

Emily Iris Degn

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I am an experienced environmental writer, published eco-poet and essayist, nature photographer, and community organizer. My goal is to facilitate a bond between people and nature, and provide education through the arts. I am a creative thinker, dedicated climate activist, and leader.

References: Mary Hill, Supervisor at *Roanoke Review Literary Magazine*: 540-204-7279

Juhea Kim, Editor at Peaceful Dumpling Magazine and bestselling eco-author: juheakim@gmail.com

Pattie Gonia, eco-activist colleague and friend: pattiegonia@gmail.com

Melanie Almeder, Professor at Roanoke College: almeder@roanoke.edu

Laura Hartman, Activism/ENVS Advisor at Roanoke College: hartman@roanoke.edu

Website and Art: <https://www.emilyirisdegn.com/>

Writing Portfolio: <https://emirisdegn.journoportfolio.com/> <https://www.emilyirisdegn.com/published-writing>

Education: BS environmental studies, Roanoke College

BA creative writing, Roanoke College

AA art history, Roanoke College

CONC gender and women's studies, Roanoke College

Dean's List, Honor Roll, member of Sigma Tau Delta, winner of multiple scholarships, recipient of the Senior Achievement Award, recipient of the Environmental Studies Outstanding Student in Environmental Justice and Culture, and two-time recipient of the Creative Project Award in the Gender and Women's Studies Concentration

Languages: Bilingual in English and Portuguese, proficient in Spanish, intermediate French/Italian translation to English, and beginner level Finnish/Icelandic translation to English

Certifications: Esri ArcGIS, 2020

C2C Sustainability Leadership Training Bard College, 2021

Global Text Project Diploma in Tourism Studies, 2021

Professional Achievements: Best of Net finalist, nominated by Coffin Bell Journal, 2021

Eco-poetry, essays, and flash fiction have appeared in various publications and books, including *About Place Journal*, *Lunch Ticket*, and *Capsule Stories*

Served as judge for the international eco-poetry contest organized by *Roanoke Review*, 2022-2023

Volunteer Work: 4,000+ hours

Community Educator, Art Director, and PR Specialist: creek clean-up project at Roanoke College, 2021-22

Community Gardener and Food Accessibility Advocate- LEAP Roanoke, 2021

Tree Phenology Surveyor- Appalachian Trail Conservancy, 2019

Green Spokesperson- Roanoke College Dining Services, 2019

Volunteer Teacher, Gender Equity Advocate, and Environmental Educator- City of Caragatatuba, 2016

Independent volunteer work including litter clean-ups, ecological activism, gender equity projects and soup kitchen work

Work History: Environmental Educator and Creative Workshop Leader- *Roanoke College, Roanoke Review Alumni Program*, and independently: Salem, Va and remote

May 2022- Present

Teach outdoor classes about natural processes and the local bioregion, centering it in interconnection and humanity's place in the natural world. Facilitate workshops for ecofeminism writing, nature poetry, and intersectional environmentalism.

Eco-Travel Writer & Photographer-*Arrivedo, Explore Washington State, Peaceful Dumpling Magazine, Taylor Magazine*, and freelance: Remote/on site globally

December 2016- Present

Write travel and neighborhood guides for hotels and tourism boards around the world, with a specialization in the Nordics.

Climate Journalist and Environmental Staff Writer- *Peaceful Dumpling Magazine*: Remote

July 2020- Present

Write about conscious living topics such as zero waste, veganism, slow living, ecofeminism, etc., as well as interview celebrities such as Pattie Gonia, Phil Torres, Mikaela Loach, and Hrafna.

Garde Manger Chef- *bloom restaurant and wine bar*: Roanoke, VA

July 2022-November 2022

Cook, prepare, and craft fine dining plates made with sustainable and locally sourced ingredients. Specialized in tapas style and deconstructed concepts.

Co-Managing Editor and Art Director, prev: Reader & Publishing Review Staff- *Roanoke Review Literary Magazine*: Salem, VA

April 2019-June 2022

Orchestrate staff meetings, decide which pieces to publish, communicate with authors, design and manage the website, design broadsides for promotions, and organize PR events. Manage a staff of 20 people.

Sustainability Contributing Writer- *Vegancuts*: Remote

January 2022-April 2022

Write about sustainability and environmental topics.

Assistant Editor- *Poets Reading the News*: Remote

December 2019- August 2020

Read over environmental and political submissions, and pick poems for the next issue.

Animal Ethology Researcher- *Roanoke College Philosophy, Environmental, and Film Departments*: Salem, VA
October 2018-April 2020

Conducted animal ethology research alongside Roanoke College faculty, writing essays and summarizing findings. Research involved zoological texts, ecological courses, and a film project looking into how dogs are depicted in film. Ultimate goal was for two members of the faculty to co-write a book on the subject.

Environmental Journalist- *Borgen Magazine*: Remote

January 2018- April 2018

Writing internship for Borgen Magazine and The Borgen Project. Call and email congress weekly about legislation, fundraise, and stay up to date on current affairs.

Art Director and Moving Help- Neil Patrick Harris and family: New York City, New York
June 2017

Helped organize Neil's art and high luxury items in preparation for a renovation project. Helped direct movers, wrapped items, & ran errands as well.

Whale Conservation Educator and Tour Guide- Island Adventures: Anacortes, WA
March 2017- April 2017

Educated guests about Salish Sea whales, and the struggles the orca whales were facing with the salmon crisis. Translated for international guests, and helped with deckhand duties such as engine checks and ropes.

Barista and Portuguese Guest Translator- Starbucks: Ashburn, VA and Salem, VA
September 2016-January 2017 and September 2021-May 2022

Provided customer care, operated POS and espresso machinery, crafted drinks and food, and translated in Portuguese (and occasionally Spanish) for international guests.