

Kyoko Mori
3039 Macomb Street NW #35
Washington, DC 20008
Telephone: 617-899-5972
kmori@gmu.edu

Academic Appointments/Work Experience:

Professor of English, 2011-present; Associate Professor of English, 2005-2011; George Mason University.

Fiction and Nonfiction Faculty Member, Low-Residency MFA Program, Lesley University, 2005-present.

Kratz Writer-in-Residence, Spring 2013, Goucher College.

Briggs-Copeland Lecturer in Creative Writing, Harvard University, 1999-2005.

Fiction Faculty at the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, Summer 2001.

Associate Professor of English, St. Norbert College, 1984-1999 (tenured in 1988).

Graduate Teaching Assistant, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 1979-1983.

Education:

Doctor of Philosophy, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 1984.

Master of Arts, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 1981.

Bachelor of Arts. Rockford College, 1979.

Books:

Barn Cat (an Open Door novella): Gemmamedia Books, May 2013.

Yarn: Remembering the Way Home (memoir): Gemmamedia Books, 2010.

Stone Field, True Arrow (novel): Metropolitan, 2000; Picador USA, 2001.

Polite Lies: on Being a Woman Caught between Cultures (essays): Henry Holt, 1998; Fawcett, 1999.

One Bird (novel): Henry Holt, 1995; Fawcett, 1996.

The Dream of Water (memoir): Henry Holt, 1994; Fawcett, 1995.

Fallout (poems): Tia Chucha Press, 1994.

Shizuko's Daughter (novel): Henry Holt, 1993; Fawcett, 1994.

Essays:

“Training (with) My Cats.” *The Rumpus*, August 1, 2019.
<https://therumpus.net/2019/08/training-with-my-cats/>

“One Man’s Poison.” *Apple, Tree: Writers on Their Parents*. Ed. Lise Funderburg. University of Nebraska Press. 2019: 74-83.

“One Man’s Poison.” *Colorado Review*: 46:1 (Spring 2019): 90-98.

“On Birds, Cats, and Children.” *The Rumpus*, May 2018.
<http://therumpus.net/2018/05/on-birds-cats-and-children/>

“Runner’s Body.” *Conjunctions* 69 (Being Bodies): 321-332.

“A Difficult Balance.” *The Literary Hub*, September 6, 2017.
<https://lithub.com/on-being-both-a-writer-and-a-teacher/>

“Learning to Watch.” *Soap Opera Confidential*. Eds. Elizabeth Searle and Suzanne Strempek Shea. MacFarland Press. 2017: 72-82.

“Homebodies.” *The American Scholar*: 86:1 (Winter 2017): 70-81.

“Repetitions.” Friday, December 16, 2016. Essays Daily Advent Calendar. <http://www.essaysdaily.org>

“Pet Love.” *The American Literary Review*, Fall 2016. <http://www.americanliteraryreview.com>

“Grandmother.” *Aging: An Apprenticeship*. Ed. Nan Narboe. Red Notebook Press. 2017: 83-90.

“Cat Stories.” *Wave-Form: Twenty-First Century Essays by Women*. Ed. Marcia Aldrich. The University of Georgia Press. 2016: 42-55.

“Revisiting the Last Millennium: the Best American Essays 2000.” Monday, December 21, 2015. Essays Daily: Take One Daily and Call Me Every Morning. <http://www.essaysdaily.org>

“Pet Grief.” *Harvard Review*: 47 (2015): 96-113.

“Cat and Bird.” *Conjunctions*: 61 (*A Menagerie*): 317-334.

“Alone in the Garden.” *Washingtonian*: April 2013: 177-180.

“Through the Bamboo Blinds.” *Fourth Genre*: 14:1 (2012): 147-158.

“Between the Forest and the Well: Notes on Death.” *The Inevitable: Contemporary Writers Confront Death*. Eds. David Shields and Bradford Morrow. Norton, 2011: 33-49.

“The Purple Coat and the Pink Dress.” *The Written Wardrobe*:
<http://www.modcloth.com/the-written-wardrobe?id=17>.

