

## SLWG Member Spotlight: *We're pleased to present...*

### Ashley Lawlor



**SLWG Member Since 2008**  
**2008 SLWG Member of Distinction**

**Ashley Lawlor** grew up in Collinsville, Illinois (the proud home of the World's Largest Catsup Bottle), an only child who quickly learned that books were far better than any siblings could ever be. Writing her own stories soon followed, including such gems as "Jack-in-the-Box: A Rabbit's Story" and "My Magic Penguin." The former story gained her a Young Authors Award, though such early success failed to pave the way to the expected worldwide renown.

Though the disappointment was palpable, it did not stop her from continuing to write. Over the years, she experimented with several different forms and genres of writing, including the beginning of a vampire novel, a children's story, and a few attempts at fantasy that always failed to pan out. In high school she dabbled in poetry, but has since locked away many of the surviving poems from that time period for the good of all mankind.

Ashley spent four wonderful years in Chicago attending Concordia University River Forest, where she earned a Bachelor's in Liberal Arts English and minored in Communications and Theatre. Along with dabbling in acting, she had a few short stories published in *The Motif*, Concordia's annual literary journal, was editor for the school newspaper, and started a novel.

Currently, she's living on the campus of Concordia Seminary while her husband studies to become a Lutheran pastor. Ashley works as a shipping and inventory manager and enjoys hanging out at her local bars, as well as at all the Open Mics and literary events that take place all over St. Louis. She joined St. Louis Writers Guild in 2008 and immediately found a home away from home. She soon became the Hospitality Coordinator for SLWG and was then talked into taking over on the Board of Directors as Secretary.

Lately, though her novel remains unfinished, she has been writing a lot of short fiction and has made a return to the world of poetry, most likely all in an effort to further avoid said novel-in-progress. The avoidance has paid off, as she recently celebrated her first publication outside of *The Motif*. Her short story "The Color of Carolina" was published in the second issue of *Literal Chaos*.

Ashley writes under the penname A.C. Jones and blogs at <http://www.bookish-life.livejournal.com>. You can also find her on Twitter at <http://bookishlife.twitter.com> and on Facebook under Ashley Lawlor.