

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION

LESLIE S. KLINGER, an individual,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	Case No.: 1:13-cv-01226
)	
v.)	Judge: Ruben Castillo
)	
CONAN DOYLE ESTATE LTD.,)	
a business entity organized under)	Magistrate Judge: Sheila Finnegan
the laws of the United Kingdom,)	
)	
)	
Defendant.)	
)	

AFFIDAVIT OF VALERIE SAYERS

STATE OF INDIANA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF ST. JOSEPH)

Valerie Sayers, being duly sworn on her oath, states as follows:

1. I am a novelist and the chair of the English Department at the University of Notre Dame. My novels *Who Do You Love* and *Brain Fever* were named “Notable Books of the Year” by *The New York Times Book Review*. *Due East* was published in five foreign editions, and, along with *How I Got Him Back*, became the basis for a Showtime feature film. My most recent novel, *The Powers*, was published earlier this year.

2. My stories and essays appear in a variety of publications. I have published over one hundred book reviews and essays in such publications as *The New York Times Book Review*, *The Washington Post*, and *Commonweal*. I have received a National Endowment for the Arts literature fellowship and the Pushcart Prize for fiction. I have served on the NEA Creative Writing Fellowship panel.

3. I received a B.A. from Fordham University and an M.F.A. from Columbia University. I am presently Professor of English and chair of the Department of English at the University of Notre Dame. I have also served two terms as Director of Creative Writing. My Curriculum Vitae is attached as Exhibit A.

4. The English Department at Notre Dame has offered and continues to offer multiple courses that include the Sherlock Holmes stories and novels on their syllabi. Some of these courses include "Mystery Fiction," "Psychoanalysis and Literature," and "Gender by the Gaslight: The Detective in Film and Fiction." These courses explore the Sherlock Holmes fictions as rich literary texts open to multiple critical approaches and techniques. Some of our most distinguished professors have taught Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's stories and novels as literature that prompts readers to ask serious and complex philosophical questions

5. While the characters that populate cartoons and other entertainment media often have few or limited dimensions, a literary character such as Sherlock Holmes has the complex background and maturing emotions, thoughts, relationships and actions that characterize human development over time. When a series of stories or novels features the same character, one has to look at all the works in question to ascertain whether the character is fully created in the first work in the series, or whether the character continues to be created and developed over some or all of the works in the series. A bright-line rule that the main character in all of the stories was fully created in the first work in that series might comport with cartoon or flat characters, but does not comport with the creation and development of literary characters. A distinction I frequently make to my students is that readers look to many works of popular entertainment for reassurance that the world works exactly as they think it does. It is crucial in such flat works that

characters do not alter dramatically. In literary fiction, by contrast, characters continue to develop, thereby frequently upsetting or surprising a reader's expectations.

6. When an author creates a literary character in a series of works, the character is a single continuously developing creation, not fully realized until the last story or novel about the character. The fully realized character is no more completely revealed in an author's first story or first novel than a character in a single novel is fully revealed in the first chapter of that novel. To suggest that the character is "created" only in the first chapter or story is at odds with the reality that the writer continues to create the character through an entire novel or series. While a successful character is recognizable and memorable in the first chapter of any good novel, the rest of the novel continues to develop the creation of that character in multiple ways. To say that a complete character is present in the first chapter of a novel is akin to saying that a fully-developed person is present at birth.

7. The same is not true of flat or cartoon characters. A cartoon character (for example, Popeye, or television's Beverly Hillbillies family) generally is complete after the first—or perhaps first few—stories about him or her or it. Though the cartoon character's situation continues to change, the flat character is simply put into new scenarios without the character itself continuing to develop substantially or to take on further notable dimensions. By contrast, a developed literary character continues to be formed and takes on further attributes and dimensions through every story about that character.

8. I created the characters Mary Faith Rapple; Dolores, Tim, and the other members of the Rooney family; Stephen Dugan; and Franny Starkey and other members of the Starkey family in five books published over nine years, and I continue to write about these characters in short stories and in a novel. The characters continue to develop—indeed, to surprise me—as

they evolve in each new literary work. A writer's desire to continue exploring a literary character's psychology and personality is one of the prime motivations for continuing to write about characters who have already appeared in an author's oeuvre, just as my own experience reading the entire Sherlock Holmes series was stimulated by Conan Doyle's masterful uncovering of surprising new facets of the Holmes character.

