

# A Letter to Our Readers and Contributors

by Rebecca Bynum

As we come to the end of our eleventh year, I will be taking some time away from the arduous task of editing and laying out the monthly magazine. As many of you know, back in March of this year I began working with Dr. Walid Phares, who was appointed as foreign policy advisor to then Candidate Trump. At that time, I suspended my work in book publishing and then, to our great surprise and immense relief, Donald Trump won the election. It is expected that Dr. Phares will have a place within the new administration and he has asked me to continue in my service to him there and this I am very pleased and proud to accept.

Even while looking forward to serving our new administration, where there will be a chance for fresh thinking and new policies, I cannot help but feel a bit wistful looking back over these past eleven years in which so much of my world was wrapped up in *New English Review*. It has been one of the greatest experiences of my life to work with so many of the leading writers of our time, men and women who have trusted me with their work. *New English Review* has always been a team effort and has always been more than the sum of its parts. In our small corner of the internet, complex philosophical pieces have stood beside timely political analysis, literary and cultural criticism, book reviews, fiction, poetry and humor. We didn't simply curse the decline of culture, we created culture. We didn't simply curse the political direction of our nation, we helped to change it. And now it is time for me to do my small part in cementing that new direction by serving our new President.

We are working to bring in a new managing editor and I will remain as publisher and advisor. Our blog, *The Iconoclast*, will continue as usual and will not be affected. We will post updates on any new developments here.

Thank you to all our many contributors and readers who have made *New English Review* the well-respected publishing enterprise it has become.

Bless you all and here's to an exciting new year!