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Anderbo (Issue 9)

Editor: Rick Rofihe

Web address: www.anderbo.com

What they publish: fiction, poetry, non-fiction, and photography

Submission Guidelines: Open to any “fact” or fiction of any length. Submissions are accepted via e-mail.

Simultaneous submissions are accepted. There is no fee to submit; therefore they do not pay on publishing.

Description of Publication: The website is updated frequently, but the main page can be a little confusing if you don’t stick to the links on the top of the page. They are always looking for new writers. Published one to six times a year.

Prose per Issue: They publish about 11 stories per issue.

Prose Reviews:

“Beginning Again with Zer0” by Natanya Ann Pulley is a plainspoken realistic story told in a domestic setting. Originally Lia’s computer password is “gazelle712,” but must change with each broken heart as to avoid an ex stealing from her online accounts. In the end, after going through a myriad of possible number combinations, she decides it is time to start over with “zer0,” as her password.

The change in Lia’s password directly follows her path as she changes herself. Pulley uses each and every password as a way to give an instance in this woman’s life, “gazelle712 became gazelle715 after three months. After Lia moved to a smaller apartment and broke up with her boyfriend.” This leads to a very unique story structure. With each new password there is a new complication. Pulley even uses the way that Lia types in the password to characterize her emotions about each new password, “Lia would be forced to look down at her keyboard and to re-position her hands and to press the keys more firmly than at any other moment in her day.” We don’t need any other clue that Lia is pissed off than the description of the verb, she pressed the keys firmly. It’s simple. It’s elegant.

“Chicagoo” by editor, Rick Rofihe is a plainspoken realistic story told in a domestic setting about various escapades the speaker has had sleeping with married women. Both “Chicagoo” and “Beginning Again with Zero” read like an instance collection.

While Pulley starts each instance with a new password, Rofihe begins each one with a new woman, “Estelle. The last time I saw Estelle was at the movie theater where we’d arranged to meet.” The structure of this piece is not as linear. The women seem to be named in order of relevance. The story ends when the speaker makes the realization: he is not the center of their lives. The ending included a clever touch with the summary of a letter he received from one of his lovers. “Hi Jimmy, she’d been busy, the kids and school this, the house and yard that” it’s an interesting way to make the ending leave a bigger impact than the intro, and characterizes the meaninglessness of this character’s life, that she’d rarely thought of him.

Rating: 7 for emerging writers. The website is easy to manage but be prepared to scroll to read old content. They embrace emerging writers and accept a decent amount of work that is updated frequently. Even their editors publish stories, allowing readers to understand their voice that drives the publication. The writing published is quality.