9. A good example of the development of a single character over multiple works is my character Mary Faith Rapple, who is introduced as the central character of my first published novel, *Due East* (1987), and appears—sometimes briefly and sometimes in a significant role—in four subsequent novels, including a crucial role in *Brain Fever* (1996). In the first novel she is a pregnant fifteen-year-old; by the last novel in my *Due East* cycle, she is not only an adult single mother but, as the fiancée of a man experiencing a nervous breakdown, a mature woman whose most important philosophical beliefs, including her atheism, have been challenged. It is not simply that she faces a different set of circumstances; rather, she has changed in a multitude of ways, and it is crucial that the narrative voice in which she narrates her sections of both novels develop along with her.

10. The novel I am currently writing features a character who first appeared in a short story published in *Zoetrope* magazine, a national journal founded by Francis Ford Coppola in recognition of the historical links between short stories and film scripts. The character I developed in that story continues to change and to deepen as I explore her life after the time in which the original story was set. It is not simply that the character's dilemmas and situations have changed because of life circumstances or the exigencies of plot; rather, the sum of her experience continues to make her discover qualities, both positive and negative, she was not aware of as a younger woman and the reader was not aware of in her first appearance. The

reader's interest in continuing to follow her story hinges on the understanding that all humans continue to develop and grow throughout life, no matter how fixed certain elements of their personalities; and that serious literary fiction seeks to engage the possibility of positive and negative change.

11. My decision to write multiple works featuring the same characters was influenced by my early reading such classic literary cycles as Sophocles' *Oedipus* trilogy; ambitious detective fiction such as the Sherlock Holmes stories (and, later in my reading, the Adam Dalgliesh novels of P.D. James); and especially by William Faulkner's Yoknapatawpha novels and stories and their development of the characters in the Compson family. The range of this brief literary list suggests the range of literature in which the repetition of rich characters is possible. Even in such disparate examples—Greek tragedy, murder mysteries of the nineteenth and twentieth century, and modernist fiction—each of these examples is distinguished by the ongoing development of character complexity.

12. My experience as writer, reader, and teacher of literature convinces me that a serious literary character cannot be divided into his or her dimensions any more than a living human can be. My own characters are single creations, revealing aspects of themselves from work to work, but a full picture of them is not available in the earliest works in which they appear. Likewise, the character of Sherlock Holmes reveals new aspects of himself throughout the entire Sherlock Holmes corpus. He is not divisible into the parts which were revealed in the early stories and the parts revealed in the later stories. To attempt to dismantle his character is not only impossible as a practical matter, but would ignore the reality that Sir Arthur Conan Doyle created a single complex Sherlock Holmes complete in sixty stories.

Further your affiant sayeth naught.

VALERIE SAYERS

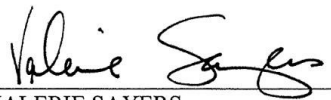
The foregoing Affidavit of Valerie Sayers was subscribed and sworn before me on September __, 2013.

Notary Public

My commission expires:

12. My experience as writer, reader, and teacher of literature convinces me that a serious literary character cannot be divided into his or her dimensions any more than a living human can be. My own characters are single creations, revealing aspects of themselves from work to work, but a full picture of them is not available in the earliest works in which they appear. Likewise, the character of Sherlock Holmes reveals new aspects of himself throughout the entire Sherlock Holmes corpus. He is not divisible into the parts which were revealed in the early stories and the parts revealed in the later stories. To attempt to dismantle his character is not only impossible as a practical matter, but would ignore the reality that Sir Arthur Conan Doyle created a single complex Sherlock Holmes complete in sixty stories.

Further your affiant sayeth naught.

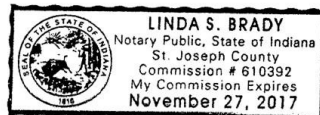

VALERIE SAYERS

The foregoing Affidavit of Valerie Sayers was subscribed and sworn before me on September 9, 2013.


Notary Public

My commission expires:

November 27, 2017



Valerie Sayers

**Department of English
University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, Indiana 46556
574•631-7160**

**317 Napoleon Street
South Bend, Indiana 46617
vsayers@nd.edu
574•287-0716**

EDUCATION

M.F.A., Writing. Columbia University, School of the Arts. 1976.
B.A., *cum laude*. Fordham University, College at Lincoln Center. 1973.

