Published!

I was published in March of 2009 in the literary journal *The Quarterly Conversation*. Originally, I had written to the primary editor, Scott Esposito, about reviewing N. Katherine Hayles' latest book *Electronic Literature: New Horizons For The Literary*. After emailing back and forth with Scott, he proposed I write a longer feature on electronic literature in general, supplementing it with a review of Hayles' book. (If you were at last semester's symposium, I read a rough version of this).

Currently I am putting together an interview with Dr. Angela Thomas on her work adapting canonical Literature (Macbeth & the Myth of Persephone) to the MMO game Second Life. This interview will be published in September by the journal *Transformative Works & Cultures*. We are collaborating via a Google Doc and discuss most of our via direct messaging on Twitter.

How It's Done

As I stated, I sent a proposal to Scott Esposito at *The Quarterly Conversation* and we decided on a feature article for the spring issue. The process for this article was very smooth. Esposito sent me ideas in the beginning and eagerly offered to discuss any ideas I had. *The Quarterly Conversation* is pretty avant garde, a lot of their focus is on South American literature and works in translation, but had never covered much electronic literature before, so he was very enthusiastic about including it in the latest issue. We went through a series of edits which really made the article considerably better as it was developed. His commentary on my work was helpful and made the process very easy.

My work with Dr. Thomas, who teaches in Australia, has been a collaborative effort Online. I've known her for a number of years, so we are already in touch most days via weblog comments, emails, or messages on Twitter. Putting together the interview has involved creating a Google Doc that both of us can edit and adding questions as we go. This morning I added a number of clarifying comments to her answers so that she can expand and elaborate on a number of issues. We're planning to have a final product sometime next week.

<u>Sound Advice</u>

My advice to graduate students is two fold. First, think of your seminar papers as potential launching pads for journal articles. A number of ideas I am developing this summer into journal proposals have come from papers I wrote for professors at Monmouth. Your MA thesis research will also be a great place to find ideas. My writing and revision process has allowed me to have a number of ideas which I could potentially turn into proposals as well. At first, when I began chopping chunks out of my larger thesis draft, I was distraught and very depressed. A wise friend recently advised me, however, that quite frankly if you're not cutting portions out you're probably doing it wrong. A number of chopped portions will be things I send to journals as proposals this summer.

My other advice is to not be afraid. Most journals and/or editors don't bite. I have had an excellent experience with both journals I have worked with. I am also in the process of writing an article for the *Digital Humanities Quarterly* and they have been very helpful and enthusiastic about any help/advice they can give me about my work. The worst a journal can do is say no to your proposal. Even if they do, another might come along.