

## **RON TANNER**

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### **EDUCATION**

**Ph.D.** Literature, concentration in Creative Writing, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
**M.F.A.** Fiction Writing, Iowa Writers' Workshop, University of Iowa  
**B.A.** English, Honors in Creative Writing, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:**

**Referee (consulting editor), Mosaic Magazine, 2014-**  
**Contributing Editor, West Branch, 2006-**  
**Contributing Editor, the Pushcart Press, 1990-**  
**Contributing Editor, Defunct! magazine, 2010-2014**  
**President, the Association of Writers and Writing Programs, 2008-2010**  
**Vice President, the Association of Writers and Writing Programs, 2006-2007**  
**Board member, the Association of Writers and Writing Programs, 2005-2011**

### **EMPLOYMENT**

Director, Good Contrivance Farm Writer's Retreat: [www.farmretreat.org](http://www.farmretreat.org) , 2017-  
Director, Preservation America: [www.preservationamerica.org](http://www.preservationamerica.org), 2013-  
Director, Marshall Islands Story Project ([www.mistories.org](http://www.mistories.org)), 2008-  
Chair, Writing Department, Loyola University-Maryland, 2019-2020  
Chair, Writing Department, Loyola University-Maryland, 2005-2008  
Chair, Communication Department, Loyola University-Maryland, 2000-2005  
Chair, Writing & Media department, Loyola University-Maryland, 1999-2000  
Professor, Loyola University-Maryland, 2004-2020  
Associate Professor, Loyola University-Maryland, 1996-2003  
Assistant Professor, Loyola University-Maryland, 1991-1996

### **AWARDS (partial list\*)**

2020 Elixir Press Book Prize, Fiction: *Far West*  
2020 Finalist, Narrative Magazine Fiction Contest for "Far West"  
2018 Loyola University Summer Grant  
2017 "Notable novel" of the year, American Library Association (for *Missile Paradise*)  
2014 Finalist, Creative Nonfiction national competition for the essay  
2014 Nachbahr Award, Loyola University, for outstanding contribution to the humanities  
2014 Cornelius O'Brien Lecture Award, National Council on Public History  
2013-14 Loyola University Sabbatical  
2013 Finalist, national competition, Autumn House Press (story collection)  
2013 Maryland Arts Council award (grant) for fiction  
2013 finalist, Lamar York Fiction Prize, national competition  
2013 finalist, Lamar York Nonfiction Prize, national competition  
2011 Fellow, Ragdale Center for Creative Arts  
2011 Fellow, Virginia Center for the Creative Arts  
2011 Finalist, national competition, the Hudson Prize (story collection)

2010 Second place, Florida Review Editors' Awards, national competition  
2010 Second place, Ropewalk Fiction Chapbook, national competition  
2010 Fellow, Norton Island Residency Program for Artists and Writers  
2009 Gertrude Press Fiction Prize, national competition,  
2009 Loyola University Summer Research Grant  
2009 Finalist, Flannery O'Connor story collection, national competition, U. of Georgia Press  
2008 Best of the Web award, "My Small Murders," Dzanc Books  
2008 Story South's Million Writers Award, "My Small Murders,"  
2008 National Park Service grant for preservation of Marshall Islands story culture  
2007 Towson Prize in Literature  
2007 Jack Dyer Fiction Prize, national competition, Crab Orchard Review  
2007 Loyola Summer Research Grant  
2007 Finalist, University of Michigan Press literary novel, national competition  
2006 Fellow, Ledig House for International Writers  
2006 Fellow, Visiting Writer, Lyon College  
2006 Loyola Sabbatical  
2005 Walter E. Dakin Fellow, Sewanee Writers' Conference  
2005 Loyola Summer Research Grant  
2004 Fellow, Norton Island Residency Program for Artists and Writers  
2003 Tennessee Williams Scholar, Sewanee Writers Conference  
2003 Loyola Summer Research Grant  
2002 Winner, G.S. Sharat Chandra Fiction Prize, short story collection, BkMk Press national competition; Janet Burroway, judge  
2001 Finalist, Flannery O'Connor story collection, national competition, U. of Georgia Press  
2001 Semi-finalist, University of Iowa Press short story collection, national competition  
2000 "Notable Essay of the Year" in Best American Essays 2000.  
2000 Loyola Summer Research Grant  
1999 Gold Medal, Pirate's Alley Faulkner Society national competition in short fiction  
1998 Charles Angoff Award for best fiction in The Literary Review  
1998-99 Loyola Sabbatical  
1997 Maryland State Arts Council Award for work in fiction  
1996 first place, New Letters Literary Award in short fiction, national competition  
1996 Nye Award for best article published in the Journal of Popular Culture in 1995  
1993 Loyola Summer Research Grant  
1991 The Best of the West award in short fiction  
1990 Finalist, Associated Writing Programs competition for short fiction collection  
1989-90 Pushcart Prize for short fiction  
1988-89 University of Wisconsin Dissertation Fellowship  
1986-89 University Fellow, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
1989 Nominee, G.E. Younger Writer's Award  
1988-89 James A. Michener Postgraduate Writing Fellowship  
\*nominated 12 times for the Pushcart Prize