Academic Appointments and Honors

University of Notre Dame, Department of English.

Professor. 1995 - present.

Concurrent professor, Department of American Studies. 2009 - present.

Associate professor. 1993 - 1995.

Department chair. 2011 - present.

Director of Creative Writing. 2001 - 03 and 1993 - 96.

Associate department chair. 1998 - 1999.

Joyce Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. 2012.

Faculty Award (for service). 2009.

Sheedy Award for Excellence in Teaching, College of Arts and Letters. 2003.

Kaneb Teaching Award. 2000.

Presidential Award (for service). 1998.

New York University, Arts, Sciences & Humanities, School of Continuing Education.

Lecturer in fiction writing (including master class). 1990 - 1993.

LITERARY APPOINTMENTS AND HONORS

Pushcart Prizes for Fiction: Pushcart Prize 2006. Special mention 2007, 2010.

Glenna Luschei *Prairie Schooner* Award. 2009.

“Notable” citation, *Best American Essays* 2005.

Artist of the Month. *Image*. May 2005.

"Distinguished" citation, *Best American Short Stories* 2003.

National Endowment for the Arts. Literature Grants and Policy Panel. 2000, 1997.

New York Times "Notable Books of the Year":

Brain Fever, 1996. (Similarly, *Chicago Tribune*, 1997.)

Who Do You Love, 1991. (Similarly, *Washington Post Book World*, 1991.)

National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in Literature. 1992.

South Carolina Fiction Project, Judge.

The State/South Carolina Commission on the Arts. 1989.

Artist Selection Committee, South Carolina Commission on the Arts. 1988.

PUBLICATIONS

Novels

The Powers. Evanston: Triquarterly Books/Northwestern University Press, 2013.

Brain Fever. New York: Doubleday. 1996.

Reprint forthcoming from Northwestern University Press.

Excerpts: *Arts Indiana*, November 1994. National Endowment for the Arts website, 1998.

The Distance Between Us. Doubleday. 1994.

Reprint forthcoming from Northwestern University Press.

Who Do You Love. Doubleday. 1991.

Reprints: Dell Laurel. 1992, and forthcoming from Northwestern University Press.

How I Got Him Back; or, Under the Cold Moon's Shine. Doubleday and Literary Guild.

1989.

Reprints: Berkley. 1990, and forthcoming, Northwestern University Press.

Due East. Doubleday. 1987.

Reprints: Berkley. 1988, and forthcoming, Northwestern University Press.

A film based on *Due East* and *How I Got Him Back* premiered on Showtime, 2002.

Novels in progress

The Last Days of Peace and Love; or, Real Estate

Back to Due East

Stories

"Dog Suicides."

Chicago Tribune Printers Row Journal. Forthcoming on October 13, 2013.

"Children of Night."

Commonweal. Volume 140 Number 12. July 12, 2013.

"Interference."

Image. Number 70. Fall 2011.

"The Heat."

Carolina Quarterly. Vol. 61, No. 1. Winter/Spring 2011.

"Cleaning Lady to the Stars."

Booth: a Journal. April 2, 2010.

"Brooklyn, Bewitched."

Commonweal. Vol. XXXCVI, Number 14. August 14, 2009.

"The Object of My Preposition."

Witness XXII. 2009. Special Mention, *The Pushcart Prizes 2010*, edited by Bill Henderson. Pushcart Press/ Norton. 2010.

"The Age of Infidelity."

Prairie Schooner. Vol. 82, Number 2. Summer 2008. Winner of a 2009 Glenna Luschei *Prairie Schooner Award.*

"A Freak of Nature."

Image. Number 53. Spring 2007. Reprinted in *Bearing the Mystery: Twenty Years of Image Journal*, edited by Gregory Wolfe and Mary Kenagy. Grand Rapids: Eerdman's, July 2009.

"Sleepwalk."

Ploughshares. Vol. 31, Number 1. Spring 2005. Special mention, *The Pushcart Prizes 2007*, edited by Bill Henderson. Pushcart Press/Norton. 2006.

"The Age of Medicine."

Sycamore Review. Vol. 17, Number 1. Winter/Spring 2005.

"Walker Evans Is a Spy on the Lexington Avenue Local."

