



Fine lines

Autumn 2020

VOLUME 29 ISSUE 3

David Martin: Editor

FINE LINES: Autumn 2020

Volume 29 Issue 3

David Martin: Editor

Copyright © 2020, Fine Lines, Inc.

9905 Rockbrook Road

Omaha, NE 68124

www.finelines.org

ISBN: 979-8-6763-1212-1

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from Fine Lines, Inc.

Fine Lines, Inc. is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit corporation.

EID: 47-0832351

All donations are tax-deductible.

Cover photograph: *Cape Hatteras Light Station* by Ken Smith

Ken Smith Photography, Bellevue Nebraska

kensmithphotography.smugmug.com

KenSmithPhotography@yahoo.com

(Astronomers: this image was reversed to fit our editorial needs. We know the Milky Way is backwards. Don't tell everybody, okay?)

Fine Lines logo designed by Kristy Stark Knapp, Knapp Studios

Book and cover design by Michael Campbell, MC Writing Services

Fine lines

~ Autumn 2020 ~

VOLUME 29 ISSUE 3



David Martin: Editor

MANAGING EDITOR

David Martin

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Steve Gehring

Chairman of the Board, attorney

David Martin

President

English teacher

James Salhany

Retired research biochemist

ADVISER

Yolanda Martin

WEBMASTERS

Kristi Bolling

Mike McCombs

LAYOUT & DESIGN

Michael Campbell,

MC Writing Services

EDITORS

Zoe Baumel

Joseph Benson

Sheila Boerner

Janet Bonet

Jayne Bussing

Kristi FitzGerald

Marcia Forecki

Nancy Genevieve

Ally Halley

Kathie Haskins

Wendy Lundeen

Jerome McAllister

Vince McAndrew

Anne Obradovich

Barbara Thomas Oliver

Cathy Porter

Lisa Tomey

CONTENTS

ABOUT FINE LINES.	xiv
DEDICATION.	xvii
Student Editor's Letter	
<i>Manny Okampa</i>	1
Winter Weeds	
<i>photo by Barb Motes</i>	2
Editor's Letter	
<i>Janet McMillan Rives</i>	3
33 WAYS TO STAY CREATIVE.	5
Diamond Scale	
<i>Meghna Adduri</i>	7
Hard Times	
<i>Bismah Ahmed</i>	12
Poverty in Zimbabwe	
<i>Samarah Ahmed</i>	13
Bubbles Through the Window	
<i>watercolor by Nancy White</i>	14
Tears of Joy, Tears of Sorrow	
<i>Duane Anderson</i>	15
Pasture Statues	
<i>Alfredo Salvatore Arcilesi</i>	18
Four Poems	
<i>Isabelle Arnold</i>	23
The Turkish Lantern	
<i>Mohammed S. Ali</i>	25
Everyone Has Plans	
<i>David Barnes</i>	26

My Element

Kathie Haskins 128

Taste of Childhood

Kathy Jacobs 129

LAST WORDS. 131

First Day

photograph by Sue Shelburne 132

Give My Regards to Fafnir

Loren Logsdon 133

Plums

Deshae E. Lott 139

John Lewis: the First and the Last

Preston Love, Jr. 140

The Agnostic

Wendy Lundeen 143

MAIL. 157

Blue Heron

photograph by Kim McNealy Sosin 162

Every Day a Crossroads

David Martin. 163

Vote 2020

David Martin. 174

ONE LINE QUOTES. 175

Sandhill Cranes Catching a Snooze
in the Platte River

photograph by Kim McNealy Sosin 176

Red Snow

Kaia Martin 177

Plums

DESHAE E. LOTT

(for Kevin)

This is just to say
I have eaten the plums
in the tart
you served with
pistachios, granola, and vanilla ice cream

and which
came among eight bushels
from the local farmer.

