

[Homepage](#)

## Erin O'Brien's Unabridged Writing Biography

### **Nonfiction and Positions**

Feature, "A Scouting Adventure in the Mahoning Valley," CAN Journal, Editor Michael Gill, Spring 2021

Staff Editor and Writer, Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland, September 2020- September 2021

*Rust Belt Burlesque*: The softer side of a heavy metal town, Ohio University/Swallow Press, July 2019

Freelance Contributor: Destination Cleveland, Fresh Water Cleveland, hiVelocity, Ohio City Argus, Inside Business Magazine, private contract work, 2010 - present

Feature, "Creative Fusion: Old River, New Perspectives," CAN Journal, Editor Michael Gill, Summer 2019

Blog, "Tombs and Treasures: William Harper at Cleveland Institute of Art," CAN Journal, Editor Michael Gill, April 2019

Feature, "On the Homestead with Dana Depew," CAN Journal, Editor Michael Gill, Spring 2019

Feature, "Creative Fusion: Fifty Years after the Crooked River Burned, a Global Response," CAN Journal, Editor Michael Gill, Spring 2019

Essay, "Hidden Lakewood: The Gold Coast," Lakewood Observer, Editor Jim O'Bryan, April 18, 2018

Managing Editor, Fresh Water Cleveland, February 2016-June 2017

Development News Editor, Fresh Water Cleveland, October 2014-January 2016

Essay, "Creative Fusion," CAN Journal, Editor Michael Gill, Summer, 2016

Essay, "Meet the ICA Art Conservationists," Belt Magazine, Editor, Anne Trubeck, April 2, 2014

Managing Editor, hiVelocity, May-Sept 2013

Essay, "Made of Cleveland," CAN Journal, Editor Michael Gill, Winter, 2012/2013

In Memoriam, "Randall Tiedman," CAN Journal, Editor Michael Gill, Winter, 2012/2013

Essay, "Small Moment, Big Space," CAN Journal, Editor Michael Gill, Fall, 2012

Feature, "A Can Full of Summer," CAN Journal, Editor Michael Gill, Summer, 2012

Book Review, *My Friend Dahmer* by Derf Backderf, Scriptype Publishing, Publisher, Sue Serdinak, April/May 2012

*The Irish Hungarian Guide to the Domestic Arts*, book-length memoir, Red Giant Books, February 2012

Freelance contributor, Demand Media, April 2010-April 2011

Feature, "Credit Card Laws Crash Course," eHow Money, Oct. 3, 2010

Contributor, the Cleveland Scene, July 2008-Oct. 2010

2010 Lantern Award Recipient: "The Erin O'Brien Owner's Manual for Human Beings," Best Blog in Northeast Ohio, Sept. 11, 2010

Personal Essay, Los Angeles Times, Editor, David Ulin, August 1, 2010

Op-ed essay, "Meanwhile, Back in Cleveland ..." New York Times, Editor, Clay Risen, July 9, 2010

"Rainy Day Woman" Columnist, the Cleveland Scene/Free Times, Editor Frank Lewis, 2006-2010

News Feature, "Forced Hot Air," Cleveland Scene, Editor, Frank Lewis, December 16, 2009

Google Blog of Note: "The Erin O'Brien Owner's Manual for Human Beings," Oct. 21, 2009

Cover Story/Feature, "Drill Baby Drill," Cleveland Scene, Editor, Frank Lewis, September 30, 2009

Cover Story/Feature, "The Croc Whisperer," Cleveland Scene, Editor, Frank Lewis, August 26, 2009

Personal Essay, Los Angeles Times, Editor, David Ulin, July 19, 2009

Epilogue, *Leaving Las Vegas (Via Da Las Vegas)*, minimum fax, Translator: Raul Montanari, June 2009

Personal Essay, Detroit Metro Times, Editor, Brian Smith, February 11, 2009

Regular contributor, the Free Times, April 2006-July 2008

Book Review, Dear American Airlines by Jonathan Miles, the Cleveland Free Times, Editor, Michael Gill, June 11, 2008

Book Review/Essay, Love and Sex with Robots by David Levy, Edward Champion's Filthy Habits, Editor, Edward Champion, April 30, 2008

Cover Story/Feature, "Leaving Las Vegas: Rearview," Cleveland Free Times, Editor, Frank Lewis, April 16, 2008

