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WSQ: At Sea Editors' Note

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Editors' Note

As we end our term as general coeditors of *WSQ*, we pause to reflect on the work of the past three years. The six double issues of the journal published in that time—*Solidarity*, *Child*, *The 1970s*, *Survival*, *Queer Methods*, and now *At Sea*—contain cutting-edge feminist scholarship and creative writing by thinkers across and beyond the academy, from graduate students and distinguished professors to independent scholars and artists. It has been an honor to publish and build relationships with our authors, on whose intellectual and creative labor we rely to fulfill and extend the vision of our issue editors and editorial board.

We could say what we feel: we are at sea, set adrift by the election of Donald Trump. The grim and ignorant promises of Trump's campaign make us queasy, seasick, sick. The metaphor explodes, breached by the literal. We are sickened.

Most of the work of editing *WSQ* is deeply collaborative, and because that work happens behind the scenes we want to publicly celebrate it here. Our editorial board is truly a working board, brainstorming new issues, reviewing submissions, shaping the future of the journal and, in turn, women's and gender studies more generally. Many of our board members, listed in the frontmatter, have edited issues of the journal—a process of about two years from incipient idea to final product. Terri Gordon-Zolov and Amy Sodaro, editors of the current issue, have made a striking contribution to feminist studies with *At Sea*. They have reassembled geopolitical, affective, embodied, and ecological narratives and analytics in service of this pressing moment. Our brilliant prose and poetry editors, Asali Solomon and

Patricia Smith, curate selections in every issue that, without fail, powerfully resonate with the issue's theme. It is our special privilege, as we extend our ongoing appreciation to the editorial board for its good faith and good work, to thank Asali for her tenure as prose editor, as *At Sea* will be her final issue in that position.

We offer up At Sea. It is a paper sandbar, a rib of not-land that is immediately scooped away from beneath our feet. We are washed back out to sea. Yet, another sandbar rises beneath us. Respite. Another page.

Endings beget beginnings, and we are delighted to announce the new general coeditors of *WSQ*, Jillian Báez and Natalie Havlin. Jillian is assistant professor of media culture at the College of Staten Island-CUNY. She specializes in Latina/o media, audience studies, and transnational feminisms. Natalie is associate professor of English at LaGuardia Community College-CUNY. Her research focuses on Latina/o writers and artists who have contributed to U.S. urban social movements since the early twentieth century, with an emphasis on the affective politics of intra-ethnic and interracial coalition building. On behalf of *WSQ* and the Feminist Press, we welcome Natalie and Jillian as general coeditors. We have tremendous confidence that they will continue to foster the broad, longstanding feminist collaboration that is *WSQ*.

On the great moving sea, we are never still. If we share the will of the current, we can reach our destination with speed. Moving against the current, we may go nowhere—yet we move through the water itself. Resisting the current, we are not still. We live against the current.

As publisher of the Feminist Press, Jennifer Baumgardner has been a constant champion of the journal. It has been our good fortune to work closely with our terrific editor Lauren Rosemary Hook, assistant editor Alyea Canada, and marketing and sales manager Jisu Kim, as well as senior graphic designer Suki Boynton and art director Drew Stevens. It really is impossible to sufficiently thank *WSQ*'s editorial assistants, Elena Cohen and Lindsey Eckenroth, for their outstanding work on the journal over the past three years and beyond. We also want to recognize Hester Eisenstein and Elizabeth Small, interim director and assistant program officer in the new Master's Program in Women's and Gender Studies at the CUNY Graduate Center, for inviting us to co-teach a feminist publishing course this past fall based on our collaboration as coeditors of *WSQ*. Finally, we

thank the administration of the College of Staten Island-CUNY for its support of our editorships, which have provided us with a sustaining link between this city's islands, its academic institutions, and its intellectual and creative communities.

We ferry back and forth. The ferry is orange, free. It moves us from dock, across harbor, to dock, then returns us. It is slow. It never stops. The ferry doesn't know one island from another. This is the power of difference, the wonder of connection.

In gratitude and feminist solidarity,

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