

ZEYNEP ÖZAKAT

EDUCATION

- 2017 – 2020 **Syracuse University**
M.F.A. Creative Writing (Fiction)
- Completed Future Professoriate Training within the English Department
- 2010 – 2014 **New York University Gallatin School of Individualized Study**
B.A. Individualized Major “Narrating the Self”

AWARDS & HONORS

- 2021 – 2022 Fiction Writing Fellowship, The Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown
- 2020 Syracuse University Graduate Dean’s Award for Excellence in Research and Creative Work
- 2020 Syracuse University English Department Leonard Brown Prize in Poetry
- 2019 Syracuse University English Department Shirley Jackson Prize in Fiction
- 2019 *Pushcart Prize Anthology XLIII* ‘Special Mention’
- 2014 1st place winner, December Fiction Open Contest, *Glimmer Train*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2025 Instructor, The Center for Fiction, “Haunted” –*Upcoming in February*
- 2024 Instructor, The Center for Fiction, “Crash Writing”
- 2024 - Present Writing Tutor, Minerva Educational Consultancy (Taiwan)
- 2022 - Present Writing Tutor, OPUS Educational Consultancy (Korea)
- 2022 - 2024 Writing Tutor, ARALIA Education (China, Canada, U.S.A.)
- 2024 Syllabus created for The Fisher Center at Syracuse University, “Writing New York City: A 2-Week Pre-College Writing Course”
- 2024 Instructor, The Center for Fiction, “Crash Writing”
- 2024 Instructor, The Center for Fiction, “The Science of Writing a Short Story: An 8-Week Writing Workshop”
- 2023 Instructor, Writing Workshops, “The Science of Writing a Short Story: 6-Week Creative Writing Course”

- 2022 Instructor, Catapult Online Fall 2022, 6-Week Creative Writing Course
- 2022 Instructor, Syracuse University Summer College, NYC Fisher Center
ENG 105 “Introduction to Creative Writing”
- 2022 Instructor, Ellipsis Writing Summer 2022 High School Writing Workshop
Fiction Workshop II.
- 2022 Instructor, Ellipsis Writing Summer 2022 High School Writing Workshop
Fiction Workshop I.
- 2020 Inaugural Instructor, Syracuse University Summer College, NYC Fisher
Center, ENG 105 “Introduction to Creative Writing”
- 2019 Instructor, Syracuse University English Department, ENG 107 “Living
Writers”
- 2018 Instructor, Syracuse University Rhetoric & Composition Department, WRT
205 “Research in Academic Writing”
- 2018 Instructor, Syracuse University Rhetoric & Composition Department, WRT
105 “Practices of Academic Writing”

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2023 – 2024 Associate Speech Writer, Gravity Strat LLC.
- 2018 – 2019 Editor-in-Chief, *Salt Hill Journal*
- 2017 – 2018 Fiction Editor, *Salt Hill Journal*
- 2009 – 2012 Book Reviewer, *Milliyet Sanat* (Istanbul, Turkey)

PUBLICATIONS

Short Stories

- Forthcoming* “For the Snake Who Swallowed Her Own Tail” in NAUSIKAE
- 2022 “What Happens After” in Summer 2022 of *Michigan Quarterly Review*
- 2017 “Aviculture” in Volume Spring/Summer 43.2 of *Black Warrior Review*
- 2016 “Fish Were Drowning” in Summer 2016 Online of *Gulf Coast*
- 2016 “Moving from Istanbul” in Issue #96 of *Glimmer Train Stories*

Craft Essay

- 2015 “It’s High School Biology Class All Over Again and Here’s Your Frog. His Name is Kafka” in March 2015 of *Glimmer Train Writers Ask*

MEDIA INTERVIEWS

- 2022 *Provincetown Independent*, “An Interview with Zeynep Özakat”
2017 *Sözcü Newspaper (Turkey)*, “A Turkish Girl’s Success Story in America”
2017 *Black Warrior Review*, “An Interview with Zeynep Özakat”

GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2021 – 2022 Writing Fellowship, The Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown
2020 *Katharine Bakeless Nason Scholarship*, The Breadloaf Environmental Writing
2020 Scholarship, The Juniper Summer Writing Institute
2020 Scholarship, Disquiet Conference in Lisbon
2018 – 2020 Graduate Teaching Assistantship, Department of English Syracuse University
2019 General Scholarship, The Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown
2017 – 2018 Syracuse University Creative Writing Scholar

READINGS

- 2023 Red Light Reading Series, Brooklyn, NY
2022 The People’s Parlor Reading Series, Provincetown, MA
2022 Fellows Reading, The Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown,
2021 Syracuse MFA Graduation Reading, Online
2020 Syracuse 3rd Year Fiction Cohort Reading, Online
2018 Syracuse 1st Year Fiction Cohort Reading, Faegan’s Pub & Café