

## Editor's Note

As the new editor of the *Alabama Literary Review*, I'm pleased to present the 2024 issue (Volume 33). Most of the work assembling this issue was done by our outgoing editor William B. Thompson. My job, this time, has been merely to add a few additional selections and finalize the layout. I'd like to express thanks to Bill for his many years devoted to this journal. He started as poetry editor in 2007 and served in that capacity for three years before becoming the general editor in 2010. Under his guidance, we have produced fifteen issues, including this one.

With Bill's retirement from Troy University this past year, I've now assumed the general editorship of the *ALR*. I'm not new to the journal, having been fiction editor since 2021 and having designed and maintained the web site since 2011. It's an honor to assume this new role, and I hope to continue the journal's longstanding tradition of publishing excellent material from contemporary authors.

For the time being, I don't plan to make any major changes to the way the journal is run—with one exception: Effective immediately, we will begin accepting digital submissions through our web site at <http://spectrum.troy.edu/alr>. If you prefer to send paper submissions, you may still do so. My hope is that accepting digital submissions will streamline the editorial process by making file-handling more manageable and by setting us up to respond more quickly to submissions.

I have a few other goals in mind in the long term. First, I hope to get more people involved in the journal's day-to-day activities locally—both to second-guess me and to prepare another generation to take over my place eventually. Along those lines, thanks are due to Jill Magi for her help in assessing recent submissions. Additionally, I'd like to publicize our authors a bit more in future years, perhaps by having online literary readings and/or workshops. I'm open to other suggestions if any readers would like to send them.

Many thanks to those of you who read the *ALR* regularly, and thanks, especially, to our contributors, without whom the journal simply could not exist. 🍀

—Ben P. Robertson  
Troy, Alabama, USA  
21 April 2025



Cloudscape, 2025