

# Manastash

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Cover: "Spiral Mirror" by Sophia Smith

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## Letter from the Editor

Dear *Manastash* Readers,

We live in an era of rapidly advancing technology and artificial intelligence. Machines fill roles previously occupied by humans—sometimes with human faces—and the virtual world is rapidly becoming more real than the one around us. In this issue of *Manastash*, we explore what it is to be human in the face of artificial intelligence. Where does humanity end and AI begin? What challenges do we as a global culture face with the exponential rate of evolution in robotics and artificial intelligence? The following collection of works hints at just one possible future—a rabbit hole of small choices that leads us from end to beginning and back again.

Issue 34 of *Manastash* was an intense labor of love by everyone involved. Thank you to all who contributed, collaborated, edited, designed, or otherwise offered their time and energy to create this issue.

Lori Swanson, Trina Junkert  
Managing Editors