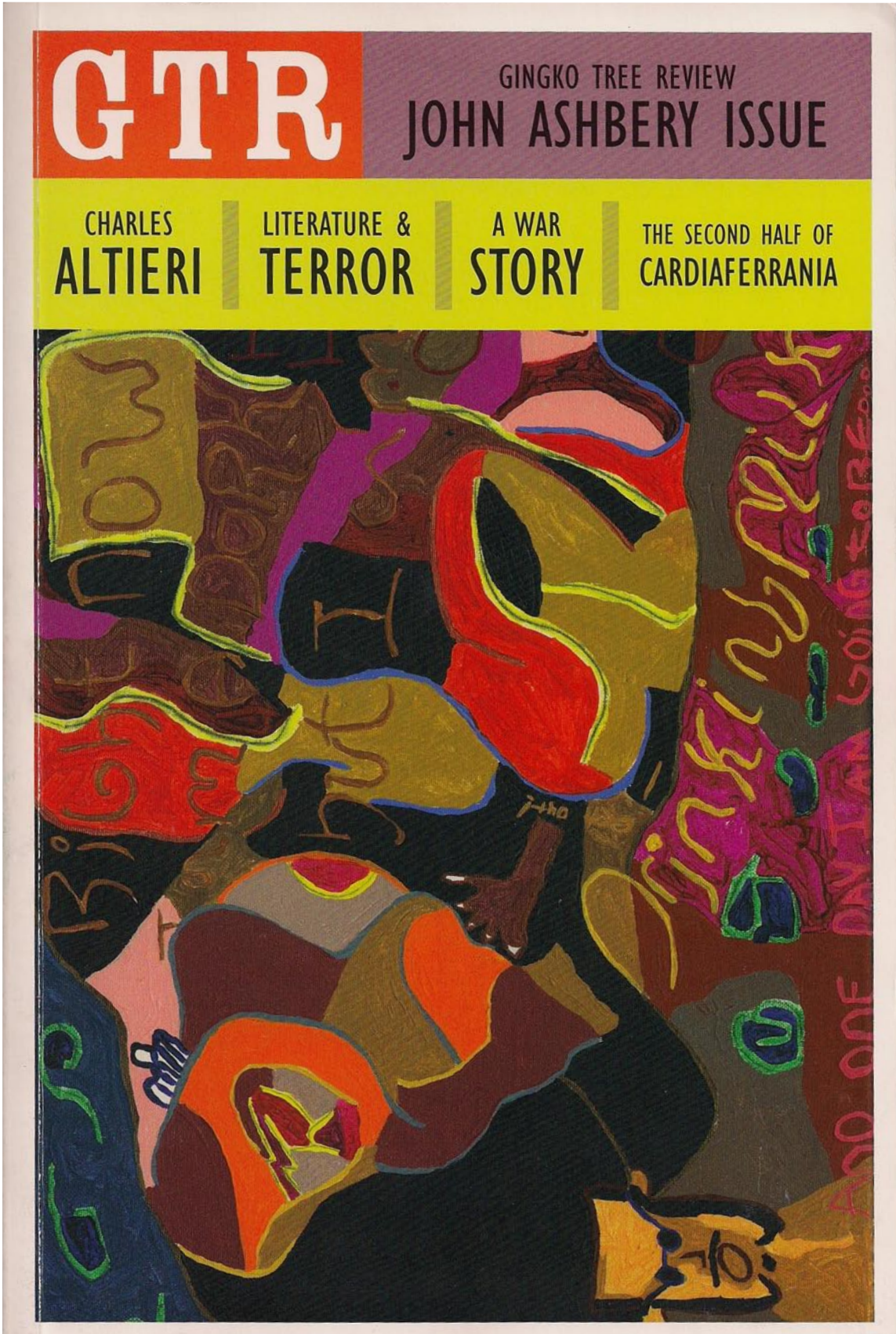
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— THE BONFIRE — 119 —

