

*The drinks are cold, the spotlight is hot, and Luxury Literature sits with the minds behind the magazines. Don't flinch when they kill your darlings. Welcome to Gold Leaf Lounge, Tania. We will see you in now.*

*Luxury Literature Magazine (LLM): Hi, Tania! Thank you so much for joining us today to chat all things Tree Ring Literary. Let's start with its conceptualization: when did you know you first wanted to create a magazine?*

Tania (T): With the shutting down of Savoir Revue, which was all very sudden most of us felt like in a way you could say trapped or constricted. We didn't know what to do anymore. While other members chose their paths me and the founders of Tree Ring Literary wanted something more we wanted to reclaim that sense of purpose and belonging in world of the creative and by starting our own zine it gave us the opportunity not to be confined to what the closing of Savoir entailed for us but also the start of new beginnings.

*LLM: How does your relationship with literature affect (if at all) the foundational message of Tree Ring Literary?*

T: Literature has really just been something I've had a part of myself almost by default. And yes there is an equivalent between my waning relationship with that type of art and our foundational message and really I feel like this is why when we were voting amongst our founders about what purpose we want to inspire through the magazine that the symbolism of the Tree Ring stood out. Tree Rings are proof of the many years of change and hardships the trees go through and I feel like somehow we as people we do that too and along with literature I saw that correlation. It's not as easy to explore literature like I once did and I'm trying to change that but it will take time like the rings of a tree and whenever I see the stump of a tree with its round rings, it helps me push forward and make time for the things I once loved like literature.

*LLM: You've recently closed your submissions for Issue I: huge congratulations! We can't wait to read the issue. What can you tease about it so far? What surprised you most about the submissions you received?*

T: Thanks a lot for the support! Yes we did indeed close submissions for Issue 1: Dreams (don't worry you can submit more for future issues if you missed this one!). And I really can't say anything except that we have so many wonderful dreams and stories to share with you once the issue comes out. Something that surprised me the most about the submissions I received were the diverse ages that

submitted and the amount of issues we received as well. It was lovely to see people of various ages share their pieces and showcase their talents and dreams, and the amount of people who submitted to our issue I think were quite substantial for our very first issue. It just goes to show that we are indeed making an impact and help provide opportunities to artists/poets/writers to display their skills!

*LLM: Tree rings measure time. This feels fundamental to the concept of Tree Ring Literary! How does the concept of time inform the aesthetic or editorial choices of the magazine?*

T: You're correct! The symbolism of Tree Rings are quite fundamental to our zine and though they do not influence much of our aesthetic besides the logo which is an exception of course. It is the face of our magazine and we want to make sure it is clearly conveyed through that. As for editorial choices it would very much depend on the piece that is released but we try to incorporate the concept within our posts, stories etc. if it matches the overall theme of our publishing hearsay.

*LLM: Do you have any outstanding lessons you have learnt from guiding the magazine? Do these lessons supplement you as a writer, as a creator, or just generally as a person?*

T: There are many things that now you mention I have learned from guiding the magazine. These lessons generally benefit me as a person and one of the most significant lessons I would mention is when you put in the effort, the purpose and the patience into something that you may think is quite unlikely really can become something big. This zine started all as a way for us founders to express our interests which we still do but now its something we hope that others can also benefit from whether it be utilizing your skills, mindset and talents or just wanting a place that really resonates with you as a person and sharing your creativity. And I've just incorporated this into my personal life and it helps me persevere when things get more challenging and really learn to think positively and trust the process.

*LLM: Media is a crucial part of any creative act. What art have you been engaging with lately that has inspired you to create?*

T: I have been engaging with poetry, story-writing, and curating random pinterest boards (I don't know if that counts as an art but it's quite motivating). Although poetry is something I'm pretty new at, story-writing is my go-to for motivation and inspiration. It's just the vibes and the feel while writing that really help me get creative and redirect that thrill over to media postings and the same goes for curating pinterest boards as well. I don't think that's an art though but we're just going to ignore that~.

*LLM: What do you hope to be Tree Ring's legacy?*

T: I just really hope we can leave a positive impact within the lit-mag community and other artists' lives by sharing our content and whatnot with everyone. We want to be remembered for our endurance and perseverance and encourage others to practice the same.