## BOOKS

*Far West* (stories), Elixir Press (2021)  
*Missile Paradise* (novel), Ig Publishing, Brooklyn: 2016  
*From Animal House to Our House: A Love Story*, (memoir), Academy Chicago: 2012  
*Kiss Me, Stranger* (novel), Ig Publishing, Brooklyn: 2011.  
*A Bed of Nails* (stories), BkMk Press, 2003; second printing: 2006

## SHORT STORY PUBLICATIONS

"Far West," Narrative Magazine, 2021  
"Angels Sing." Everyday Fiction. Summer 2020.  
"The Happiest People." Pembroke Magazine. Spring 2019: 174-186.  
"Six Blind Cats." Mainstreet Rag. Summer 2018: 61-65.  
"Craigslit: A Rare Opportunity." Juked, July 2018.  
"Tarzan, Again." The Green Mountain Review. Spring 2015:  
"Winnemucca." The Chattahoochie Review, Spring 2013: 100-125.  
"Wheels." Gertrude Press chapbook, 2010.  
"Cats As Tuna." Iowa Review, Vol. 39.1, Spring 2009: 53-55.  
"The Yo Ho Ho Affair." Connecticut Review, Vol 31.1. Spring 2009:11-16.  
"The Boy With Black Nails." Waccamaw. Spring 2009.  
"My Small Murders." Wheelhouse Magazine, vol. 3, Summer 2007  
"Diversity!" Crab Orchard Review: 2007:  
"Rescue." West Branch, Summer 2006: 19-36.  
"Day Off." Short Story Vol. 10.2: 74-87.  
"Kiss Me, Stranger." West Branch, No. 53 (Fall 2003): 20-32.  
"Boom, Like That." Greensboro Review. Vol. 71: 114-126.  
"The Day His Wife's Face Froze." The Massachusetts Review Autumn 2001: 319-22.  
"Telephone." Chariton Review. 27.1: 36-39.  
"Wilderness" Descant 40. (Fall 2001): 7-18.  
"Tsumetai Kaze" Carolina Quarterly 53.1: 27-40.  
"Forty." ACM 35: 166-180.  
"You're A Sergeant." Mid-American Review. XX.1-2: 214-223.  
"Loaves and Fishes." Writers Forum 25 (Fall 1999): 61-69.  
"Handful of Nails." The Literary Review 41.4 (1998): 453-64.  
"Red Shoes." The Iowa Review 27.3 (winter 1997): 21-30.  
"A Bed of Nails." New Letters 63.2 (1996): 85-92.  
"High Heat for Cotton." The Quarterly 26 (1994): 114-122.  
"Still Life." Turnstile IV.2 (winter 1994): 12-33.  
"Talented Hands." Quarry West 31 (summer 1993): 14-22  
"The Ape in Me." Michigan Quarterly Review XXXII.2: 253-262  
"Save the Poor Dumb Creatures." Turnstile IV.1 (1993): 21-30.  
"Unbendable Arm." Chariton Review 18.1 (spring 1992): 25-32.  
"Do You Hear Me?" ACM 22 (1990): 179-188.  
"The Lesson." The Quarterly 14 (summer 1990): 69-76.  
"Catch a Falling Star." North Atlantic Review 1990: 72-80.  
"The Deep End." Crosscurrents (summer 1990): 94-106.  
"Jackpot." The Quarterly 13 (spring 1990): 61-74.

"Homecoming." The Florida Review 16.2-3 (fall 1989): 104-115.  
"Garbage." The Iowa Review 18.2 (fall 1988): 85-91.  
"Door to Door." Indiana Review 11.3 (spring 1988): 1-13.  
"The Hart House." American Fiction 88. Wesley Press, 1988.  
"Catch a Falling Star." LINQ 16.1 (1988): 31-37. [Australia]  
"Repairs." Carolina Quarterly 40.1 (fall 1987): 88-98.  
"The Last Draft." Washington Review 12.5 (1987): 18-19.  
"Dumb Luck." Mid-American Review 6.2 (1986): 21-30.  
"Drive My Car." Story Quarterly 18 (1984): 1-7.  
"Head Over Heels." Spectrum 26.1-2 (1984).  
"A Model Family." Indiana Review 6.3 (summer 1983): 51-58.  
"Teamwork." The New Orleans Review 10.4 (winter 1983): 37-41.