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— 120 — Myers —



Editing Portfolio

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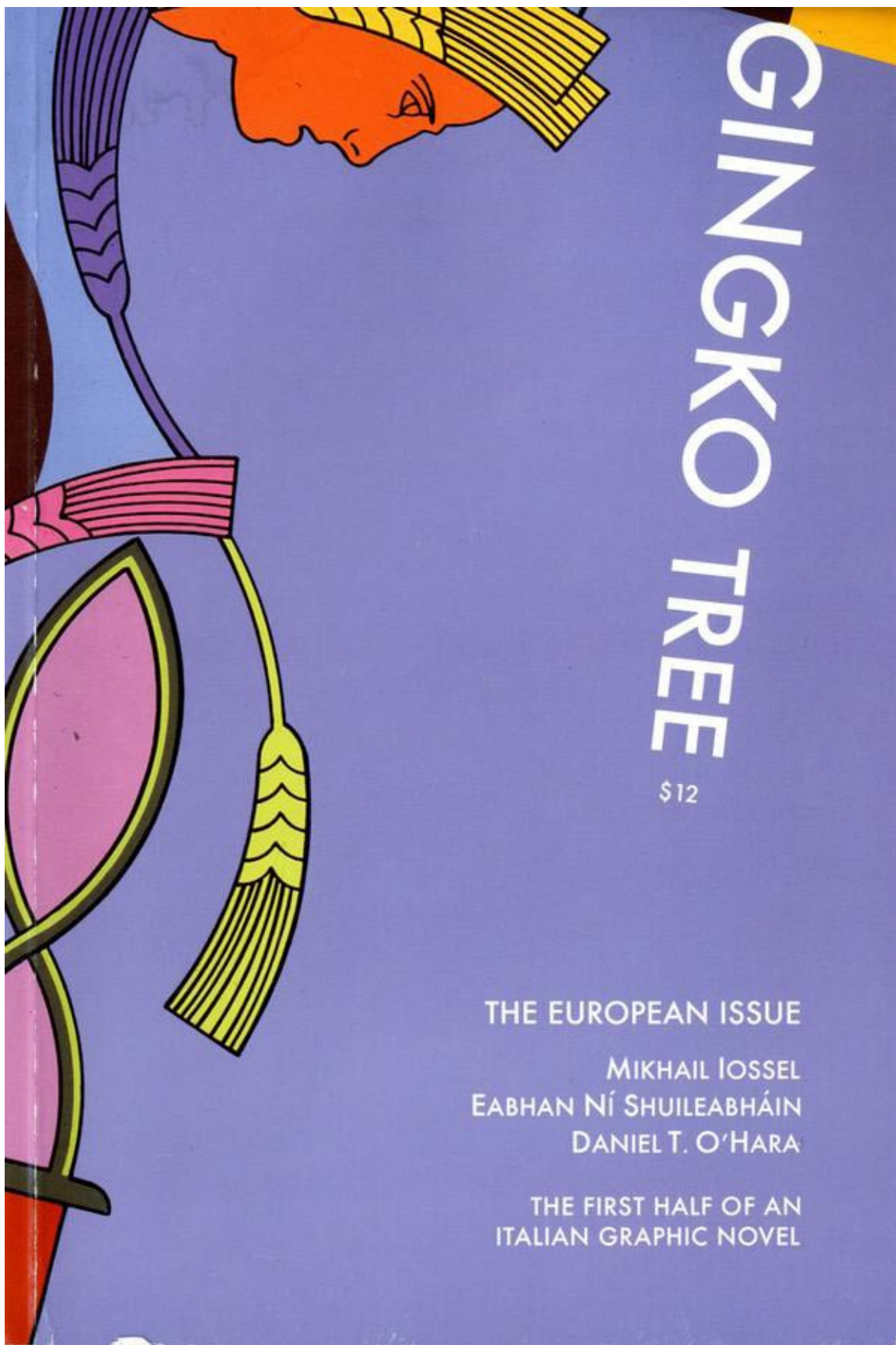
The editors invite submissions of poetry, fiction, and creative non-fiction, including reportage, travel writing, and other work of general interest. We are also interested in pieces sometimes difficult to categorize, including prose poems and very short fiction. Manuscripts will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Please address all correspondence to The Editors, *Ginkgo Tree Review*, Drury University, 900 N. Benton Avenue, Springfield, MO 65802.

SUBSCRIPTIONS
1 year (2 issues) \$18

Edited Works Include

JAY KARR	from <i>Leaving the Home Front</i>
CHARLES ALTIERI	On Ashbery
AYON ROY	Postmodern Convexity and Hegelian Dialectics

Amanda M. Nave



Editing Portfolio

Edited Works Include

An essay by Mikhail Iossel.

MALAYSIAN BORNEO PLACES & PRICES

Original

It's possible to plan a trip to Sarawak and Sabah on your own, particularly if you don't plan to venture farther into the forest than the excellent national parks. However, if you want a taste of jungle adventure, you should consider booking a tour. That doesn't mean traveling in a pack; my tour group consisted of me. There are many reputable operators in Malaysian Borneo, the small volume of visitors to the island has kept away the corporate mass-tourism machines and encouraged idealistic local entrepreneurs. The only Borneo based travel company operating in both states is **Borneo Adventure**, a pioneer in longhouse tours with minimal cultural impact. They have offices in Kuching (82-245075, fax -422626; bakch@po.jaring.my), Miri, and Kota Kinabalu. In Sarawak, **CPH Travel** is also a reliable experienced company (82-243708, fax -424587). **Borneo Expeditions** offers a wide range of adventure tours in Sabah, specializing in white-water rafting (88-222721, fax-222720). Tours in Malaysian Borneo can also be booked through American travel agents such as **EastQuest**, in New York (800-638-3449), and **Vacationland**, in San Francisco (800-245-0050).

