430 Burrowes Building, University Park, Pennsylvania 16802 408.206.3217 jbt19@psu.edu

ACADEMIC FOCUS:

"Spooky literature," considered broadly. Includes Gothic literature (18th and 19th century British, transatlantic & cross-genre articulations, as well as 20th century & contemporary), ghost stories, weird fiction, horror literature, and folklore. I'm working on two long-term projects that may or may not be related: (1) to discern what makes Gothic literature Gothic—in other words, what is it about Gothic literature that can bridge literary traditions as diverse as the early British Gothic in the strain of *The Castle of Otranto* and 21st century traditions exemplified in publications like *Midwestern Gothic*; and (2) I am working on a theoretical articulation of the "spooky" in terms of form, affect, and effect in horror literature, as distinct from the registers of fear, terror, the eerie, etc.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., English (in progress). Pennsylvania State University. Expected date of graduation: May 2023.

M.A., English. Pennsylvania State University, 2019.

B.A., English (Literature & Writing tracks), 2017. Minors in Editing & Publishing and Computer Science. Whitworth University, Spokane, WA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record:

ENGL 15 Rhetoric and Composition, Pennsylvania State University, 2018 - Present.

Creative Writing, Restorative Justice Initiative, Pennsylvania State University, 2018. Taught creative writing at the Benner State Correctional Institution in Bellefonte, PA.

Other Teaching Experience:

Teaching Assistant, EL 281 Introduction to Literary Editing, Whitworth University, 2016.

Teaching Assistant, EL 210 Writing II, Whitworth University, 2016.

Writing Workshop Instructor, EL 319 Writing in the Community Practicum, Whitworth University, 2016.

Information Technology Guest Lecturer, Whitworth Computer Science Community Outreach Program, Rogers High School, Spokane, WA, 2014.

EDITORIAL WORK

Creative Nonfiction Editor, Script, Whitworth University, 2016 – 2017.

Assistant Fiction Editor, Rock & Sling: A Journal of Witness, Whitworth University, 2016 – 2017. (Poetry & fiction reader, 2014 – 2016.)

Editor, *Vox Vol. 1.* Whitworth University, 2016 – 2017. Special issue of *Rock & Sling* in response to the 2016 election.

Fiction Reader, Willow Springs, Eastern Washington University, 2016 - 2017.

Founding Editor, Inkslinger Vol. 1. Whitworth University, 2016.

Creative writing anthology compiled from four writing workshops in the Spokane community.

Reviewer, The Review Review, thereviewreview.net, 2015 - 2017.

Wrote reviews of literary magazines.

ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Archives Assistant, Whitworth University, 2016.

Processed archival collections, fielded research questions from faculty. Most significant project was the re-processing of the entire print collection of *The Whitworthian*, the university's student newspaper, from 1905 to present.

Research Assistant, Dr. LuElla D'Amico, Whitworth University 2016.

Worked with Dr. D'Amico to organize the Harriet Beecher Stowe Society 20th Anniversary Conference.

Research Assistant, Dr. James Deutsch, Program Curator, Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage, Washington, D.C., 2016.

Performed archival research for Dr. Deutsch relating to the WWII Allied bombing campaign against the Ploesti oil fields in Romania. Primary collection was the Veterans History Project, which is part of the Library of Congress.

Writing Consultant, Whitworth Composition Commons (writing center), 2015.

Led writing workshops for undergraduate classes and provided one-on-one writing consultations for undergraduate and graduate students.

LEADERSHIP

Vice President, Westminster Round, Whitworth University, 2016 - 2017.

Planned readings and mixers for English department club. Facilitated continuity of English department traditions between outgoing and incoming students.

Chairman, Spooky Scary Society, Whitworth University, 2014 – 2017, Pennsylvania State University 2017 - Present.

Hosted a literary and cinematic horror appreciation and analysis group. Held two meetings per month that combine informal lectures with primary readings in various horror topics. Society Minutes posted at www.spookyscarysociety.com.

Lead Technologist, Spokane Catholic Charities Computer Refurbishment Project, 2013 – 2016.

