

## Summer Block Lizer

1959 Raymond Avenue | Pasadena CA 91103 summer.lizer@cgu.edu | 818.748.5223

### EDUCATION

---

Ph.D. English Literature, in coursework, Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA  
Pursuing Early Modern Studies Interdisciplinary Concentration

2022 **M.A. English Literature**, Claremont Graduate University, Claremont CA

2001 **B.A. English Language Literature**, University of Chicago, Chicago IL  
**B.A. Medieval Studies**  
Honors Thesis: *Translations and Retellings of Beowulf*

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

---

Medieval literature	Philosophy and history of science
Early modern literature	Ecocriticism
Theology and history of religion	Literary theory

### ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

---

“Yet Is He Good?: The Half-Way Covenant and Anne Bradstreet’s Infant Elegies.” *Women’s Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal* 51.5, July/August 2022, pp. 534-42.

Review of *Thinking About Animals in Thirteenth-Century Paris: Theologians on the Boundary Between Humans and Animals*, by Ian P. Wei. *Comitatus* 52, 2021, pp. 293-5.

### ACADEMIC AWARDS

---

Spring 2023 Stuart J. Wolfenden Fellowship

Fall 2022 GSC Travel and Materials Award Grant

### PRESENTATIONS AT ACADEMIC CONFERENCES

---

January 2023 “A Pernicious Highth?: Verticality and Distortion in Paradise Lost.” 2023 Newberry Multidisciplinary Graduate Conference, January 2023

November 2022 “Heav’n is for thee too high?: Milton’s ‘Lowly’ Environmentalism.” Pacific Modern and Ancient Language Association (PAMLA) Annual Conference, UCLA, November 2022

### ACADEMIC WORKSHOPS

---

“Uncovering Medieval Manuscripts in Early Modern Books” – October 21, 2022, Newberry Library

English Paleography – August 15-19, 2022, California Rare Book School, UCLA

Introduction to Old English language course – July 4-15, 2022, Belfast Summer School, Queen’s University Belfast

“Captured Objects: Studying Premodern Inventories” – May 6, 2022, Newberry Library

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

---

Fall 2022 English 101, Graduated Embedded Tutor, Glendale Community College

## EMPLOYMENT

---

2001–Present **Freelance Writer**

- Writing for publications including Catapult, The Toast, The Awl, McSweeney’s, The Rumpus, The Nervous Breakdown, Electric Lit, and PANK; contributor to seven print anthologies; script writer and researcher for the podcasts Even the Rich and Imagined Life; contributor to Neal Stephenson’s DODO project; and many others. Visit [summerblock.com](http://summerblock.com) for a full list of publications.

2017–2020 **Writing Teacher**

*Writing Workshops LA – Los Angeles CA*

- Teaching workshops on nonfiction, essay, and memoir writing

2014–2020 **Freelance Marketing and Advertising Copy Writer**

- Writing marketing and advertising copy for corporate clients, including blog posts, social media campaigns, taglines, and scripts for commercials

2010–2018 **Producer and Event Organizer**

*Hot Dish Reading Series – Los Angeles CA*

- Producing and hosting a quarterly reading series with J. Ryan Stradal

2016–2017 **Editor**

*Ranker – Los Angeles CA*

- Writing and editing posts on a range of topics, with a focus on history, science, pop culture, and horror/the occult; managing and developing freelancers; generating assignments and accepting or rejecting writer pitches

2015–2017 **Writing Teacher**

*The Writing Pad – Los Angeles CA*

- Teaching workshops on short fiction and essay writing

2013–2015 **Writer and Researcher**

*Futurruption – Los Angeles CA*

- Researching, developing, and testing interactive games and puzzles, with a focus on science, history, and the arts

2009–2013 **Technical Writer**

*iD Content Group – Los Angeles CA*

- Head writer and project manager in compliance, documentation, and professional communication including manuals, memos, and white papers

2006–2007 **Food and Drink Editor**

*That’s Shanghai – Shanghai China*

- Commissioned, wrote, and edited pieces for monthly Food and Drink section; sourced and commissioned photographs; contributed to book and music review sections

- 2004–2005     **Product Content Manager**  
*PayPal – San Jose CA*
- Created content for the PayPal website, including instructional material, customer service emails, and error messages
- 2003–2004     **Editorial Assistant**  
*Morgan Kaufmann Publishers – San Francisco CA*
- Assisted with acquisitions, proposals, contracts, development, manuscript review, endorsements, permissions, and monthly financial reports
- 2002–2003     **Editorial Assistant**  
*Ulysses Press – Berkeley CA*
- Copyediting, proofreading, fact checking, indexing, and research; wrote back cover material; project director for two manuscripts