Cover Story/Feature, Cleveland Nite Moves Disco, Cleveland Free Times,  
Editor, Frank Lewis, February 13, 2008

Book Review, Mortarville by Grant Bailie, the Cleveland Free Times, Editor,  
Michael Gill. January 30, 2008

Personal Essay, Edward Champion's Filthy Habits, Editor, Edward Champion,  
January 11, 2008

Book Review, Small Town Punk by John Sheppard, the Cleveland Free Times,  
Editor, Michael Gill, March 21, 2007

Editor and regular contributor, the BroadView Journal, January 2001-October  
2006

Cover Story/Feature, Northeast Ohio Transgender Community, Cleveland Free  
Times, Editor, Frank Lewis, August 2, 2006

Personal Essay, Cleveland Plain Dealer, Editor Karen Sandstrom, July 10, 2006

Personal Essay, Cleveland Free Times, Editor, Frank Lewis, May 17, 2006

Website Review/Essay, BeautifulAgony.com, Cleveland Free Times, Editor, Frank  
Lewis, April 12, 2006

Personal Essay, Cleveland Plain Dealer, Editor, Karen Sandstrom, March 4,  
2006

Book Review, Cleveland in Prose and Poetry edited by Bonnie Jacobson, angle,  
Editor, Amy Sparks. January/February 2006

Personal Essay, Cleveland Plain Dealer Sunday Magazine, Editor, Ellen  
Burbach, October 30, 2005

Personal Essay, Cleveland Plain Dealer Sunday Magazine, Editor, Ellen  
Burbach, September 4, 2005

Author Interview, Maureen McHugh, angle, Editor, Amy Sparks,  
September/October 2005

Author Interview, Steven Hayward, angle, Editor, Amy Sparks, March/April 2005

Essay on Author Larry Brown, Cleveland Plain Dealer, Editor, Karen Sandstrom,  
December 19, 2004

Feature, Pro-Wrestler Dan Bobish, Northern Ohio Live, Editor, Kathryn DeLong.  
September 2003

Author Interview, Kelly Link, angle, Editor, Amy Sparks, June 2003

Feature, Glass Blowing Studio, Cleveland Free Times, Editor, Amy Sparks.  
August 1, 2001

Book Review, Chasing Shadows by Lucrecia Guerrerro, Ohio Writer, Editor, Ron  
Antonucci. July/August 2001

Book Review, High Maintenance by Jennifer Belle and The Shape of Things to

Come by Maud Casey, Cleveland Free Times, Editor, Amy Sparks. May 9, 2001

Book Review, The Writer's Idea Book by Jack Heffron, Ohio Writer, Editor, Ron Antonucci. May/June 2001

Book Review, A Writer's Guide to Emergency Rescue Professions by Lois and James Cowan and Code Blue: A Writer's Guide to Hospitals by Dr. Keith Wilson, Ohio Writer, Editor, Ron Antonucci. September/October 2000

Book Review, Fay by Larry Brown, Cleveland Free Times, Editor, Amy Sparks. July 5, 2000

Book Review, The Harvest by Judith Hemschemeyer, Ohio Writer, Editor, Ron Antonucci. May/June 2000

### **Appearances-Presentations-Workshops**

Virtual Author Presentation, Rocky River Public Library, OH, July 16, 2020

Author Panelist, Willoughby Public Library, Willoughby, OH, Feb. 19, 2020

Author Presentation, Westlake Porter Public Library, Westlake, OH, Dec. 16, 2019

Author Presentation, Akron Summit County Library, Goodyear Branch, Akron, OH, Dec. 9, 2019

Book signing, Loganberry Books, Shaker Heights, OH., Aug. 9, 2019.

Author Presentation, Cuyahoga County Public Library, Middleburgh Heights, OH, Nov. 14, 2019

Author Presentation, Medina County District Library, Highland Branch, Medina, OH, Nov. 13, 2019

Author Presentation, Cuyahoga County Public Library, Fairview Park, OH, Nov. 6, 2019

Author Presentation, Cuyahoga County Public Library, Mayfield Village, OH, Oct. 8, 2019

Author Presentation, Cuyahoga County Public Library, North Royalton, OH, Sept. 18, 2019

Author Presentation, Medina County District Library, Medina, OH, Sept. 14, 2019

Author Presentation, Bexley Public Library, Bexley, OH, Aug. 22, 2019

Author Presentation, Lakewood Public Library, Lakewood, OH, Aug. 15, 2019

Book signing, Visible Voice Books, Cleveland, OH., Aug. 9, 2019.