“The Pleasure of Letting Go.” *Ploughshares*: 36.2 & 3 (2010): 165-169.

“Cardigans.” *Southern Indiana Review*: 16.2 (2009): 82-88.

“Forgetting to Remember: Why I keep a Journal.” *Writers and Their Notebooks*. Ed. Diana M. Raab. The University of South Carolina Press, 2010: 154-161.

“The Beauty of Help.” *Dirt: the Quirks, Habits, and Passions of Keeping House*. Ed. Mindy Lewis. Seal Press, 2009: 69-78.

“Shawls.” *Missouri Review*: 31.4 (2008): 36-47.

“Pullovers.” *The American Scholar*: 77.3 (2008): 66-80.

“Between the Forest and the Well: Notes on Death.” *Conjunctions*: 51 (2008): 51-62.

“The Language of Flowers.” *Chattahoochee Review*: 38.1 (2008): 120-128.

“Nonfiction Time-Travel Exercise.” *Naming the World and Other Exercises for the Creative Writer*. Ed. Brett Anthony Johnston. Random House, 2007: 78-81.

“Destination: Japan.” Salon.com, Summer 2006.
http://www.salon.com/books/literary_guide/2006/08/28/japan

“Yakudoshi.” *Columbia*: 43 (2006): 124-143.

“Imagining a Memoir, Remembering a Novel.” *Harvard Review*: 28 (2005): 101-112.

“Yarn.” *Harvard Review*: 24 (2003): 134-140. *The Best American Essays 2004*; 194-202.

“Doorways in the Air.” *911: The Book of Help*. Ed. Michael Cart. Cricket Books, 2002: 83-90.

“Becoming Midwestern.” *Becoming American: personal essays by first-generation immigrant women*. Ed. Meri Nana-ama Danquah. Hyperion, 1999: 138-145.

“What Anchors Us.” *Body*. Ed. Sharon Sloan Fiffer and Steve Fiffer. Bard, 1999: 175-189.

“The Wider Your Tires, the Better.” *33 Things Every Girl Should Know*. Ed. Tonya Bolden. Brown, 1998: 57-62.

Short Stories:

“The Other Woman” (flash fiction piece). *Open to Interpretation: Water’s Edge*. Ed. Anastasia Faunce. Taylor & O’Neill, 2011: 35.

“Starlings.” *The Sincerest Form of Flattery: Contemporary Women Writers on Forerunners in Fiction*. Ed. Jacqueline Kolosov and Kristen Sundberg Lunstrum. Lewis-Clark, 2008: 263-281.

“Black and White.” *Face Relations: 11 Stories that See Beneath the Skin*. Ed. Marilyn Singer. Simon and Schuster, 2004: 109-136.

- “The World of Weather.” *Prairie Schooner*: 75.4 (2001): 48-68.
- “Home-Making.” *Prairie Schooner*: 66.2: (1992): 4-10.
- “Grievances.” *Cross-Currents*: 10.1 (1991): 111-121.
- “Winter Sky.” *Kenyon Review*: 13.4 (1991): 11-18.
- “Floating Circles.” *Footwork 90* (1990): 115-121.
- “Yuki.” *Maryland Review*: 3.1 (1989): 32-48.
- “Yellow Mittens and Early Violets.” *Forbidden Stitch: an Asian-American Women’s Anthology*. Calyx Press, 1988: 31-38.
- “Points of Light.” *The Mystic Muse*: 1.1 (1987): 91-107.
- “Pink Trumpets.” *Sun Dog* (1985): 6.2: 12-20.
- “Wishbone.” *Aura*: 16 (1983): 90-93.
- “The First Cicada.” *The Apalachee Quarterly*: 18 (1982): 19-24.
- “Green Glass.” *The Cream City Review* (1979): 4.2/3: 57-63.