Zoetrope: All-Story. Vol. 8, Number 4. Winter 2004. Reprinted in *The Pushcart Prizes 2006*, edited by Bill Henderson. Pushcart Press/Norton. 2005.

"The Ayatollah of Due East."

A Very Southern Christmas: Holiday Stories from the South's Best Writers, edited by Charline McCord and Judy Tucker. Algonquin Books. 2003.

"An Education in the Faith."

Prairie Schooner. Vol. 77, Number 3. Fall 2003.

"How to Read a Man."

Zoetrope: All Story. Vol. 6, Number 2. Summer 2002. "Distinguished" citation, *Best American Short Stories 2003*.

"My First Execution."

Image. Number 32. Fall 2001.

"Old Man's Daughter."

Five Points. Vol. 4, Number 3. Summer 2000.

"The Other Woman."

Cabbage and Bones, an anthology of Irish-American women's writing, edited by Caledonia Kearns. Henry Holt. 1997.

Selected Essays

"Wide Open," in *The Suspension of Time: Reflections on Simon Dinnerstein and the Fulbright Triptych*, edited by Daniel Slager. Minneapolis: Milkweed Editions, 2011.

"The Muck," on literature and religious sensibility.

Image, 20th Anniversary issue, Number 80, 2009.

"A Noisy Soul," review essay on Chilean novelist Roberto Bolaño.

Commonweal. Vol. CXXXIV, Number 13. July 13, 2007.

"L'Esperança," on Spanish anarchists and the virtue of hope.

Take Heart: Catholic Writers on Hope in Our Time, edited by Ben Birnbaum. Boston College/Crossroad Press, 2007.

"Maximum Story," on the future of fiction.

Image. Summer 2004. Number 42.

"The Word Cure," on cancer and language.

Image. Spring 2004. Number 41. "Notable" citation, *Best American Essays 2005*. Series editor, Robert Atwan. Houghton Mifflin, 2005.

"Being a Catholic, Being a Writer: Sometimes the Twain Can Meet."

- American Catholics, American Culture: Tradition and Resistance*, edited by Margaret O'Brien Steinfels. New York: Sheed & Ward/Rowman & Littlefield, 2004. Originally appeared in *Commonweal*. May 4, 2001.
- "The Female Gaze," on Käthe Kollwitz and Lotte Jacobi.
Face-to-Face exhibition catalogue. Snite Museum of Art. 2003.
- "Motherhood as Subversive Activity."
Child of Mine, edited by Christina Baker Kline. New York: Hyperion. 1997.
- "Genesis and Luke," on the representation of women in Old and New Testaments.
Communion, edited by David Rosenberg. New York: Anchor. 1996.
- "Guilt and *Gone with the Wind*," on racial depictions in the film and novel.
The Movie That Changed My Life, edited by David Rosenberg. New York: Viking. 1991.
- "When the Catholic Novelist Portrays the Church."
Catholic Commission on Intellectual and Cultural Affairs *Annual*. Volume X, 1990.
- "Darkness and Light," on Käthe Kollwitz. *Art and Antiques*. February, 1989.

Op-eds

- "A Shot in the Dark," on a sniper at large.
New York Times. August 21, 2006.
- "Easter Walk," on public school integration in the 1960s.
New York Times. April 7, 1996.

Recent reviews

- I have published more than one hundred reviews, primarily for The New York Times Book Review, Commonweal, and The Washington Post Book World.*
- I Hate to Leave This Beautiful Place* by Howard Norman.
Washington Post. July 19, 2013.
- My Beloved World* by Sonia Sotomayor.
Commonweal. May 3, 2013.
- Mom & Me & Mom* by Maya Angelou.
Washington Post. March 27, 2013.
- This Is How You Lose Her* by Junot Díaz.
Commonweal. March 8, 2013.
- The Boy Kings of Texas* by Domingo Martinez.
Washington Post. November 2012.
- Why Be Happy When You Could Be Normal?* by Jeanette Winterson.
Washington Post. April 3, 2012.
- The Train of Small Mercies* by David Rowell.
Washington Post. October 14, 2011.
- The Story of Charlotte's Web* by Michael Sims.
Washington Post. June 24, 2011.
- A Widow's Story* by Joyce Carol Oates.
Washington Post. February 13, 2011.
- Great House* by Nicole Kraus.
Commonweal. January 28, 2011.
- Strangers at the Feast* by Jennifer Vanderbes.
Washington Post. August 25, 2010.

