

# Grant Shreve, PhD | Baltimore, MD

## Education

**Ph.D., English | Johns Hopkins University | 2017**

Dissertation: “Fragile Belief: Secularity and the Antebellum American Novel”

**M.A., English | University of Arizona | 2010**

**B.S., Literature | Harvey Mudd College | 2006**

## Professional Experience

**Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) | Chevy Chase, MD**

Director, Leadership Communications & External Relations (Feb 2025 – Present)

Senior Manager, Executive Communications (Jul 2024 – Jan 2025)

Senior Writer, Executive Communications (Dec 2023 – Jun 2024)

**Johns Hopkins University, Office of the President | Baltimore, MD**

Assistant Director of Speechwriting (Jul 2023 – Nov 2023)

Senior Writer (Jul 2019 – Jun 2023)

Writer (Mar 2018 – Jun 2019)

**Wolters Kluwer | Baltimore, MD**

Production Editor for Health, Learning, Research & Practice (Apr 2017 – Mar 2018)

**Johns Hopkins University, English Department | Baltimore, MD**

Associate Editor, English Literary History (ELH) (Aug 2013 – May 2016)

Writing Instructor (Aug 2012 – May 2013)

**University of Arizona, Writing Program | Tucson, AZ**

Composition Instructor (Aug 2007 – May 2010)

Writing Placement Advisor (May 2009 – Sep 2009)

**Southern Arizona Community Academy | Tucson, AZ**

Language Arts and Mathematics Instructor (Grades 9-12) (Jul 2006 – Jul 2007)

## Publications & Scholarship

### Books

*What Universities Owe Democracy*, Ronald J. Daniels with Grant Shreve and Phillip Spector. Johns Hopkins University Press, 2021.

## Journal Articles

“The Exodus of Martin Delany,” *American Literary History* 29.3 (2017): 449–73.

“Fragile Belief: Lydia Maria Child’s *Hobomok* and the Scene of American Secularity,” *American Literature* 86.4 (2014): 655–82.

“The Shadows of Reconstruction: Marriage and Reunion in Herman Melville’s ‘The Scout Toward Aldie,’” *Leviathan: A Journal of Melville Studies* 14.1 (2012): 9–23.

## Book Chapters

“Inspired Embarrassments: On Rough Drafts,” in *Driven to Write: 45 Writers on the Motives and Mysteries of their Craft*, ed. Ellen Pinsky and Michael Slevin (Routledge, 2025).

“‘Quit Lit’ Then and Now,” in *Leaving the Grove: A Quit Lit Reader*, ed. Christopher Flanagan and Glenn Wright (Syracuse University Press, 2022).

“Get Out of My Head: Experiencing Cultural Paranoia in Jordan Peele’s *Get Out*,” in *The Trauma of Racism: Lessons from the Therapeutic Encounter*, ed. Beverly J. Stoute and Michael Slevin (Routledge, 2022).

“Nephite Secularization; or, Picking and Choosing in the Book of Mormon,” *Americanist Approaches to the Book of Mormon*, ed. Elizabeth Fenton and Jared Hickman (Oxford University Press, 2019).

“Invisible Man and the Mysteries of Reconstruction,” *Critical Insights: Invisible Man*, ed. Robert C. Evans (Salem Press, 2018).

“Ralph Ellison’s *Three Days Before the Shooting* . . . and the Implicit Morality of Form,” *The New Territory: Ralph Ellison and the Twenty-First Century*, ed. Marc Conner and Lucas Morel (University Press of Mississippi, 2016).

## Selected Public Writing

“‘Quit Lit’ Then and Now,” [Inside Higher Ed](#), April 4, 2018.

“In Praise of Unfinished Novels,” [The Millions](#), February 21, 2018.

“How Wonder Woman and the Last Jedi could make our politics worse,” [The Washington Post](#), December 29, 2017.

“Bernie Sanders, American Universalist,” [RealClearReligion](#), June 16, 2017.

“I fell hard for the Book of Mormon but did not convert,” [Deseret News](#), May 30, 2017.

“The Book of Mormon Gets the Literary Treatment,” [ARC: Religion, Politics, Et Cetera](#), May 23, 2017.

JSTOR Daily essays (selected)

- [“What a Paragraph Is.”](#) May 23, 2018 ([Best of 2018](#)).
- [“Frog and Toad Attend a Philosophy Class.”](#) Apr 11, 2018.
- [“The Spiritual Side of Vocation.”](#) Mar 1, 2018.
- [“19th-Century Anesthesia and the Politics of Pain.”](#) Feb 26, 2018.
- [“When Women Channeled the Dead to be Heard.”](#) Feb 2, 2018.
- [“Frederick Douglass’ Feud Over Uncle Tom’s Cabin.”](#) Jan 29, 2018.
- [“On Embracing Boredom.”](#) Jan 2, 2018.
- [“The Great American Game of Picking the Great American Novel.”](#) Dec 17, 2017.
- [“Super Mario, Homer’s Odyssey, and the Meaning of Marriage.”](#) Dec 15, 2017.
- [“‘Thoughts and Prayers’ in Greek Tragedy.”](#) Dec 4, 2017 ([Best of 2017](#)).
- [“Is Don Quixote to Blame for Modern Movie Reboots?”](#) Nov 17, 2017.
- [“The Long, Winding History of the ‘Battle Hymn of the Republic.’”](#) Oct 20, 2017.
- [“The Racialized History of ‘Hysteria.’”](#) Sep 20, 2017.
- [“Flying Spaghetti Monsters and the Quest for Religious Authenticity.”](#) Sep 5, 2017.
- [“What Herman Melville Can Teach Bob Dylan About Plagiarism.”](#) Aug 1, 2017.

## Book Reviews

Review of *Visions in a Seer Stone: Joseph Smith and the Making of the Book of Mormon* by William L. Davis. *Journal of Book of Mormon Studies* 32 (2023): 186-193.

Review of *If God Meant to Interfere: American Literature and the Rise of the Christian Right* by Christopher Douglas and *The Production of American Religious Freedom* by Finbarr Curtis. *American Literature* 91.3 (2019): 669–671.

Review of *Ralph Ellison and Kenneth Burke: At the Roots of the Racial Divide* by Bryan Crable. *Resources for American Literary Study* 36 (2013): 363–66.

## Invited Talks

*Scripture and Literature in the Nineteenth-Century United States: An Interdisciplinary Symposium* | Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD | March 2020  
“A Solemn Parody: The Book of Mormon in American Literary Studies”

*(Re)reading Ralph Ellison Symposium* | Goethe University, Frankfurt, Germany | July 2019  
“An Archive of Intentionality: Notes Toward a Theory of Ellison’s Notes”

*American Psychoanalytic Association Annual Meeting* | New York, NY | February 2019  
“Get Out of My Head: Cultural Paranoia in Jordan Peele’s Get Out”

*Ralph Ellison Symposium* | Library of Congress, Washington, DC | June 2016  
“Suspense & Crisis: An Anatomy of the Unfinished Novel”

*Ralph Ellison Centennial Symposium* | Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR | February 2015  
“Ralph Ellison and the Work of the Unfinished”