Book signing, Space:ROCK Gallery , Cleveland, OH., Aug, 1-3, 2019.

Interview with David C. Barnett, *The Sound of Ideas*, 90.3 WCPN Ideastream, NPR Cleveland, OH, July 30, 2019

Interview with Ravenna Miceli, oWOW radio, Cleveland, OH, July 11, 2019.

Book signing, B-Side Liquor Lounge, Cleveland Heights, OH., July 11, 2019.

Featured Author, Author Alley Book Fair, Loganberry Books, Shaker Heights, OH., July 6, 2019.

Interview, The Cool CLE Show, "Rust Belt Burlesque with Erin O'Brien," July 6, 2019

Speaker, Advanced Writing Class, Ursuline College, Pepper Pike, OH. Nov. 15, 2017

Weekly appearance previewing *FreshWater* Cleveland on oWOW radio, April 2016 - May 2017

Workshop Leader, "The Art of the Interview," Western Reserve Fall Writers' Conference, Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, OH. Sept. 26, 2015

Speaker, Monthly Meeting, College Club of Cleveland, Cleveland Heights, OH. June 1, 2015

Speaker, Mini Lecture Series, Cleveland Psychoanalytic Center, Cleveland Heights, OH. Nov. 5, 2014

Speaker, Write-in-the-Country Conference, Red Maple Inn, Burton, OH. Oct. 25, 2014

Speaker, Creative Writing Class, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH. Oct. 16, 2014

Speaker, Advanced Writing Class, Ursuline College, Pepper Pike, OH. Nov. 13, 2013

Speaker, 30th Western Reserve Fall Writers' Conference, Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, OH. Sept. 29, 2013

Workshop Leader, "Livin' the Online Life," Ohio City Writers, Cleveland, OH. July. 18, 2013

Featured author, "The Irish Hungarian," Westlake Ladies' Book Club, Westlake, OH. May 13, 2013

Judge, "Inked" Writing Competition, Hathaway Brown School, Shaker Hts., OH. May 11, 2013

Speaker, 22st Western Reserve Spring Writers' Conference, Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, OH. March 23, 2013

Workshop Leader, "Eat. Love. Write.," Cuyahoga County Public Library, Middleburg Hts. Branch, March 4, 2013

Workshop Leader, "Livin' the Online Life," Cuyahoga County Public Library,  
Middleburg Hts. Branch, Feb. 7, 2013

Presentation, "Finding (and writing) the Magic in Everyday Life," Cuyahoga  
County Public Library, Brecksville Branch, Nov. 29, 2012

Signing, Loganberry Books, Cleveland, OH. Nov. 23, 2012

Featured Speaker, "Meet the Author," Lakewood Public Library, Lakewood, OH.  
October 17, 2012

Workshop Leader, "Eat. Love. Write.," Cuyahoga County Public Library,  
Independence Branch, Aug. 15, 2012

Signing, Loganberry Books, Cleveland, OH. July 7, 2012

Featured author, "The Irish Hungarian Guide to the Domestic Arts," Beachwood  
Book Club, Cuyahoga County Public Library, Beachwood, OH. June 23, 2012

Workshop Leader, 21st Western Reserve Spring Writers' Conference, Lakeland  
Community College, Kirtland, OH. March 31, 2012

Reading/Signing, Mac's Backs Books, Cleveland Hts., OH. March 24, 2012

Featured Guest, WCPN 90.3 FM "Around Noon" with Dee Perry, Cleveland, OH Feb.  
8, 2012

Reading/Signing, Local Girl Gallery, Lakewood, OH. February 2, 2012

Speaker, Advanced Writing Class, Ursuline College, Pepper Pike, OH. November  
16, 2011

Speaker, "The Power of Belief," House Kheperu Gathering, Cleveland, OH. May  
15, 2011

Career Presentation to 7th Grade, Brecksville-Broadview Heights Middle  
School, Brecksville, OH. Oct. 19, 2010

Featured Guest, WCPN 90.3 FM "Around Noon" with Dee Perry, Cleveland, OH  
Sept. 7, 2010

