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A MAGAZINE OF THE SOUTH



## *Oxford American's* Zandria F. Robinson a finalist for a 2017 National Magazine Award

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS—The *Oxford American* has been nominated for a 2017 National Magazine Award: Zandria F. Robinson's "Listening for the Country" is a finalist in the Essays and Criticism category.

In her feature essay from the 2016 Southern Music Issue, Robinson writes of her experience planning her father's funeral in Memphis and wrestling with her complicated memories of their relationship—all while listening to the music her father loved. Written with precise compassion and vivid insight, "Listening for the Country" is an unsparring portrait of a family caught between city and country, love and loss.

This is the *Oxford American's* fourteenth National Magazine Award nomination since the magazine's founding in 1992. The *Oxford American* has been awarded four National Magazine Awards in its 25 years, most notably for General Excellence in 2016.

Zandria F. Robinson and the *Oxford American* are nominated alongside four other esteemed writers and publications in the Essays and Criticism category: Michael Chabon for *GQ*, Andrew Sullivan for *New York*, Sam Anderson for *The New York Times Magazine*, and Becca Rothfeld for *The Hedgehog Review*. The winners of the 2017 National Magazine Awards will be announced on Tuesday, February 7, in New York City.

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### ABOUT THE OXFORD AMERICAN

The *Oxford American* is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit arts organization and national magazine dedicated to featuring the very best in Southern writing, while documenting the complexity and vitality of the American South. Billed as "A Magazine of the South," it has won four National Magazine Awards—including the 2016 Award for General Excellence in the category of Literature, Science and Politics—and other high honors since it began publication in 1992. The magazine has featured the original work of such literary powerhouses as ZZ Packer, Charles Portis, Kiese Laymon, Rebecca Wells, Nikky Finney, Allan Gurganus, Ernest Gaines, C. E. Morgan, John Jeremiah Sullivan, and Jesmyn Ward, and many other distinguished authors, while also discovering and launching the most promising writers in the region. Since 1997, the *Oxford American* has published its acclaimed annual Southern Music Issue & CD. Called "perhaps the liveliest literary magazine in America" by the *New York Times*, the *Oxford American* is published from the University of Central Arkansas. For more information, visit [OxfordAmerican.org](http://OxfordAmerican.org).

### ABOUT ZANDRIA F. ROBINSON

Zandra F. Robinson is a writer and sociology professor in Memphis. She is the author of *This Ain't Chicago: Race, Class, and Regional Identity in the Post-Soul South* and the forthcoming *Soul Power*. Robinson blogs at New South Negress and tweets sundries @zfelice.

### ABOUT THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE AWARDS

The National Magazine Awards honor print and digital publications that consistently demonstrate superior execution of editorial objectives, innovative techniques, noteworthy journalistic enterprise and imaginative art direction. Established in 1966, the awards are sponsored by the American Society of Magazine Editors in association with the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism and are administered by ASME.