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Xochiquetzal Candelaria’s book *Empire* was published by the University of Arizona Press. Her work has appeared in *The Nation, Tin House, New England Review, Seneca Review* and other magazines. She is the recipient of awards including an NEA fellowship in poetry and grants from the Vermont Studio Center, Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference, the Barbara Deming Memorial Fund, and the LEF Foundation. Her poetry and essays have been anthologized, most recently in *Other Musics: New Latina Poetry, The Poetry of Capital,* and *The Awesome Difficult Work of Love: June Jordan’s Legacy.* She teaches writing at City College of San Francisco.

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Afsheen Farhadi’s short fiction and essays have appeared in *Ploughshares*, the *Southern Review*, *Witness*, *The Rumpus*, *The Millions*, *Catapult*, the *Florida Review*, and elsewhere. He has a PhD in creative writing from the University of Cincinnati and is currently the Hughes Fellow in Creative Writing (Prose) at Southern Methodist University.

Raphael Jenkins prefers to go by Ralph, as he feels it suits him better and he’s heard every Ninja Turtle joke ever uttered. He, like Issa Rae, is rooting for everybody Black. His work is forthcoming or has been featured on his momma’s fridge, in his close friends’ inboxes, and elsewhere.

A three-time Fulbright fellow to India and *New England Review*’s nonfiction editor, Elizabeth Kadetsky is the author of four books, including the Juniper Prize–winning memoir *The Memory Eaters*. Her essays, narrative journalism, short stories, and comics have appeared in the *New York Times*, *American Scholar*, and elsewhere. She teaches creative writing at Penn State.

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**Jean McDonough** is working on a collection of nonfiction inspired by Pablo Picasso’s *Guernica*. Essays within this series have been published in *Water~Stone Review, Under the Sun*, and *Catamaran*. Several have also received awards, including a notable mention in *The Best American Essays 2023* and 2024 Pushcart Prize nominations.

**Lilly U. Nguyen** is a writer based in San Diego. Her writing is published or forthcoming in *River Teeth, the Southern Review, Tahoma Literary Review*, and the *North American Review*. She has won awards from PEN Emerging Voices, Tin House, and Hedgebrook. She is the American-born daughter of Vietnamese boat people.

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**Nicole Santalucia** is the author of *The Book of Dirt* (NYQ Books), *Spoiled Meat* (Headmistress Press), and *Because I Did Not Die* (Bordighera Press). She teaches at Shippensburg University and lives with her wife in central Pennsylvania.

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Amy Silverberg is a writer and comedian based in Los Angeles. Her short fiction has appeared in Best American Short Stories, the Paris Review, Granta, and elsewhere. Her debut novel, First Time, Long Time, is forthcoming from Grand Central Publishing. She holds a PhD in creative writing and literature from USC.

Caroline O’Connor Thomas is a poet who lives in Portland, Oregon. Her poetry has appeared in Salt Hill, Ghost Proposal, Sixth Finch, Tin House, and other publications. Her chapbook Unusual Light Source is available from White Stag Publishing.

Nora Rose Tomas is a queer interdisciplinary writer based in Brooklyn.