



Catherine Stansfield, Class of 2017

CB: *What is your current position, and what are your responsibilities in this position?*

CS: I'm currently working as a publishing assistant and book cover designer for Writer's Relief. In this position, I take part of many of the duties needed to transform ideas into publications. I research the publishing industry, format and proofread works, create engaging blog posts and social media content for writers, and so much more. I have also always had a knack for technology and graphic design, but I am now able to apply these skills to helping writers transform the ideas and motifs behind their works into the book covers of their dreams.

CB: *What skills that you gained as an English major at Caldwell have you been able to apply in your career?*

CS: Caldwell's English department is rigorous, yet autonomous. The entire English department pushed me to higher and higher levels of quality and thought, yet let me explore my own topics and interests to transform into academic writing. This has made me not only a stronger writer, but a stronger thinker. Caldwell also shapes us into advanced technical writers, which can make any business or industry better. Other majors train you for one goal, like becoming a nurse, an accountant, etc. English majors can take our writing skills and have a flexible work experience and more opportunities. Because of this, I have

had the opportunity to work in the medical, industrial, and beauty industries.

CB: *After graduating from Caldwell, did you consider attending graduate school? If you are attending graduate school, which school do you attend and what is your coursework like?*

CS: I did consider and apply to graduate schools! With the skills I gained as an English major, and the wonderful recommendation letters written by my former professors, I was accepted rather quickly.

However, I decided to put my academic career on hold to see what the workforce had to offer!

CB: *What advice do you have for current Caldwell English majors/minors in regards to attending college and developing a career after graduation?*

CS: Take your time, have patience, and be open. Finding a job you enjoy and in the field you want isn't an overnight process! It takes time and sometimes hundreds of applications to find a job that sounds promising and complete an interview. It's important to treat every application the same way. Take the

time to read the descriptions and tailor your resume and cover letter accordingly. Rather than memorizing the answers to standard interview questions, reflect on yourself, your skills, and your work and educational experience so that your interactions with hiring managers are competitive, yet natural.

It's also important to be open when looking for jobs, especially as an English major, because we have such flexible and necessary skills. Every industry, from medical, to technical, to creative, needs a writer.

Most businesses now have an online presence and need strong writers to stay relevant. You may not wind up in a publishing house, but you can write and edit just about anywhere and still do what you love.

CB: *Have you been successful in publishing any original work?*

CS: I have published dozens of articles in a variety of fields. I have worked as a contributing writer for a home design website, wrote promotional pieces for a dermatology group, and covered landmark events like New York Fashion Week as a journalist. Right now, I'm working on moving slightly away from journalism and trying my hand at creative writing.

CB: *Is there one professor or faculty member from Caldwell that especially inspired you? Why?*

CS: Each faculty member in Caldwell's English department have inspired me in their own ways. I think Dr. Verrone has inspired me to articulate my thoughts both in discussions and in writing with more confidence because of the encouragement she gives in her classes. Dr. Miller has also inspired me to read and write more poetry and helped me discover that it is still a budding genre. She has also inspired me to really become a part of the publishing industry after witnessing her hard work on *Presence: A Journal of Catholic Poetry*.

CB: *Who is your favorite author and what makes them so notable?*

CS: I think Neil Hilborn is a fantastic poet who can turn even a three line poem into something so deep and thought-provoking.

CB: *Is there a short excerpt from one of your successful works that you would like to share with the Caldwell community?*

CS: Below is an excerpt from a piece I wrote about how the art style in Netflix's original series BoJack Horseman is directly connected with the show's narrative.

"Since its premiere, BoJack Horseman has taken a unique take on visual storytelling. Not only has the show's bright style and imaginative character creation allowed for a one-of-a-kind narrative, but the show takes it even further with its artistic direction...Artistically, BoJack's inner-monologues are paired with crude, line-art drawings to match how he feels about himself. This artistic break from the clean animation of the show works to play for the audience the effects BoJack's trauma has on his psyche...

[The show] approaches mental illness in a different light by contrasting art styles from clean to violent to express inner turmoil, and all the while, continues with the theme of intergenerational trauma.”

View Catherine’s complete review using the link below!

<https://livinglifefearless.co/2017/features/bojack-horseman-season-4-proves-netflixs-artistic-original-yet/>