Summer Reading: A Mercy by Toni Morrison, *The Russian Dreambook of Color and Flight* by Gina Ochsner and *Inglorious* by Joanna Kavenna.

Commonweal. June 18, 2010.

The Birth of Love by Joanna Kavenna.

Washington Post. April 20, 2010.

Unfinished Desires by Gail Godwin.

Washington Post. January 19, 2010.

City of Belief by Nicole d'Entremont.

Commonweal. December 18, 2009.

Lit by Mary Karr.

Washington Post. November 10, 2009.

A Change in Altitude by Anita Shreve.

Washington Post. September 26, 2009.

A Short History of Women by Kate Walbert.

Washington Post. June 14, 2009.

Goldengrove by Francine Prose.

Commonweal. February 27, 2009.

The Red Convertible by Louise Erdrich.

Washington Post. January 25, 2009.

Eat, Drink, and Be from Mississippi by Nanci Kincaid.

Washington Post. January 14, 2009.

A Letter to My Daughter by Maya Angelou.

Washington Post. September 28, 2008.

Alfred & Emily by Doris Lessing.

Washington Post. August 3, 2008.

Summer Reading: *Life Class* by Pat Barker, *A Person of Interest* by Susan Choi, and *The Brief*

Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao by Junot Díaz.

Commonweal. June 2008.

The Prince of Frogtown by Rick Bragg.

Washington Post. May 29, 2008.

Run by Ann Packer.

Commonweal. January 31, 2008.

Selected Appearances

Reading. The Corner Bookstore, Madison Avenue, New York. July 18, 2013.

Invited panelist, "'Past Lives," Printers Row Literary Festival, sponsored by the

Chicago Tribune, Wyndham Blake Hotel, Chicago. June 8, 2013

Invited reading, featured fiction writer. Sweet Briar Creative Writing Conference. Sweet Briar College, Virginia. March 23, 2013.

Reading. *Triquarterly*/Northwestern University Press Reading. Lesley University, Boston.

March 8, 2013.

- Invited paper, "The View from O'Connor's Shadow." *Wise Blood* at 60: A Symposium. The Francis and Ann Curran Center for American Catholic Studies, Fordham University. March 24, 2012.
- Reading. AWP (Association of Writers and Writing Programs) Conference, Chicago. March 3, 2012.
- Invited reading and remarks, "A Freak of Nature." University of Innsbruck, Program in American Studies, Innsbruck, Austria. January 2012.
- Invited panelist, Commonwealth Conversations 2011. "The Writing Life: What's Faith Got to Do with It?" New York. November 12, 2011.
- Reading and interviews. Featured fiction writer, Houghton College Literary Festival, Houghton, New York. October 21-22, 2011.
- Invited lecture, "The Distance a Writer Travels," and creative writing workshop. Randolph Macon College. October 21, 2010.
- Invited reading, Gypsy Café Reading Series, Denver, Colorado, and class visit, University of Denver. October 22, 2009.
- Invited lecture, "Narrative Voice in the 21st Century." Seattle Pacific University MFA Program in Creative Writing. St. John's College, Santa Fe, July 30, 2009.
- Fiction workshop and reading. Glen Workshop. St. John's College, Santa Fe. July 26 – August 2, 2009 and July 27 – August 3, 2008.
- Invited fiction reading and remarks. "Making Literature Undergraduate Conference on Literature and Writing." Taylor University. February 19-20, 2009.
- Invited fiction reading and panel, "The Indelible Mark: Writers on a Catholic Childhood." Fordham University Center on Religion & Culture. December 9, 2009.
- Invited fiction workshop and reading. Earlham College School of Religion. October 24 - 25, 2008.
- Paper, "The Homeless and the University," and panel moderator, *Writing with the Homeless in South Bend*. AWP Annual Meeting, New York. January 31, 2008.
- Invited presentation, "Beyond Realism." Indiana Writers' Festival, Writer's Center of Indiana, Indianapolis Arts Center. October 15, 2005.
- Invited readings. St. Mary's College. April 13, 2005. April 15, 2004.
- "Satire, Religion, and Narrative Possibility in the 21st Century." *Image* Conference: "A Narratable World," Seattle Pacific University. November 5, 2003.
- Invited reading. Wordsmith Series, Valparaiso University. April 9, 2003.
- Invited reading and fiction workshop. Bowling Green State University. March 20, 2003.
- Biever Guest Lecture, "Comic Fiction and Catholic Identity." Loyola University, New Orleans. February 17, 2003.
- Graduate Seminar, "Faith and Fiction." The Erasmus Institute Summer Seminars at St. John's University, New York. June 10 – 28, 2002.
- Invited reading. University of Illinois Chicago. October 23, 2001.
- Invited reading. Indiana University-Purdue University, Fort Wayne. March 26, 2001.
- Response to Paul Elie's "Catholicism and the Literary Imagination." *Commonweal* Colloquium on American Catholics in the Public Square, New York. January 28, 2001.
- Invited reading and fiction workshop. Indiana University South Bend Writers Conference. April 16-17, 1999.
- Invited reading, Muskhegon Museum of Art Authors Series. Muskhegon, Michigan.

