

THE WAKE FOREST REVIEW

VOLUME 1 // SUMMER 2023



Jane D. Attilman

The Wake Forest Review is a literary magazine showcasing the creative talents of the Wake Forest, North Carolina community.

Cover Art: Jane D. Steelman, "*Silver Sea.*" Alcohol Ink, 6 x 6 x 0.5 in

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Old Friends

John Bare

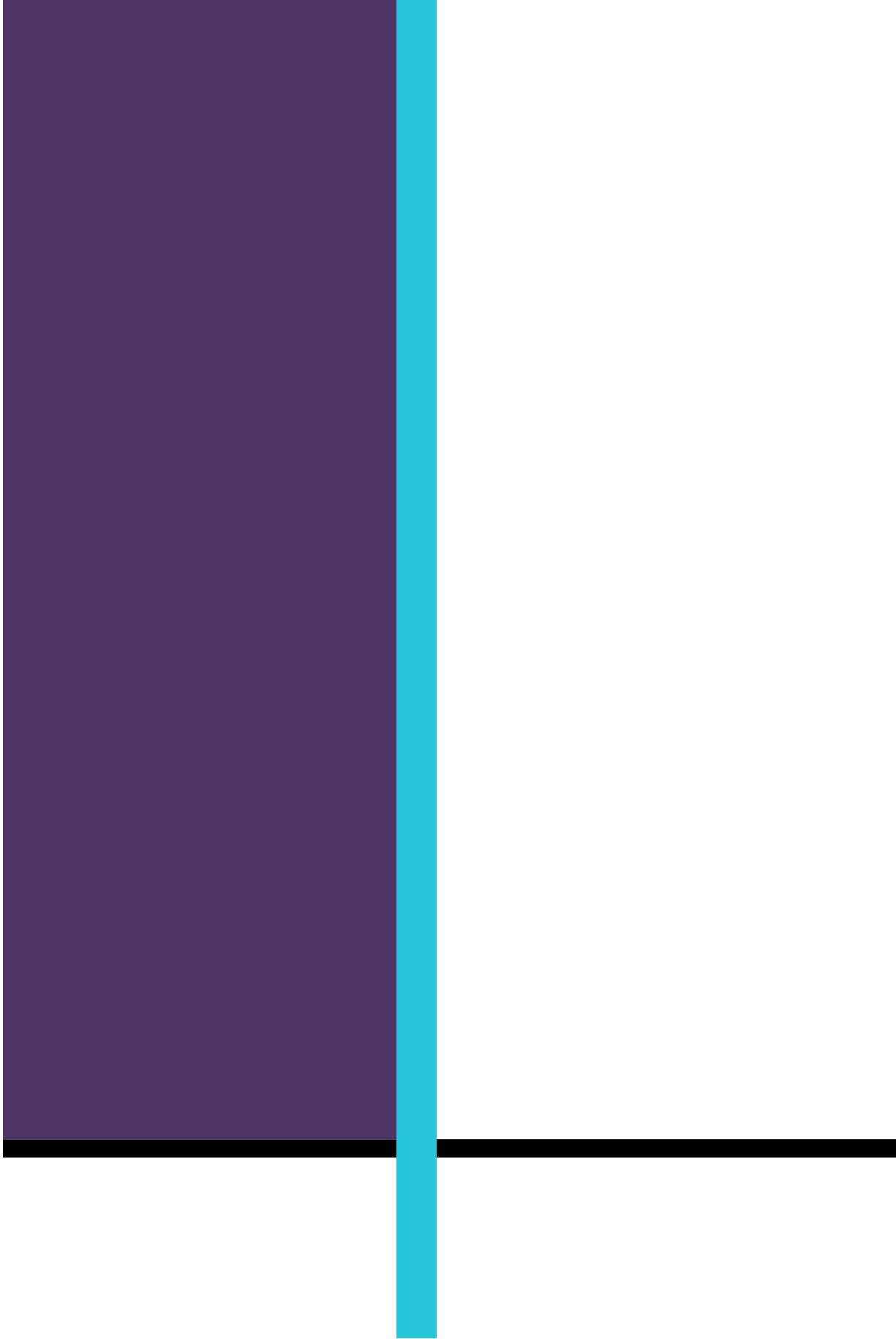
Funny bones aren't that funny.
Honey isn't runny.
Which part is partly sunny?
Old friends don't get old.
They just slip away one day.
Old friends always look the way
they did the day
when we fell in love with them.
Laughing 'til will cried
singing Leonard Cohen hymns
setting differences aside
dreaming how we'd do the town
like Jackie Gleason at Toots Shor's
or Sinatra at the Copa.
But then we never got around
to seeing all those places.
Nowadays you see it on our faces.
Wisdom of the aged.
The places we hold dear
are the one we find right here
laughing with old friends again
at the lies we told ourselves
and lies we told to her and him.
Unspoken, but the truth we know
is this could be the last laugh.
Or at least we're down to short rows.
We linger past last call.
Soaking in the all.
We'd trust these people with our lives.
But Lord help us, don't let me cry.

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they did the day
when we fell in love with them.



"Sarah and Maddie"

John Bare is a child of North Carolina. Journalism, pre- and post-Internet. Film student. Research methods. Fell in love with Chapel Hill. Nonprofit gigs, Miami Beach, Atlanta, Paradise Valley, Montana, and beyond. 2020, COVID ended 28 years of marriage to Betsy Ross Bare. Current loves, Isadora and Winston, rescue dogs who rescue me. Writer: stories, poems, lyrics. 2021 novel, *Fair-Skinned Brunette with the Porcelain Shine*. 2019 album, "Lassie James Songbook Vol 1." 2022 chapbook, *Words & Things From Lassie James*. Visual artist: photography, clay, metal, wax, paint. English teacher Mom. Math teacher Dad. Sisters, one older, one younger, both smarter. Previous experience: driving school bus, planting peach orchard, janitor. Taste for genmaicha tea, biscuits, whiskey. Fan of bitternut hickory autumn gold.



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