



FICTION OPEN AWARD WINNERS

1ST PLACE

Laura Roque receives \$3,000 for “Lady-Ghost Roles.”

I was always relaxed by Delkis’s house, ongoing fights or not, with its distant rumble of laundry, like a whale constantly clearing its throat below us.

Laura Roque is the daughter of Cuban political exiles and was raised in Hialeah, Florida. She graduated from the University of Florida in 2014 and earned her MFA at Florida State University in 2017. This will be her second major publication. She was honorably mentioned by *Glimmer Train* in 2016, first runner-up for FSU’s Creative Writing Spotlight award in 2017, and the winner of the *Kenyon Review*’s Short Fiction Contest in 2018. lauraroque.squarespace.com

2ND PLACE

Ben Nadler receives \$1,000 for “Shalom Bayit.”

I used to get a lot of drinking done while she wrote reports. Now, there was nothing to do but go to sleep.

Ben Nadler is the author of the novel *The Sea Beach Line*. His other works include the history book *Punk in NYC’s Lower East Side 1981–1991*, which was recently published in Spanish translation in Chile. He is currently pursuing a PhD in English at SUNY Albany. www.bennadler.com

3RD PLACE

Clark Knowles receives \$600 for “In Dublin.”

It was terribly quiet, impossibly so for such a big city, with so much unfolding everywhere, with so many intersecting lives.

Clark Knowles lives in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. He has taught writing at the University of New Hampshire for twenty years. He is a former fellow of the New Hampshire Council on the Arts. His work can be found in a wide variety of literary journals, most recently in *Outlook Springs* and *PORT smith*.