- March 14, 1999.
- Invited reading (special guest) and novel workshop. Lowcountry Writers Conference, Technical College of the Lowcountry, Beaufort, South Carolina. August 14-18, 1997.
- Invited lecture, "The Burdens of Southern Writers." South Carolina Humanities Council Book Festival. Beaufort, South Carolina, April 20, 1997.
- Invited reading and fiction writing workshop. Charleston Writers Conference. College of Charleston, South Carolina. March 20 -23, 1997.
- Invited reading. Purdue University. October 21, 1996.
- Invited paper, "Miss Welty Takes on a Murderous Voice"; panelist, Contemporary Writers Round Table; moderator, "A Woman's Place in Fiction"; and reading. Eudora Welty Film and Fiction Festival, Jackson, Mississippi. May 1-4, 1996.
- Invited reading and fiction writing workshop. Butler University Writers Studio, Indianapolis. February 21, 1996.
- Invited paper, "The Pilgrimage North: Southern Writers in New York City." Modern Language Association, special session, Chicago. December 29, 1995.
- Invited lecture and reading, "South Carolina as Fictional Home." The South Carolina Humanities Festival, Beaufort, South Carolina. January 27, 1995.
- Invited reading and fiction writing workshop. Visiting Writers Series, University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire. October 16, 1994.
- Invited reading and remarks, "Writers and the City" panel series. Fordham University, New York. April 14, 1994.
- Invited reading. National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, Charleston, South Carolina.
November 20, 1993.
- Keynote address, "Creating Saints." Southeastern Conference on Christianity and Literature, Columbia College, Columbia, South Carolina. March 26, 1993.
- Invited reading and lecture, "The Southern Novelist," a tour sponsored by the South Carolina Commission on the Arts. University of South Carolina Aiken, University of South Carolina Allendale, Columbia College. January 27-29, 1992.
- Invited reading and lecture, "Writing Southern Fiction." New York University, School of Continuing Education. December 6, 1990.
- Invited readings. Polytechnic University, Brooklyn, New York. April 24, 1990 and March 15, 1987.
- Invited lecture, "The First Novel." Byrdcliffe Center for the Arts, Woodstock, New York. June 10, 1989.
- Invited lecture, "Publishing a Novel in the Nineties." Center for Communications, New York. March 21, 1989.
- Invited reading. University of South Carolina Author Series, Columbia. February 27, 1989.
- Invited reading. "Carolina Connections," an arts festival sponsored by the South Carolina Commission on the Arts. September 10, 1988.

CRITICISM & BIBLIOGRAPHY

Essays and entries about my fiction appear in:

- Del Rosso, Jean, *Writing Catholic Women: Contemporary International Catholic Girlhood Narratives*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2005.
- Epps, Ed, *Literary South Carolina*. Hub City Writers Project, 2003.
- Gandolfo, Anita, *Testing the Faith: The New Catholic Fiction in America*. Greenwood Press, 1992.
- Giemza, Bryan. *Irish Catholic Writers and the Invention of the American South*. Louisiana State University Press, 2013.
- Glazier, Michael. *Encyclopedia of the Irish in America*. University of Notre Dame Press, 1999.
- Reichardt, Mary, ed. *Catholic Women Writers: A Bio-Bibliographical Sourcebook*. Harcourt Brace, 2001.
- Reisman, Rosemary M. Canfield and Canfield, Christopher J., *Contemporary Southern Women Fiction Writers*. Scarecrow Press, 1994.
- Zubizarreta, John, "After Flannery O'Connor: Valerie Sayers and the Persistence of the Catholic Writer in Contemporary Southern Fiction." Paper delivered at the Southern Women Writers Conference, 1994.

