

# Zane Deezeuw

Class of 2018

MFA in Creative Writing

By Collin Massie



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“Add a note about who you are and what you’re here for if the books you choose do not reveal enough.”

– Ander Monson, *Letter to a Future Lover*

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Zane Deezeuw interned at the literary journal *Sinister Wisdom*, located in Florida, for the summer of 2017. *Sinister Wisdom* is the oldest surviving literary magazine geared towards those in the LGBT community, giving them a voice to be heard and an artistic platform to centralize their community. How Zane got the internship is an example that further proves sometimes firing blindly at random places is not necessarily the way to go.

He researched and found journals and organizations that interested him, and then checked with them to see if they might have need for a summer intern. He says, “I didn’t even know if *Sinister Wisdom* was in need of a summer intern when I emailed Julie R. Enszer, the editor and publisher, and I would have never gotten the internship if I hadn’t asked.”

Much of what he did for the magazine revolved around the world of editing--“copy-editing..., collecting final edits from contributing authors, adding pages to and maintaining the website..., contacting LGBT centers, creating reading and teaching guides of past issues of *Sinister Wisdom*, sending out newsletters..., and much more.” Zane later mentions that his experience with *Sinister Wisdom* made him confident that the path of editing is the right path for him. He even mentions, “My boss singlehandedly let me edit two issues of *Sinister Wisdom*, which is experience most people would only get in a job setting rather than an internship.”

The internship also gave him an appreciation for the hard work and dedication that goes into making literary journals. “Literary journals really are a labor of love,” he says, “but they are an extremely important vehicle for preserving facets of history.” The internship brought with it its own difficulties, one of which Zane mentions was creating teaching guides for the journal. It was a new idea with little specific direction on where to go with it, and so most of the creative power was given to him. It required the most time and the most work, but Zane says, “[Despite all of the difficulty associated with it,] the guides are one of the projects I am most proud of from my internship *because* of all the hard work I put into them.”

Zane advises English majors to look in places you would want to work, follow your passions rather than the easiest job opportunity. “Organizations and journals love to get queries about internships from students who are passionate about their publication or organization.”

To read more internship profiles, go to [wku.edu/english/internships](http://wku.edu/english/internships)