


LITERATURE

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Ecstasy, Agony & Creation: Bailey Doogan on Persephone Speaks

Coming in Hot at the UA Poetry Center

The Girl Revolution: Investing in Leadership for the Future

Ecstasy, Agony, and Creation
An Interview with Artist Bailey Doogan by Jeanmarie Simpson on [Persephone Speaks](#)

"Bailey Doogan's work has inspired me for many years. As I found myself turning 50, and coming to terms with the effects of aging on my mind and body, her work that illuminates the female experience, the experience of depression and loss, I wanted to have a sit-down dialogue with her."
-- Jeanmarie Simpson



Excerpted from Persephone Speaks:
"BD: There's a point where I'm working on the drawing at the very beginning that is wonderful, ecstatic - everything is just flowing and its all coming together, and then it's struggle, struggle struggle, and then maybe another epiphany, but then struggle, struggle struggle, and then some point where I know what I'm doing and it's all just ecstatic. I'm obviously a two-dimensional gal, but it feels like I'm crawling over the surface of the form, and it feels like I'm modeling - there's a kind of energy, the marks that define the face or the body."


[Read more from Bailey Doogan's interview on Persephone Speaks.](#)

Poet of the Iranian People Rocks the Airwaves
Simin Behbahani named mtvU's next poet laureate




Iranian poet Simin Behbahani, 82, was named mtvU's (MTV University) poet laureate in October.
Poet's and Writers recently featured the story, drawing attention to the fact that the choice was a welcomed surprise coming from MTV's college network. The network selected Behbahani because she is "the poet of the people of Iran." Ross Martin, a poet and a senior vice president at MTV Networks said, "She doesn't just tell stories about struggle and oppression but also about the beauty of the people; of the land, its culture and history." Behbahani suffers from macular degeneration, but her poet spirit doesn't. Check out the story from [PW here](#) and get inspired by Behbahani and her poetic instrument, a large Magic Marker.

Powder's "Explosive Words"
A Review by Eline Lipkin



Writer Eline Lipkin gives [Powder: Writing by Women in the Ranks from Vietnam to Iraq](#) a rave review on "[Girl W/ Pen!](#)," a blog and forum dedicating to dispelling "modern myths concerning gender" and "encouraging other writers, scholars and thinkers to do the same." Lipkin says "the writing is viscerally felt" as each female soldier recounts her personal experience with wartime horrors - both in combat and within the ranks. She concludes the review powerfully, saying: "A testament to the power of story, of poetry, and of survival, the contributors' words take what is burned into memory and make their words explode off the page."



Lipkin is a girl advocate and the recent author of *Girls' Studies* (Seal Press) and *The Errant Thread* (Kore Press). Read her review [here](#) and browse other articles at "Girl W/ Pen!"

Coming in Hot at UA Poetry Center

The University of [Arizona Poetry Center](#) will be hosting a reading of **Coming in Hot on January 28th!** The reading will be performed again by [Jeanmarie Simpson](#) with sound artist [Vicki Brown](#) on strings. Come to this timely and poignant reading of stories from real women soldiers. The event is open to the public and donations will be accepted at the door. Read more about *Coming in Hot* in [this article](#) from the Poetry Center newsletter.



Photo by Krista Joy Niles

Bring your friends who missed the September premiere to this intimate reading of Kore's controversial play.

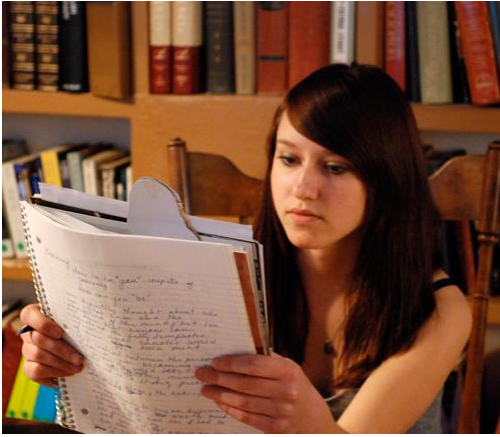
The Girl Effect is a Revolution
Investing in the Future of Girls



Did you know that an extra year of secondary school raises a girl's future wages by 15-25%?
How about that one in seven girls in developing countries marries before age 15? These are just some of the facts we learned at [girleffect.org](#). As Kore prepares to launch a mentoring program and begin a new semester of the Grrls Literary Activism Workshop, we are fascinated and thrilled by a project called [The Girl Effect](#). The project is all about **giving power back to adolescent girls living in poverty**. By donating time, services and money, and promoting education, individuality and responsibility, The Girl Effect gives young girls in developing nations around the world the chance to "get educated, stay healthy and HIV-negative, marry when she chooses, raise a healthy family, and have the opportunity to raise the standard of living for herself, her brothers, her family, her community, and her country."

Read [this article](#) at *World Pulse* to learn more about the Girl Revolution and visit [www.girleffect.org](#) to get involved today.

Grrls Workshop in the Spotlight
Fall Showcase, Spring Workshop & Pilot Mentoring Program



Mattea Wallace, Photo by Nhu Tien Lu

The Kore Grrls Literary Activism Showcase is today, Wednesday, January 20, from 5:30 - 6:30 at the University of Arizona Poetry Center. Please join the Fall 09 participants as they present their videos, read their writing, and exhibit their artwork. It's time to celebrate and get inspired!

As the fall semester wraps up don't forget to have your girls apply to the spring workshop for Grrls Literary Activism. The application **deadline is February 1st**, so visit our [website](#) or contact Nhu Tien at Grrls@korepress.org and grab a spot today!

Kore is also looking for young mentees to participate in our three month-long pilot mentoring program to run concurrently with the

Extended Deadlines for Open Submissions and Translation Award

Due to technical issues with our submissions software, the **deadline for open submissions is now February 14, 2010.**



Kore is also extending the **Translation Award deadline to February 28th, 2010** as we do international advertising to draw a wider variety of submissions making the award more competitive.

Keep your new year's resolution this year: get writing and submit now!

spring workshop. Girls will be matched with professional writers and have the opportunity to work on their craft in a one-on-on mentor relationship. Please contact Nhu Tien at Grrls@korepress.org for more information.



Bordering on Inhumane

The Politics and Tragedies of Secure Borders

Tucson's Margaret Regan's new book, *The Death of Josseline, Immigration Stories from the Arizona-Mexico Borderlands* (Beacon Press 2010) is a timely and thought provoking work that contributes to the ongoing immigration discourse that is so prevalent within our government, media and daily lives. Regan, a writer for the *Tucson Weekly*, pulls from her personal experiences during 10 years of interacting and traveling with migrants, patrol officers, local residents, hospital workers, and activist groups. She centers her research on the heavily traveled area between Sonora, Mexico and Tucson, Arizona - a part of the world all too familiar to those of us in the southwest. Regan uses the tragic death of a fourteen year old girl as a centerpiece around which other stories unfold, capturing the very human aspect of an issue that is often treated in a very inhumane way.

Want to get involved? Check out the website for [Humane Borders](#) and [Border Action Network](#).

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