Articles and reviews of my novels have appeared in numerous publications including: *New York Times Book Review*, *Times Literary Supplement* (London) *Punch*, *Washington Post*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Boston Globe*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Miami Herald*, *Atlanta Constitution*, *Dallas Morning News*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Arizona Republic*, *The State*, *Commonweal*, *Library Journal*, *Belles Lettres*, *National Catholic Reporter*, *Village Voice*.

Print features and interviews include:

- Kevin Nance, "Valerie Sayers on Joe DiMaggio and *The Powers*." *Chicago Tribune*, May 13, 2013.
- Bryan Giemza, "Powers and Prophecy: An Interview with Valerie Sayers" by Bryan Giemza). *Flannery O'Connor Review*. Volume 10, 2012.
- Charline McCord, "Interview with Valerie Sayers." *Southern Quarterly*. Vol. 38, no. 2, 2000, 135-52).
- Brewster Robertson, "The PW Interview: Valerie Sayers." *Publishers Weekly*. Vol. 241, No. 6, February 7, 1994. 66-67.
- David Streitfeld, "Book Report." *Washington Post*. April 21, 1991, 15.

Web and broadcast interviews include numerous blogs, radio interviews, and *Arts. Community 2.6* (National Endowment for the Arts on-line magazine). *Commonweal*. *The Writers' Circle* (South Carolina ETV). *Monitor Television* (*Christian Science Monitor*). *Voice of America*.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association of Writers and Writing Programs
Authors Guild

PEN American Center (elected 1993)

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Profession

I regularly review tenure and promotion cases for departments of English and creative writing programs at national research universities and liberal arts colleges.

Department of English

Founding editor, *Notre Dame Review*, a national journal of literary arts, 1994 - 98.

Editorial board, 1998 - present.

Founding co-editor and judge, The Richard Sullivan Prize for Short Fiction, national literary competition for publication by UND Press, 1994 - present.

Committee on Appointments & Promotions, 2011 - present (*ex officio*), 2010 - 11, 2006 - 09, 2004 - 05, 2000 - 01, 1997 - 98.

Coordinator, Notre Dame Women Writers Festival. 2007 - 08, 2009 - 11.

Executive Committee, 2008 - 09.

Search Committee, American Literature, 2008 - 09.

Search Committee, Creative Writing Program, Fall 2005, Fall 2004.

Graduate Studies Committee, 2001 - 03 and 1995 - 96.

Strategic Planning Committee, 2002.

Coordinate Committee, 2000 - 01 and 1995 - 96.

Departmental Kaneb Teaching Award Committee, Spring 2002.

Judge, Richard Sullivan prize for undergraduate fiction, 2000, 1997, 1996, 1994.

Director of Graduate Studies, Fall 1998.

Search committee, African-American literature, 1998.

Search committee, Irish studies, 1997.

Undergraduate studies committee, 1993 - 95.

College of Arts and Letters

Literature Core Curriculum Subcommittee. 2012 – present.

Advisory board, Poverty Studies Program. 2009 - present.

Advisory board, Erskine Peters Fellows. 2009 - present.

Sheedy Award Committee, 2007 – 2009, 2011 - 2012.

Fine Arts Core Curriculum Subcommittee. 2011 - 2012.

Committee on Appointments & Promotions, Department of American Studies. Spring 2009. Special promotion committee, Fall 2005.

College-wide Kaneb Teaching Award selection committee, Spring 2001, Spring 2005.

Executive committee, Gender Studies Program, 1996 - 98 and 2002 - 04.

Committee on Learning Goals for the University Requirement in the Arts, Fall 2003.

Committee on Appointment and Promotions, American Studies Department, 2001 - 2003.

Committee to Review the Dean, Spring 2002.

Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts Strategic Planning Session, Spring 2002.

Core course presentations: *The Awakening*, Spring 2000. *This Boy's Life*, Spring 1996.
Seminar leader, Teachers as Scholars, Spring 2000.

Faculty mentor, Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, 1999 - present.
Speaker, Arts and Letters Advisory Council, October 24, 1998.
Speaker, Arts and Letters Workshop, Junior Parents Weekend, 1996.
Special promotion committee, Communications and Theatre Department, 1995.