(The country code for calling Malaysian Borneo is 60.)

Lodging

For years, the only international class hotels in Kuching were the **Hilton** (82-2482000, fax -428984; doubles, \$tk-\$tk; w) and the **Holiday Inn** (82-423111, fax-426169; doubles, \$tk-\$tk; w); both are well-located on the river, within easy walking distance of the city's sights, but as you might expect have little character to recommend them. The flashy new **Riverside Majestic** is now giving them some competition (82-247777, fax -425858; doubles, \$tk-\$tk; w). In Mulu, unless you want to rough it at the dormitory in the national park, the only choice is the **Royal Mulu Resort**, which is comfortable enough and ideally located—it ought to be, considering that it commandeered the original park headquarters. The food here is pretty awful, but they do the best they can; virtually everything has to be flown in. I spent some happy hours in their open-air aviary, which is populated by pheasants, hornbills and a peacock who was always trying to escape (85-421122, fax tk; doubles, \$tk-\$tk; w).

Sabah's premier luxury hotel is **ShangriLa's Tanjung Aru** resort, spectacularly sited on a peninsula across from the Tunku Abdul Rahman marine national park and 10 minutes from Kota Kinabalu's rather dreary central business district. It offers an impressive array of recreational facilities, including the city's best dive shop and access to nearby golf courses (88-225800, fax -217155; doubles, \$tk-\$tk; w). In March 1998, the **Pan-Pacific Sutera** opened across the harbor, giving resort-seekers a competitively priced choice (88-260077, fax -256655; doubles, \$tk-\$tk; w). In town, the **Jesselton Hotel** is a charming antique boutique, a landmark building with 32 eccentrically shaped rooms decorated with colonial-era furniture and period prints (88-223333, fax -24020; doubles, \$tk-\$tk; w). In Sandakan, the **Renaissance** is perfectly adequate and has no competition (89-213299, fax -271271; doubles, \$tk-\$tk; w).

Dining

Editing Portfolio

INTRODUCTION:

Malaysian Borneo provides many opportunities to enjoy the jungle, the sea and authentic, exotic foods. Local businesses offer excellent tours and a variety of other services to make your visit a time to remember.

Edited

MALAYSIAN BORNEO PLACES & PRICES

The national parks of Sarawak and Sabah offer excellent do-it-yourself adventure. However, for jungle adventure, you should consider booking a tour. That doesn't mean traveling in a pack; my tour group consisted of me. There are many reputable operators in Malaysian Borneo, as mass tourism companies won't bother with the small volume of visitors. **Borneo Adventure**, a pioneer in longhouse tours with minimal cultural impact, operates in both states. They have offices in Kuching (82-245075, fax -422626; bakch@po.jaring.my), Miri, and Kota Kinabalu. In Sarawak, **CPH Travel** is a reliable experienced company (82-243708, fax -424587). **Borneo Expeditions** offers a wide range of adventure tours in Sabah, specializing in white-water rafting (88-222721, fax-222720). Tours can also be booked through American travel agents such as **EastQuest**, in New York (800-638-3449), and **Vacationland**, in San Francisco (800-245-0050).

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Dining

In Kuching the delightful **River Café**, a breezy pavilion on the pedestrian esplanade directly across the river from Fort Margherita, which serves simple,

Word of Mouth Piece

Under the Tuscan Sun, the Rebirth of the Hotel Savoy

~ *RF Hotels reopens hotel in Florence on May 1st*~

Thirteen million dollars are reclaiming the splendor of the Hotel Savoy, a luxurious 1893 palace in Florence, Italy. The site itself, previously the site of the historic San Tomasso church, offers luxury, lending a view of Brunelleschi's cupola and easy access to the Duomo, the Uffizi and the Ponte Vecchio. The rooms are comforting and yet functional with all of the modern conveniences such as a fax machine, voice messaging and even a private bar. Great service starts at the excellent "L'Incontro Restaurant & Bar" and runs through every level of hotel operation including the valet and laundry services as well as visitor information from an expert staff. (011-39-055-283313; www.rfhotels.com; doubles, \$345-385)

Editing Portfolio



To Whom It May Concern,

This note is to confirm that Amanda Brockus worked as an Editorial Assistant from January 2006 to April 2007 at the Ginkgo Tree Review. The review, which I edit, is a professional literary magazine distributed nationally in the United States and featuring the work of some of this country's most distinguished authors. We have published poetry and prose by John Ashbery, Rick Moody, Wally Lamb, Debra Spark and many other well-known authors, and have received a number of awards since our founding nearly a decade ago. Included in these awards are three Pushcart Prize nominations and the publication of Rick Moody's "Against Cool" in the Best American Essays of 2004.

