

Franchesca Viaud
Boston University Class of 2018
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I do not regret my time at Oxford University Press, if only because the experience helped me realize my overall disinterest in academic publishing. OUP is a massive, multi-faceted organization and due to that, I was not given a great deal of responsibility. My day-to-day responsibilities were largely administrative, so the knowledge I gained about publishing, as a whole was predominately from editorial board meetings and intern-specific Lunch and Learns, rather than from the actual work itself. The vast number of texts peddled out every year called for an equally substantial staff. After I left OUP, I started applying to internships at small, independent publishers throughout New York City. I also realized that fiction trade books were what I was especially drawn to. While going through these interview process at small publication houses, I learned how I was better suited for places like Akashic and Soho Press than an institution like OUP. In those presses, my role would matter significantly more. I would have access to the text and be a fundamental part of whether or not the press accepted a manuscript. Oxford University Press had around twenty-five interns, whereas I noticed that smaller presses had around two or three. I am still interested in pursuing a career in publishing but within specific parameters. My role at Oxford was so far removed from the creative aspect of things, that it served to reaffirm my true interests in the written word. At the very least, I want to actually read the some of the manuscripts.

I experienced first-hand the passion and enthusiasm editors have for what they do when they argued over the marketability of a book they were vehement about. I watched, as Oxford University Press stood firm in their initiative to introduce books that served the purpose of educating the public. It was a strong mission and one fully worth supporting. In conversations with my fellow interns, I learned that our everyday individual tasks could vary significantly from one another. While there were the same duties I accomplished every week, no two weeks were exactly the same. I could go days with very little to do in the way of work and then there would be days where I was scrambling to finish my assignments. My situation, by no means, speaks to every intern at OUP. I learned that if anything, my difficulty remaining occupied was not the

norm. Other interns had a more consistent workflow. The work was at times repetitive and monotonous, it consisted a lot of copy and pasting at times, but it also fortified the importance of prioritization and the ability to adequately multitask. I value my internship at OUP because through it, I learned what I was truly interested in and what things I will refuse to compromise on.