University

Department Chairs Advisory Group. 2012 - present.
Advisory board, Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism, 2003 - present.

Valedictorian Selection Committee. Spring 2013. 2012, 2007.
Office of Research Annual Awards Selection Committee. Fall 2012.
Fellow, Higgins Labor Studies Program, 2003 - present. Executive committee: 2008 - 2011.
University Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid, 2003 - 2008. 2010 - 2012.
Office of Undergraduate & Post-Baccalaureate Fellowships Advisory Board, 2003 - 2008.
Academic Calendar Committee, 2007 - 2009.
Acting Director, Office of Undergraduate & Post-Baccalaureate Fellowships. 2006 - 2007.
Academic Council, 2004 - 2007. Executive Committee 2006 - 2007.
Faculty mentor, Academic Affirmative Action Committee, 2002 - 2005.
Freshman orientation discussion session, 2003, 2002, 2001.
Center for Social Concerns Panelist, Rodney F. Ganey Faculty Community-Based
Research Award Review, Spring 2003.
Search Committee for Executive Director, DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts, 2001.
Faculty Senate, Co-secretary, executive committee, 2000 - 01. Member, 1994 - 97, 2000 - 02.
Search Committee for Director, Office of Institutional Equity, 2001.
Editorial board, University of Notre Dame Press, 1996 - 2001.
Provost's Task Force on Diversity, 1999.
Search committee for Director, University of Notre Dame Press, 1998.
Academic Appeals committee, 1997 - 98.
Advisor to College of Arts & Letters special appeals committee, 1997.
Academic Affirmative Action committee, 1994 - 99.
Speaker, Graduate School Preparation Workshop, Career & Placement Services, 1995 - 96.
Speaker, Grantsmanship Workshop, The Graduate School, March 26, 1994.

Campus and Community

South Bend Center for the Homeless Writing Group. Faculty advisor and workshop
participant. 2006 - 2011.
Founding member, Progressive Faculty & Staff Alliance, Notre Dame. 2003 - present.
Lectio @ Eleven Reading Series. First Year of Studies. 2006, 2008.
Board member, Holy Family Catholic Worker House, South Bend. 1995 - 2005.
Lula's MFA Reading Series. 2007, 2005, 2004, 2003.
Faculty panel, *The DaVinci Code*. "Saturday Scholars" series, Notre Dame, September
25, 2004; Alumni Week-end, June 4, 2004.
Benefit reading for Literacy Council of St. Joseph County, Barnes & Noble.
Organizer, 2002. 2003. Organizer and reader, 2001, 2000. Reader, 2004.

Session leader, "Public and Private Writing about Race and Leadership." African-American Catholic Leadership Development Seminar. Notre Dame, July 20, 2004.

"The Female Gaze," a gallery talk on Käthe Kollwitz and Lotte Jacobi.

Snite Museum of Art. September 14, 2003.

End-of-year Address, Gender Studies Colloquium. April 24, 2003.

Poets for Peace. Notre Dame. Reader and organizer. February 12 and March 7, 2003.

Reading (and judge). Leonard Wolfson Literary Awards. Indiana University South Bend. April 20, 2002.

"Eric Rohmer's Moral Tales, on the Page and Onscreen." Paper presented to Rohmer Roundtable. Film, Television, and Theatre, Notre Dame. April 30, 2001.

"Answering Isaac Babel's 'My First Goose,'" a discussion and reading for the Notre Dame English Department's undergraduate lecture series. March 2001.

Gender Studies Forum, Notre Dame. Readings. November 2000, and November 1994.

"What Do We Want from Story?" Conference, Notre Dame. Reading, December 2000.

Benefit reading for Ladies of Notre Dame & St. Mary's. Barnes & Noble, South Bend. March 1999.

Benefit reading for St. Joseph High School Literary Festival. 1999.

Organizer and reader, Writers Harvest 1995, on behalf of the national reading for hunger relief, Notre Dame. November, 1995. Reader, 1998, Barnes & Noble, South Bend. November 1998.

Sophomore Literary Festival, Notre Dame. Faculty reading. February 1997.

Workshop facilitator, "Constructing Catholicism and the Literary Imagination," Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism, Notre Dame. September 30, 1995.

Snite University "Day of Women." Reading. November 1994.