

SHORT STORY AWARD FOR NEW WRITERS

1st Place

R. Cross receives $2,500 for "Glioblastoma."

"You're totally fucked."
"As in dying?"
"As in that, yes."

R. Cross is a writer from the Midwest. She currently attends the University of Michigan's Helen Zell Writers' Program, where she's working on her first novel as well as a collection of stories. Her fiction has been featured in SmokeLong Quarterly, *Fugue*, Day One, and elsewhere. "Glioblastoma" is her first major print publication. You can find her online at rcross.net.

2nd Place

Scott Gloden receives $500 for "The Birds of Basra."

"Online! You can go online and find exactly where you're from. That's how I learned I was Mexican," she said.

Scott Gloden was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. His stories have appeared in *American Short Fiction*, the *Chicago Tribune*'s Nelson Algren Awards, the *Masters Review,* and *Southern Humanities Review*. He holds a Master's degree in Public Policy from Carnegie Mellon University and lives in New Orleans. Occasional updates at scottgloden.com.

3rd Place

Wesley Straton receives $300 for "Earthquake Whisky."

When he tells these stories, they could be from someone else's life: in New Zealand he is quiet, and he expects the country to be quiet in return. Generally, it obliges.

Wesley Straton grew up in California and found her way to Brooklyn by way of New Zealand and Australia. She writes about found families, alienation, and how where we live shapes who we are. She is an MFA candidate in the Brooklyn College fiction program and is working on a novel. This will be her first fiction publication. wesleystraton.com.