Keynote Speaker and Presenter, In the Company of Women: A Writing Retreat,  
Maumee, OH. April 16-18, 2010

Speaker, Advanced Writing Class, Ursuline College, Pepper Pike, OH. November  
18, 2009

Featured Writer, 35 Year Anniversary Celebration, Cleveland's Literary  
Center, Cleveland, OH. November 7, 2009

Discussion Leader, "Illuminating Twilight," Cuyahoga County Public Library,  
14 locations system-wide, Cuyahoga County, OH. October/November 2009

Keynote Speaker, 26th Western Reserve Writers' Conference and Workshop,  
Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, OH. Sept. 19, 2009

Featured Guest, WCPN 90.3 FM "Around Noon" with Dee Perry, Cleveland, OH July 20, 2009

Speaker, "In Celebration of John O'Brien," Book Soup, Los Angeles, CA. July 16, 2009

Reading/Signing, Mac's Backs Books, Cleveland Hts., OH. July 11, 2009

Discussion Leader, Cuyahoga County Public Library Independence Branch, "Illuminating *Twilight*," Independence, OH June 4, 2009

Reading/Signing, Rocky River Library "Meet the Author" Book Festival, Rocky River, OH. May 16, 2009

Speaker, Career Day, Brecksville-Broadview Heights Middle School, Brecksville, OH. April 29, 2009

Leader, "Between the Lines of *Twilight*," Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, OH. April 2 and 9, 2009

Leader, "Turning Nonfiction into Creative Art," Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, OH. March 28, 2009

Keynote Speaker, Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society, Ursuline College, Pepper Pike, OH. March 27, 2009

Featured Guest, WNCX 98.5 FM "The Morning Show," Cleveland, OH March 17, 2009

Featured Guest, WNCX 98.5 FM "The Morning Show," Cleveland, OH March 10, 2009

Featured Guest, WNCX 98.5 FM "The Morning Show," Cleveland, OH Feb. 10, 2009

Speaker, Girl's Day, Cuyahoga Heights Middle School, Cuyahoga Heights, OH. Jan. 21, 2009

Featured Guest, WNCX 98.5 FM "The Morning Show," Cleveland, OH Dec. 9, 2008

Discussion Leader, The Lit, *Leaving Las Vegas* Screening, Cleveland, OH May 24, 2008

Featured Guest, WCPN 90.3 FM "Around Noon" with Dee Perry, Cleveland, OH May 20, 2008

Featured Guest, WNCX 98.5 FM "Mud, Mihalik and Mike in the Mornings," Cleveland, OH May 13, 2008

Reading/Signing, Mac's Backs Books, Cleveland Hts., OH. April 19, 2008

Featured Guest, WNCX 98.5 FM "Mud, Mihalik and Mike in the Mornings," Cleveland, OH April 15, 2008

Inaugural Speaker, Literary Creativity and Invention Club, Lakewood, OH. April 1, 2008

Featured Guest, WNCX 98.5 FM "Mud, Mihalik and Mike Live at West Park Station," Cleveland, OH March 17, 2008

Panelist, "Rockin' in the Googleverse," Cleveland Digital Publishing User Group, Cleveland, OH. Feb. 28, 2008

Featured author, "Harvey & Eck," Chesterland Book Club, Chesterland, OH. Feb. 20, 2008

Speaker, Career Day, Brecksville-Broadview Heights Middle School, Brecksville, OH. Feb. 20, 2008

Featured Guest, WNCX 98.5 FM "Mud, Mihalik and Mike in the Mornings," Cleveland, OH Feb. 12, 2008

Featured Guest, WNCX 98.5 FM "Mud, Mihalik and Mike in the Mornings," Cleveland, OH Feb. 5, 2008

Key Note Speaker, Women Writers' Winter Retreat, Willoughby, OH. Feb. 1, 2008

Featured Guest, WNCX 98.5 FM "Mud, Mihalik and Mike in the Mornings," Cleveland, OH Dec. 4, 2007

Featured Guest, WRUW 91.1 FM "Route 66," Cleveland, OH Nov. 14, 2007

Featured Guest, WNCX 98.5 FM "Mud, Mihalik and Mike in the Mornings," Cleveland, OH Nov. 6, 2007