Poems (selected):

- “The Peach Pit.” *Power Lines: A Decade of Poetry from Chicago’s Guild Complex*. Tia Chucha Press, 1999: 128.
- “Suffering.” *Crab Orchard Review*: 5.1 (1999): 144-145.
- “The Slowness of Trees.” *The Progressive*: August 1999: 34.
- “The Heart of a Bonsai.” *Alaska Quarterly Review*: 17.1/2 (1998): 219.
- “Weighing My Beliefs in New Mexico,” “Ghosts,” “Gathering Alter Flowers.” *Paterson Literary Review*: 24/25 (1995): 87-88.
- “Fallout.” *Missouri Review*: 15.1 (1992): 24-26.
- “The Dignity of Still Life.” Passaic Community Poetry Center Award Anthology, 1991: 5-6.
- “Toward the Heaven of Perfect Stitches.” *Asian America*: 1 (1992): 73-76.
- “Uncles.” *The American Scholar*: 60.1 (1991): 31.
- “Points of Reference: Nineteen Poems.” *Sing Heavenly Muse*: 15 (1988, “Daily Rhythms: Three Women Poets Chosen by Liesel Mueller): 7-37.

“Two Winters: Ten Dramatic Monologues.” *The Journal of Ethnic Studies*: 14.2 (1986): 127-134.

“Every Woman.” *Denver Quarterly*: 21.2 (1986): 24-27.

“The Bee Sting.” *Beloit Poetry Journal*: 36.2 (1985): 16-17.

Awards and Honors:

“Pet Grief” selected for “Notable Essays of 2016” by Robert Atwan (*The Best American Essays 2017*).

One Bird selected for the Children’s Literature Association Phoenix Award 2015.

“The Pleasure of Letting Go” selected for the “Notable Essays of 2010” by Robert Atwan (*The Best American Essays 2011*).

“Pullovers” selected for the “Notable Essays of 2008” by Robert Atwan (*The Best American Essays 2009*).

“Imagining a Memoir, Remembering a Novel” selected for the “Notable Essays of 2005” by Robert Atwan (*The Best American Essays 2006*).

“Yarn” selected for *The Best American Essays 2004*.

Polite Lies short-listed for the Martha Albrand Nonfiction Award: PEN, 1999.

Outstanding Achievement Recognition: the Wisconsin Library Association, 1998, for *Polite Lies*.

The Best Novel of 1995, the Council of Wisconsin Writers, for *One Bird*.

The Best Novel of 1993, the Council of Wisconsin Writers, for *Shizuko’s Daughter*.

The Missouri Review Editor’s Prize in poetry for “Fallout,” 1992.

First Place, The Passaic County Community College Poetry Contest, for “The Dignity of Still Life,” 1991.

In Progress:

Cat and Bird: a memoir. Represented by Kathleen Anderson (kathleen@andersonliterary.com).

Readings (selected):

The Colony Club: Washington, DC, May 24, 2018 (for the Freya Project).

Politics and Prose: Washington, DC, July 9, 2017 (debut reading for *Soap Opera Confidential*).

Kramer Books: Washington, DC, February 8, 2017 (debut reading for the anthology, *Wave-Forms*).

Woodland Pattern: Milwaukee, Wisconsin, October 22, 2016.

Lesley University: Cambridge, Massachusetts, June 22, 2015.

The Writers' Place: Bethesda, Maryland, July 27, 2014.

Goucher College: Baltimore, Maryland, April 3, 2013.

AWP Convention: Chicago, Illinois, March 2, 2012.

Writers' Festival 2011, Montserrat, November 11-13, 2011.

Willamette University: Salem, Oregon, October 10, 2011.

"Readers' Loft" bookstore: Green Bay, Wisconsin, October 2, 2011.

The University of Wisconsin-Green Bay: Green Bay, Wisconsin, October 3, 2011.

The University of Wisconsin: Madison, Wisconsin, October 4, 2011.

PEN Faulkner Gala: Washington, DC, September 26, 2011.

"Cheryl's Gone" reading series: Big Bear Café, Washington, DC, April 21, 2011.

"Loops" yarn store: Washington, DC, April 16, 2011.

Association of Asian Studies Convention: Honolulu, Hawaii, April 1, 2011.

George Mason MFA faculty reading: AWP Convention, Washington, DC, February 3, 2011

Titcombs Books: East Sandwich, Massachusetts, October 30, 2010.

