

## Editor's Note

Necessity may be the mother of invention, but doubt is the agent of change.

In our thirteenth issue, thirty writers and artists examine the role doubt plays in marriage, religion, art and identity. Doubt can be triggered by small moments—such as watching a handyman at work fifteen feet in the air—as often as it comes from the force of a failing marriage or a tsunami's destructive power.

There are those who live in a perpetually agnostic state, calling into question everything from religion and community, to the self and one's perception of reality. For these doubters, something as simple as a taste of honey harvested from a backyard hive can be enough to restore faith in society.

Human culture would not evolve without such proof-seeking minds. If no one questioned status quo thinking about how the autistic mind works, what it means to be a painter in 2013, or who created a Renaissance masterpiece, human history could not move forward. Whether the results are “correct” or not, the process of change begins when one doubter pulls apart what is accepted and puzzles together facts and observations to create a new theory.

The product of doubt, whether one has scrutinized a childhood memory or re-envisioned a character from the Bible, must be a new way of looking at the world. Our hope is that you, the reader, will engage in the play between doubt and change as you read this issue of *Little Patuxent Review*.

~Laura Shovan