Featured author, "Harvey & Eck," Sherbrook Book Club, Solon, OH. Oct. 29, 2007

Leader, "Bringing Personal Essay to Life," Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, OH. Sept. 15, 2007

Panelist, "Successful Freelance Writing," Society of Professional Journalists; Cleveland Chapter, Independence, OH. June 23, 2007

Presenter, In the Company of Women VII: A Writing Retreat, Newbury, OH. April 13-15, 2007

Speaker, Women's Writer Group, Parma, OH. March 30, 2007

Panelist, "Fiction Writers Unscripted," Poets' and Writers' League of Greater Cleveland, Cleveland, OH. March 8, 2007

Presenter, Women Writers' Winter Retreat, Willoughby, OH. Feb. 3, 2007

Featured author, "Harvey & Eck," Someone Has to Die First Book Club, Avon, OH. Jan. 22, 2007

Speaker, Kent Women's Writer Group, Kent, OH. Jan. 21, 2007

Featured writer, "Lyrical Wines," a reading and wine tasting at Budapest Blonde, Independence, OH. Dec. 6, 2006

Featured author, "Harvey & Eck," Berea Ladies Book Club, Berea, OH. Nov. 27, 2006

Panelist, "Fiction Writers Unscripted," Poets' and Writers' League of Greater



Cleveland, Cleveland, OH. Aug. 24, 2006

Leader, "Writing about Sex," Poets' and Writers' League of Greater Cleveland, Cleveland, OH. June 13, 2006

Honoree, "Writers and their Friends" Biennial Literary Gala, Poets' and Writers' League of Greater Cleveland, Cleveland, OH. June 3, 2006

Featured Guest, WCPN 90.3 FM "Around Noon" with Dee Perry, Cleveland, OH June 2, 2006

Leader, Public Fiction Workshop, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH. March 22 - May 24, 2006

Reading/Signing, Rocky River Library "Meet the Author" Book Festival, Rocky River, OH. April 22, 2006

Leader, "Writing Accessible Fiction," Poets' and Writers' League of Greater Cleveland, Cleveland, OH. April 13, 2006

Leader, "Creating Credible Characters," Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, OH. March 25, 2006

Speaker, Career Day, Independence Middle School, Independence, OH. March 24, 2006

Speaker, North West Ohio Writers, Toledo, OH. March 18, 2006

Speaker, Encore Class, Cuyahoga Community College, Beachwood, OH. Feb. 24, 2006

Speaker, Career Day, Brecksville-Broadview Heights Middle School, Brecksville, OH. Feb. 14, 2006

Speaker, West Side Writers, Westlake Library, Westlake, OH. January 21, 2006

Reading/Signing, Charing Cross Book Store, Cleveland, OH. Dec. 2, 2005

Reading/Signing, Loganberry Books, Cleveland, OH. Nov. 17, 2005

Reading/Signing, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH. Nov. 15, 2005

Panel Leader, "Business of Being a Fiction Writer," Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH. Nov. 12, 2005

Reading/Signing, Local Girl Gallery, Lakewood, OH. Oct. 21, 2005

Leader, "Writing Accessible Fiction," Poets' and Writers' League of Greater Cleveland, Cleveland, OH. Oct. 13, 2005

Leader, "Big Fiction, Little Details," Poets' and Writers' League of Greater Cleveland, Cleveland, OH. Sept 28, 2005

Reading/Signing, Mac's Backs Books, Cleveland Hts., OH. Sept. 20, 2005

Reading/Signing, Joyeaux Boutique, Brecksville, OH. Sept. 17, 2005

Leader, "The Art of the Short Story," Lakeland Community College, Kirtland,  
OH. March 19, 2005

Panel, "The Business of Being a Fiction Writer," Cleveland State University,  
Cleveland, OH. Nov. 6, 2004

## **Short Fiction**

"People Who Need People"

Amazon Kindle  
September 2010

"Night Mourning"

*Muse*  
July 2008

"Skywriting with King Tut down at the Little Egypt"

*Santi: Lives of Modern Saints*  
January 2008

"Skeleton Mom"

*Air in the Paragraph Line, Issue 12*  
September 2007

## **Novel**

*Harvey & Eck*

Zumaya Publications  
August 2005

2006 Eppie Finalist

2006 PWLGC "Writers and Their Friends" Honoree