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## **CML News**

It's a time of transitions here at CML: Our longtime Associate Editor and current Editor in Chief, Pamela Loeser, is retiring and heading back to her Southwestern roots to write full-time; Michael Tedeschi, our long-long-time Circulation Manager and Webmaster, is taking on further duties as Publisher; and Annie Kyrkostas, our medium-long-time Senior Editor, is taking over as Editor in Chief. We've been moving files and furniture, poring through (and recycling!) reams of paper, making the necessary office changes, and packing boxes, all the while conducting a search for a new Associate Editor and getting the fall issue to our listeners. "Busy" doesn't quite cover it.

Needless to say, our emotions are mixed. Pam has been an unflappable and dexterous leader. She brought us fearlessly and firmly into the digital download and cartridge age, but we'll mostly miss her impeccable and insightful writer's sense of what words work best, along with her buoyant and clever sense of humor. Please don't miss the goodbye message she shares in this issue. Good luck to all who are readjusting their caps here at CML, and traveling mercies and boundless thanks to Pam, our dear colleague and good friend. We'll miss you.

## **Highlights**

What is it like to live on a spaceship for a year? Or to climb a Himalayan mountain seeking hallucinogenic honey? Or to grow up with a slave in your family? These are just a handful of the perspectives explored in this issue of Choice Magazine Listening.

In "Space Odyssey," **Scott Kelly** lets us feel his weightlessness and wonder in this excerpt from his forthcoming book, Endurance: A Year in Space, A Lifetime of Discovery. His love, loneliness, and upside-down impressions are unforgettable. In "The Last Honey Hunter" by **Mark Synnott**, we witness a spiritually designated

honey gatherer risk life and limb to harvest this ancient elixir and ensure his family's spare livelihood. Maui no longer has the strength to continue this ancient tradition, but lacks the dream-inspired replacement to keep the work going. And in "Lola's Story" by **Alex Tizon**, we are immersed in the author's lifelong emotional and domestic reliance on Lola, a woman who was coerced into giving her entire life to serve his family. This modern slave story should provoke deep discussion.

### **Top Picks**

We are not a glum lot! But we encourage you to consider the timely and serious subject of American health care while listening to "Where Health Care Won't Go" by **Helen Ouyang**, "Etymology" (an essay) by **Sandra Gail Lambert**, and "The Addicts Next Door" by **Margaret Talbot**. Collectively, the articles offer many points of view meant to foster a broader conversation. We hear from doctors, EMTs, patients, neighbors, parents and children, educators, elected officials, police officers, and the authors themselves, on what health means to them. We hope you are informed on a deeper level when considering and joining in on conversations about this sweeping and significant issue.

College freedom collides with rock-star dreams in the heart of a sin-challenged **Harrison Scott Key** as he takes us on a laugh-out-loud reminiscence in "The Hellhound of Boligee." Fueled by a happenstance reading of the book [Hammer of the Gods: The Led Zeppelin Saga](#) by Stephen Davis (**DB22994**), the young Harrison plunges himself into a fantasy that is both character building and, happily, short lived. Both this and "A Bestiary of the Mind" by one of our favorite authors, **Helen Macdonald**, soften the slings and arrows of a world seemingly perched on a razor's edge. We hope you're fortified by what you hear. CML offers you some solid ground.

### **And Special Thanks To ...**

**Ruth H.**, from Beaverton, OR, who gushed, "Thank you to the whole staff for decades of surprising me. CML is a wonderful lifeline!"

**Happy fall from Pam, Annie, Jay, Mike, and Raquel!**