Cambridge Writers' Group: Cambridge, Massachusetts, October 29, 2010.

West Roxbury Library: West Roxbury, Massachusetts, October 27, 2010.

"Breathe" Books: Baltimore, Maryland, July 14, 2010.

The University of Maryland-College Park: April 24, 2010.

Bowdoin College: Brunswick, Maine, April 19, 2010.

George Mason University: March 26, 2010.

Boswell's Books: Milwaukee, Wisconsin, March 19, 2010.

Politics and Prose: Washington, DC, January 31, 2010.

Newtonville Books: Newtonville, Massachusetts, November 19, 2009.

Ropewalk Writers' Conference: New Harmony, Indiana, June 11, 2009.

The New School: New York, New York, April 29, 2009.

George Mason University (Fall for the Book): September 21, 2008.

Split Rock Writers' Conference: Minneapolis, Minnesota, July 21, 2008.

George Mason University (Fall for the Book): September 23, 2007.

Lesley University: Cambridge, Massachusetts, April 24, 2007.

PEN Faulkner Gala: Washington, DC, September 25, 2006.

St. Norbert College: De Pere, Wisconsin, April 20, 2006.

George Mason University (Fall for the Book): September 15, 2005.

Other Professional Presentations:

“What Can Classic Essays Teach Contemporary Essayists?” (Panel Presentation): The AWP Convention 2019, Portland, Oregon, March 28, 2019.

“Women’s Stories” (Moderator for the Panel): the AWP Convention 2019, Portland, Oregon, March 28, 2019.

“Writing the Pain” (Panel Presentation): The AWP Convention 2018, Tampa, Florida, March 10, 2018.

“The Tradition of Women Essayists” (Panel Presentation): The AWP Convention 2018, Tampa Florida, March 8, 2018.

“Why Gender?” (Panel Presentation): The AWP Convention 2017, Washinton DC, February 11, 2017.

Award acceptance lecture for the Phoenix Prize: The Children’s Literature Association Annual Convention 2015, Richmond, Virginia, June 20, 2015.

“Lyricist Maximus” (Panel Presentation): the AWP Convention 2013, Boston, April 7, 2013.

“Asian and Asian-American Women’s Autobiography,” Association of Asian Studies Convention, Honolulu, Hawaii, March 31, 2011.

“The Essay in the 21st Century,” AWP Convention, Washington, DC, February, 2011.

Introduced the readers (Lan Samantha Chang and Samantha Hunt) at the PEN Faulkner reading, November 1, 2010.

PEN Faulkner Awards Ceremony, May 8, 2010 (read the citations for 2 of the 5 finalists).

“The Past Becomes A Story,” AWP Convention, New York, 2008.

A reading from the story, “Starlings,” and discussion about women writers at AWP Convention, New York, 2008.

“Coming-of-Age novels,” AWP Convention, Atlanta, 2007.

Service at George Mason University:

MFA Director Search Committee (co-chair), Fall 2017-Spring 2018.

MFA Sub-Committee, Fall 2016-present.

MFA Committee, 2005 to present.

College Curriculum Committee, 2009 to 2012.

English Department Subcommittee to explore the possibility of a BFA in English, George Mason University, 2009 to 2011.

English Department Chair Search Committee, 2008.

Other Professional Service (selected):

Advisory Board for the Journal of Asian American Literature, September 2009 to 2012.

Nonfiction Judge for Intro, AWP, December 2011.

Judge for the USA Fellowships in Literature, August 2011.

Advisory Board for the PEN/Faulkner Award in Fiction, 2010-2012.

Judge for the PEN/Faulkner Award in Fiction, 2010.

Literature Panel for the NEA, Summer 2006.

PEN/Faulkner Writers in Schools Program, 2005 to 2010.

Judge for the Amy Lowell Traveling Fellowship, 1998-2005.

Fiction/Nonfiction Judge for the Pew Fellowships, 2001.

Great Lakes Representative for the Delegate Assembly, Modern Language Association, 1999-2001.

Membership in Professional Organizations:

The Association of Writers and Writing Programs

Phi Beta Kappa