During her time at the Ginkgo Tree Review, Amanda was an invaluable asset to the journal. She evaluated manuscript submissions, copyedited nearly all accepted pieces, and worked as a top editor on some of them. In each of these capacities she not only excelled, but also exhibited a wonderful work ethic, a scrupulous attention to detail, and a passion for language. Amanda is a very capable editor who will be an asset to any organization. She knows when to let an authors' words speak for themselves, and when to polish them and improve upon their syntax so that the meaning shines through.

I'd be delighted to discuss Amanda's work at our journal in greater detail, either over the phone or by email, should you wish. In the meantime, I wish you

All best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Randall Fuller'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Randall Fuller
Editor, Ginkgo Tree Review
900 North Benton Avenue
Springfield, MO 65802
(417-873-7220)
rfuller@drury.edu

Amanda M. Nave

To Whom it May Concern:

I worked with Amanda Brockus at Neungyule Education, a publisher located in Seoul, South Korea, for approximately one year from 2012 to early 2013. Although we were employed in the same position, I had been with the company for several years at that point and was closely involved in the hiring process.

Amanda was recommended to us by another division of our company; after an interview, the decision to offer her the job was made immediately. It has always been a challenge to find native speakers in Seoul who possess both a high level of understanding of English grammar and the interpersonal skills required to share this information with their Korean coworkers.

There is no doubt that Amanda has a passion for the English language. As an editor and proofreader, she was detail oriented, extremely persistent and meticulous in her research. She was also proactive in seeking out ways to improve the system, such as creating an online in-house style guide for the other native speakers to contribute to and use as a reference. What's more, she has a friendly disposition that made her coworkers, many of whom were not fluent in English, find her approachable.

I am quite comfortable in recommending Amanda for any position related to writing or editing. If you have any further questions, you may contact me by email at patrick@neungyule.com.

Sincerely,

Patrick Ferraro

Editing Portfolio

Amanda M. Nave

Columbia, MO ☎ 816.875.6243 ☎ brockusa@gmail.com

Education INTESOL International, Knutsford, Cheshire, UK
Certificate in TESOL (150 hours) (2007)
UK College of Teacher's TESOL Certificate (2007)
Teaching Practice Certificate (40 hours) (2007)

Drury University, Springfield, MO
Bachelor of Arts Degree *Majors:* Writing and Music
Minors: English and Global Studies (2006)

Employment **Neungyule Education**, Seoul, Korea
Writer/Editor (2012 – 2013)
Wrote and edited passages, scripts and other ELT content for the Korean market.

CETL Korea, Seoul, Korea
Researcher (2009 – 2011)
Created and edited more than eighty ELT textbooks for the Korean market.

YBM 1:1 English Academy, Seoul, Korea
Teacher (2008 – 2009)
Taught writing and conversation classes for high-school and adult students.

YES Youngdo Academy, Seoul, Korea
Teacher (2007 – 2008)
Created materials for class use and taught writing-focused English classes to children.

Other work has included English teaching, office work, banquet serving and child care.

Experience **Hyang-gi Praise**, Seoul, Korea
Translator (2009 & 2013)
Translated a musical and several praise songs to English from the original Korean.

Ginkgo Tree Review, Springfield, MO
Editorial Assistant (2006 – 2007)
Reviewed submissions, and copy and top edited manuscripts for a national literary journal.

Skills -Conversational Spanish, intermediate Korean.
-Proficient in the Microsoft Office Suite, Windows, Macintosh and the Internet, and experienced in the Adobe Creative Suite.

“There is no doubt that Amanda has a **passion** for the English language. As an editor and proofreader, she was **detail oriented**, extremely persistent and meticulous in her research.”

Patrick Ferraro *Neungyule Education*

“Amanda is a very capable editor who will be **an asset to any organization**. She knows when to let an authors’ words speak for themselves, and when to polish them and improve upon their syntax so that the meaning shines through.”

Dr. Randall Fuller *Gingko Tree Review*

“Amanda is at the top of her game with written language. She is **meticulous** about her work, and consistently turns out excellent material. She is **a quick-minded editor** who is always happy to lend skillful knowledge and assistance.”

Nick Scherf *Neungyule Education*