SHORT STORY AWARD FOR NEW WRITERS

1st Place

Toby Wallis receives $2,500 for "The Sudden End of Everything."

I have no idea what a bivouac is, but I don't say so. I just make a little "ah" noise, trying to sound interested but noncommittal.

Toby Wallis lives in Suffolk, England, and has a blog at tobywallis.net, where he writes predominantly about books and writing. He was short-listed for the Bridport Prize in 2016 and is currently working on a novel. "The Sudden End of Everything" will be his first publication. Find him on Twitter: @tobyshmoby

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2nd Place

L.E. Rodia receives $500 for "Always Arriving."

Alma could not have known, and everything felt to her to have happened so soon, that she did not know how she had come to such a place.

L.E. Rodia is a writer, poet, and classically-trained pianist and composer based in Boston. Originally immigrating to the U.S. at the age of eight, he has lived in Miami, Florida, and Seattle, working in arts and community-driven not-for-profits, while continuing to write. He is currently working on his first novel. @lerodiawrites

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3rd Place

Josh Randall receives $300 for "Pump Head."

I am on a table. I am naked underneath a blanket, on top of several ice packs.

Josh Randall is an MFA candidate at New Mexico State University. After graduating, he hopes to return to his home state of Colorado and finish his novel, which is about his childhood and about video games. This is his first major award. @joshscottr