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EDITOR'S NOTE

The fifth year of *Re:Search, the Undergraduate Literary Criticism Journal at the University of Illinois* has now come to an end, and we could not have been luckier to act as the leaders of such an unforgettable year for the journal. This issue passed through many hands as the year progressed, with each person involved making a critical contribution to the final result that you're reading today. We would first like to thank our executive board; without their hard work, we would have no copy editors or a way to format the journal, nor would we have had any organized events like we did this year. Of course, without our dedicated authors, we would not have a journal to present to you. Their interests and the passion through which they pursue them is what keeps this journal full every year. From the first concepts in their proposals to the final edits, we have truly enjoyed working with them and seeing their hard work culminate in such profound ways. Just as important as our authors, we would like to thank every faculty member who has helped us this year. From the faculty members who took time to offer personalized advice to our authors to our very own Lori Newcomb, who has been guiding this journal since its inception in 2014. Our graduate advisor, Brandon Jones, and Professor Newcomb contribute greatly every year to our copy editing process and beyond. Their guidance has helped us in creating a journal worthy of praise year after year.

This issue also would not have been possible without the help and support from the following people and organizations outside of the English Department: Paula Carns, Head of the Literature and Languages Library; Merinda Kaye Hensley, Digital Scholarship Liaison and Instruction Librarian; Billy Tringali, graduate assistant; and the Office of Undergraduate Research. All of you have given us the support critical to a successful issue year after year. In our own department, we would like to thank Andrea Stevens, Director of Undergraduate Studies; Vicki Mahaffey, Head of the English Department; and, of course, everyone in the English Advising Office: Kristine McCoskey, Anna Ivy, Kirstin Wilcox, and Nancy Rahn. Having this immense support from within the department that houses the journal plays a large role in its success. We were proud to receive eighteen proposals this year, from which we selected seven for publication. These papers range from studies of literature, to music and lyrics, and even to films. We are extremely proud that *Re:Search* has become a place of critical conversation not only for literature, but also for other forms of media. Each and every one of our authors have done a tremendous job with their pieces, and we are proud to be given the opportunity to publish them this year and give them a platform from which they can make their voices heard. We are also pleased to have published papers from English, Creative Writing, and related majors, emphasizing that *Re:Search* is a place for critical conversation across a variety of studies.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Lastly, we would like to extend our thanks to Ana V. Fleming and Marilyn MacNamara, last year's Co-Editors in Chief and leaders of *Re:Search*. We could not have done any of this without the guidance and aid you gave to us last year. Thank you for laying the groundwork for such a successful year and continuing to uphold the vision of the journal as a place for students in the humanities to share their work and research on such a wide variety of subjects. We look forward to seeing the kinds of work that authors publish with *Re:Search* in the future, and are proud to have been a part of the journal for the 2017-18 year.

Hannah Downing and Zoe Stein
Co-Editors in Chief