Planned and led computer refurbishment project hosted by Spokane Catholic Charities. My involvement helped to provide more than one hundred computers to formerly homeless Spokane residents, which allowed them to search for jobs, return to school, and rejoin society at large.

PRESENTATIONS & INVITED SPEAKERSHIPS

"Folk Horror: New Media and Uncanny Enchantment." Remarks given at the Spooky Society. Bellefonte, PA, 29 Oct. 2019.

"Folk Horror vs. Folklore: Bringing Lore and Horror Back Together." Remarks given at the Spooky Society. Bellefonte, PA, 26 Sep. 2019.

"Communication's Interpretive Algorithms and Re-Compilation Thresholds: Literature as Engagement Emulator." International Conference on Romanticism, Clemson University, Greenville, SC, 2018.

"A Conversation with Members of the Spooky Scary Society." *Schlow Library Podcast* episode 10, Schlow Centre Region Library, State College, PA, 24 Oct. 2018.

"Sentimental Horror: New Interpretations of Stowe's Gothic Stories." Harriet Beecher Stowe Society 20th Anniversary Conference, Whitworth University, Spokane, WA, 2016.

"Reversed Causality: An Examination of the Facts Surrounding the Now-Defunct Greenwood Tunnel, the Great Northern Railway Company, and the 1974 World Expo." Phi Alpha Theta Regional Conference, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA, 2016.

PUBLICATIONS

"Year in Conferences—2018." Co-authored with Rachel Linnea Brown, Susanna Compton, Ryan Charlton, and Amy Huang. *ESQ: A Journal of Nineteenth-Century American Literature and Culture*, 65.1 (2019).

"Warrior Ethos." Creative Nonfiction. *The Main Street Rag* 21.4 (Fall 2016).

"On Call." Fiction. Third place, "Quarter-Life Crisis" anthology entry contest. *Songs of My Selfie*. Three Rooms Press, 2015.

"The Fabricator." Poetry. Script 2014.

CONFERENCES ATTENDED

The Fourth Biennial Dr. Henry Armitage Memorial Scholarship Symposium of New Weird Fiction and Lovecraft-Related Research, Providence, RI, 2019.

International Conference on Romanticism, Clemson University, 2018.

C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists, University of New Mexico, 2018.

Spokane Intercollegiate Research Conference, Gonzaga University, 2017.

Northwest Undergraduate Conference on Literature, University of Portland, 2017.

Harriet Beecher Stowe Society 20th Anniversary Conference, Whitworth University, 2016.

Society for the Study of Women Writers Northwest Region Study Group, Whitworth University, 2016.

Phi Alpha Theta NW Regional Conference, Western Washington University, 2016.

AWP Conference & Bookfair. Attended as *Rock & Sling* staff, 2015 – 17.

H.P. Lovecraft Film Festival, Portland, OR, 2008 - Present.

HONORS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

Center for American Literary Studies Research Travel Grant, Pennsylvania State University, 2018.

Enhanced Graduate Scholar Fellowship, Pennsylvania State University, 2017 - present.

Weyerhaeuser Younger Scholar Project, Whitworth University, 2016 - 2017.

Yearlong independent research project under the direction of a faculty advisor. Included a research grant.

Ben B. Cheney Foundation Scholarship, Whitworth University, 2016 - 2017.

For graduating seniors who have excelled academically, and exemplify outstanding abilities in leadership in community service both on and off campus and in the greater Spokane area.

Roy and Leona Nelson Foundation Scholarship, 2015.

"The Value of Glue." First place, Whitworth University College of Arts and Sciences Essay Contest, 2015.

"The Legends of Saint Augustine: The Myth Illuminates the Man." Best undergraduate research paper, Whitworth University Writing Awards, 2015.

Herman Oscar Schumacher Scholarship for Worthy Young Men, Spokane, WA, 2014 and 2015.

Army Achievement Medal. US Army, 2009.

Eagle Scout. Boy Scouts of America Troop 400, Cupertino, CA, 2007.