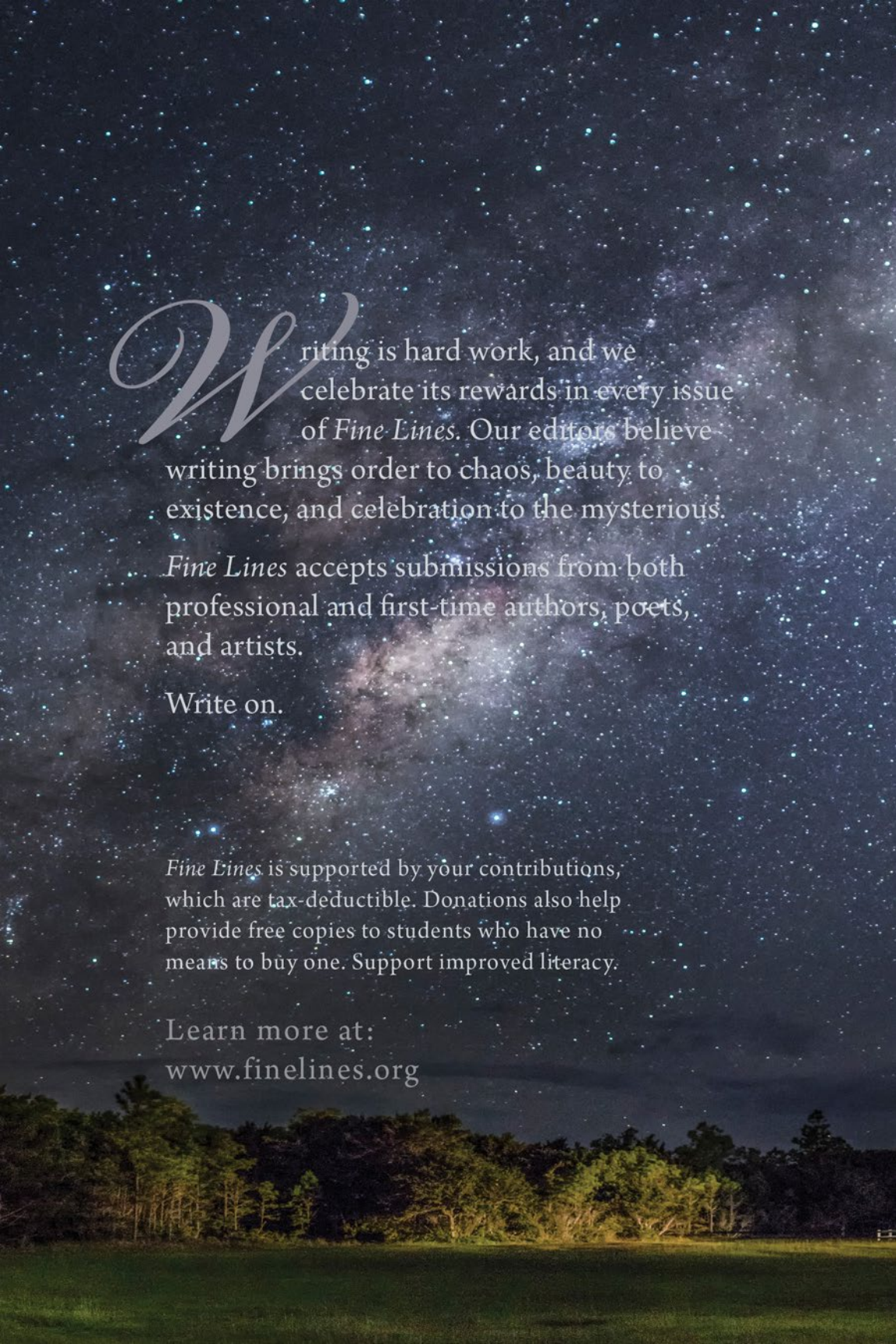
A week of
plum-glazed duck,
plum cake,
plum tart,
so delicious.

I was not deterred when
you noted
how feasting on plums
you felt you'd lost
five pounds.

Now, me too.

www.finelines.org





*W*riting is hard work, and we celebrate its rewards in every issue of *Fine Lines*. Our editors believe writing brings order to chaos, beauty to existence, and celebration to the mysterious.

Fine Lines accepts submissions from both professional and first-time authors, poets, and artists.

Write on.

Fine Lines is supported by your contributions, which are tax-deductible. Donations also help provide free copies to students who have no means to buy one. Support improved literacy.

Learn more at:
www.finelines.org