

## **Jess Rafalko**

MA Candidate in English  
Pennsylvania State University

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### **Education**

MA English, anticipated May 2022  
Pennsylvania State University  
Research Interests: American literature and pop culture; narrative/genre theory and aesthetics; Marxism and critical university studies

MFA Creative Writing (Fiction), May 2018  
The Ohio State University  
Thesis: *These Lines Are Liabilities* (novel)  
Thesis Committee: Michelle Herman (Dir.), Nick White

BA English, *summa cum laude*, December 2013  
King's College (Wilkes-Barre, PA)

### **Honors and Awards**

Master of Arts Excellence in Teaching Award  
Penn State University Program in Writing and Rhetoric, 2021

Thesis and Dissertation Completion Fellowship  
The Ohio State University Department of English, 2018

The Haidee Forsyth Burkhardt Award in Creative Nonfiction  
The Ohio State University Creative Writing Program, 2017

The Vincent D. Garvey Jr. Memorial Award for English  
King's College, 2014

Editor's Prize  
*The Apple Valley Review*, 2013

Short Fiction Award  
Delta Epsilon Sigma Honor Society, 2012

### **Department Service**

Faculty Representative  
Penn State English Graduate Organization (EGO), 2021-2022

### **University Teaching Experience**

Pennsylvania State University, Department of English  
Graduate Teaching Assistant, Fall 2020 to present

The Ohio State University, Department of English  
Graduate Teaching Associate, Fall 2015 to Fall 2017

King's College, Department of English  
Adjunct Instructor of English, Summer 2016

### **Publications**

#### Short Stories

"In the Neighborhood." *One Story*. Issue #223 (20 December 2016). Print.

"News, Unreported" and "Notes Left For My Minor Suicide Attempts (Ages Nine, Twenty, and Thirty-One)." *Apple Valley Review*. 8.1 (Spring 2013). Online.

"The Dog Sitter." *Delta Epsilon Sigma Journal*. 57.1 (Spring 2012). Print.

#### Reviews

"Review of *Ciao, Suerte* by Annie McGreevy." *The Journal*. 40.2 (Spring 2016). Online.