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CML News

Since our previous issue was released, the CML extended family has welcomed two new babies to the world. We wondered what and how these two lovelies might be reading in the years to come. We may not be prophets at this non-profit, but we envision that under the guidance of parents and grandparents (avid readers, all), the power of words and stories will fascinate and transport them throughout their lives. Welcome to the world!

Highlights

Our issue begins with a gripping and moving memoir, "Turn Every Page," by the famed journalist and biographer **Robert A. Caro**, who recalls the early days of his career in journalism and how a tough but nurturing editor set him on the path of investigative reporting.

In this issue we also explore the alarming humanitarian crises of our time. In "Letter from Athens," poet and classicist **A.E. Stallings** shares her heartbreaking day-by-day account of her work with desperate refugees from war-torn Syria, Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan, who arrive on a daily basis to the port of Athens.

In "The Warhead and the Well," **Jeffrey E. Stern** investigates Saudi Arabia's aerial bombing campaign against the Houthi rebels and its effects on the innocent population of a small, impoverished village in Yemen. Stern traces the manufacture of the devastating bombs used by the Saudi Air Force to a thriving American company in Arizona, exploring American complicity in this senseless, ongoing massacre.

Our literary selections for this issue include two poems by **Jorie Graham**, one of the most important American poets of the late 20th and early 21st century. There are also striking poems by **James Richardson**, **Willie Perdomo**, **Forrest Rapier**,

and **Gavin Yuan Gao**; and intriguing, often tender short stories by **Gish Jen**, **Elizabeth Weld**, and **Jon Raymond**.

TOP PICKS:

“Sailing Blind” by **Benjamin Rachlin** tells the remarkable and inspiring story of an American sailing team, under the leadership of Mark Bos, that competes against Great Britain and other nations in the blind world sailing championships. The visually impaired sailors use adaptive technology, heightened audial sensitivity, and well-honed orienteering skills in their race for victory.

We also recommend “A Phenomenal Woman,” an interview with the late poet **Maya Angelou** that had been misplaced and believed lost in the archives of *Playboy Magazine* since 1999. In this extraordinary interview, the legendary Angelou recalls her courageous, often adventurous life, and speaks of her unending quest for knowledge, compassion, and wisdom.

Wendell Berry is one of our favorite authors for the richness of his writing and the depth of his human understanding. The short story, “A Clearing,” follows a boy who happens upon an open field after a hike through the woods, and is changed for life.

And Special Thanks To...

Chester C. from St. Albans, WV, who told us recently, "These readers do an excellent job. Just an excellent job!"

Happy Spring from Annie, Mike, Jay, Alfredo and Raquel!

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DID YOU KNOW?