### PERSONAL ESSAYS

"Girls and Horses." The Missouri Review (online): June 13, 2019  
"Losing Will." The MacGuffin. Winter 2019: 107-120.  
"My Father's Secrets." Creative Nonfiction. Spring 2015:  
"The Last Draft." The Louisville Review. Spring 2015: 95-103.  
"Breaking and Entering." Baltimore Fishbowl, Summer 2013.  
"House Love." Style (February 2013): 45.  
"The Running Boy." Defunct magazine. Vol. 3.3, Fall 2012.  
"Doodler." Florida Review, Winter 2011: 27-37.  
"Jars and Jars of Them." Defunct magazine. Vol. 3, Spring 2011.  
"The Farmer's Robot." Defunct magazine. Vol. 1.2: October 2010.  
"Nana Gragg." Southern Humanities Review. Spring 2010: 144-162.  
"Kissing." Missouri Review. Fall 2009: 73-83.  
"Preservation." Guernica magazine. December 2008  
"Baltimore's Lightman, R.I.P." Smile, Hon., You're in Baltimore. Spring 2009.  
"From Our House to Animal House." This Old House Magazine (Jan./Feb. 2008)  
"Fashionable Upstarts and the Etiquette of Cool." Willow Springs vol 46 (summer 2000)  
"My Small Murders." Ascent vol. 23.4 (Spring 1999): 44-56.  
"Southern Comforts." Crazyhorse. Vol. 53: 88-102.  
"Letter Perfect." Minutes From the Lead Pencil Club. Ed. Bill Henderson.  
New York: Pushcart Press, 1996: 72-83.  
"Flashlight." Cimarron Review. Vol 102 (January 1993): 98-106.

### ARTICLES, REVIEWS, & ACADEMIC ESSAYS

"Paranoia and the Pursuit of Happiness." The Humanist: March/April 2018: 28-32.  
"Worthy." Book review. West Branch. Winter 2018.  
"The Greatest Show." Book review. West Branch. Spring/Summer 2015.  
"Preserving America." The Alliance Review. Winter 2013.  
"How to Sell a Book in America: the DIY Book Tour." Poets & Writers (Jan./Feb. 2013).  
"The Greatest Show." Book review. West Branch. Fall/Winter 2013.  
"Kitchen Conundrum." Victorian Homes. Spring 2012: 56-62.  
"The Myth of the Tech-Savvy Student." Chronicle of Higher Education. Nov. 2011  
"Peter Cameron and Nahid Rachlin." A critical introduction. West Branch Wired.

Winter/Spring 2011.

- "Toad's Museum of Freaks and Wonders." Book review. West Branch. Fall/Winter 2010.
- "From Our House to Animal House." This Old House Magazine (Jan./Feb. 2008):
- "Someday This Pain Will Be Good for You." Book review. West Branch. Spring/Summer 2008
- "On Looking." Book review. West Branch. Fall/Winter 2007.
- "Terrible Lizard! The Dinosaur as Plaything." The Journal of American Culture vol. 23: 53-64.
- "Subjecting Schoolchildren to the Hard Sell." Baltimore Sun, Sunday, November 21, 1999: 6c.
- "Review of CivilWarLand in Bad Decline." Studies in Short Fiction 35.1  
(Winter 1998): 94+.

- "Rules and Reality in American Fiction." AWP Chronicle (Summer 1997) 29.6: 1, 7, 8, 9.
- "Mr. Atomic, Mr. Mercury, and Chime Trooper: Japan's Answer to the American Dream." Japanese Popular Culture. Ed. John Lent. New York: Westview Press, 1995: 79-102.
- "Toy Robots in America 1955-1975: How Japan Really Won the War." The Journal of Popular Culture 28.3 (winter 1994): 125-154.
- "The Rain of Nowness--Present-Tense Fiction in America." Chelsea. Vol 54 (summer/fall 1993): 66-87.
- "What Japan's Friendly Robots Told Our Kids." The Baltimore Sun. Vol 310.221: 13A.  
(January 29, 1992)
- "Humor in Everyman and the Middle English Morality Play." Philological Quarterly  
(fall 1991): 149-162.
- "Defense is the Best Offense When Offenses Abound or How to be an Artist in the Anthill of Academe." AWP Chronicle 23.5: 1, 8-12.

## Reprints & Anthologies

- "My Father's Secrets." Kept Secrets: The Half-Truth in Nonfiction. Michigan State University Press: 2017: 5-17.
- "Boom." RKVRY Quarterly: spring 2017: <http://rkvryquarterly.com>.
- "Review of CivilWarLand in Bad Decline." George Saunders, New Edition. Harold Bloom, editor. Chelsea House Publishers.
- "My Small Murders." City Sages of Baltimore: CityLit Press, 2010: 203-212.
- "My Small Murders," Best of the Web, Dzanc Books, 2008
- "Humor in Everyman and the Middle English Morality Play." Reprinted in BookRags (Amazon); Enotes: Literary Criticism 1400-1800; English Dramatic Interludes, 1300-1580: A Reference Guide:
- "Red Shoes." Speak (Sept./Oct. 1998): 58-65.
- "Jackpot." The Best of the West 4. Norton & Co., 1991: 183-196.
- "Garbage." Pushcart Prize XIV. Pushcart Press, 1989: 343-349.
- "A Model Family." Bungakukai 12 (1988): 264-73. [Japan]
- "The Last Draft." Matrix 1.5 (1987): 5-20. [New Zealand]
- "A Model Family." 20 Under 30: Best Stories by America's New Young Writers. N.Y.: Scribners, 1986: 63-72.
- "Head Over Heels." The Sound of Writing. NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO (1987).
- "Head Over Heels." The St. Petersburg Times 21 Feb. 1987: 1D.
- "Head Over Heels." The Village Advocate 12 Oct. 1986: 7-8.

"Head Over Heels." Kansas City Star Magazine 9-14-86: 14-17.