

SLIP OF THE TONGUE

Talking About Language by KATIE HAEGELE

“An experience similar to that of combing through letters from a friend or (for those of us who have gone through others’ things without permission) a sister’s journal.” —**Utne Reader**

“Quirky, revealing, and most definitely unique, [Haegele’s] distinctive, seemingly artless, and nakedly honest voice draws readers into her memoir.” —**Philadelphia Inquirer**

“Less like a book and more like a letter from a friend, a friend who knows all about the art of the rummage and the nuances of reviewing yard sales. It’s a truly joyful read but also tinged with sadness and grief, in the way happiness is in real life. When you relate to another person, they have history: an amalgamation of grief, nostalgia, pain, and also happiness. This book will stay in my life for a long time.” —**Razorcake**

“Since words do not exist in a vacuum, it seems to make sense then that it is poetry’s fictions that can resurrect these dead words. Still, being a well-conceived project doesn’t necessarily mean the result would be engaging. That they are attests to Haegele’s tal-ents...witty, charming, and/or beguiling.” —**Eileen Tabios, writing for online magazine Galatea Resurrects**

Slip of the Tongue explores a wide range of topics in linguistics through reflecting on the author’s life and surroundings. Author Katie Haegele is a respected memoirist who makes sense of the world around her by looking at the ways we use language: to communicate, to make art, and simply to survive. She takes us through her life by describing her family’s rich linguistic history and her own coming of age as a feminist and an artist, and introduces us to her hometown of Philadelphia, a city lively with graffiti, poetry, and the remnants of its colonial heritage. She connects history to the present with research, interviews, and musings on digital technology and the contemporary state of the English language. If language is what makes us human, *Slip of the Tongue*, a book as brainy as it is heart-warming, is a celebration of that humanity in all its complicated beauty. More than a clever language book, Haegele is personal and conversational—able to explore her subjects with both intellectual vigor and a lot of heart.

Subject: Language / Cultural Studies

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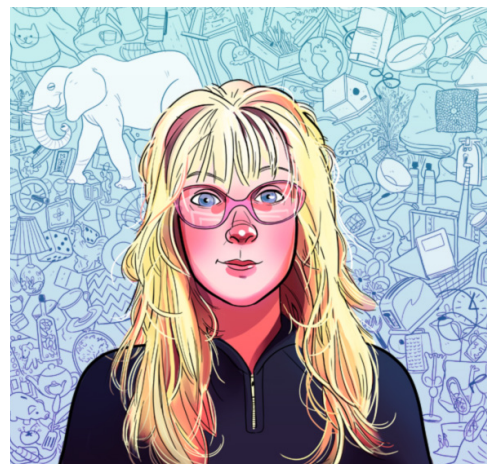
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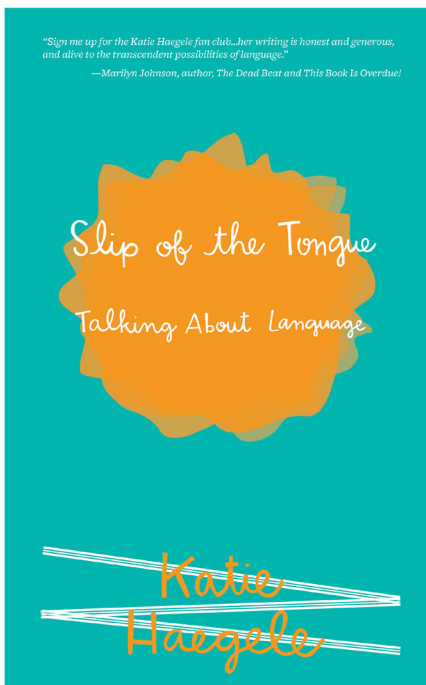
For a greater understanding of the history and greater meaning of the language we use everyday!

Magazine features on word usage, pronunciation, and neologisms are perennial favorites, but these subjects are especially interesting during this time of change. In the digital age we are witnessing unprecedented language change—and not always in the ways we might expect. For instance, we are currently seeing a huge shift from writing by hand to keyboarding, two activities that utilize different parts of the brain. In this sense, the way we use language now is literally changing the way we think.



Katie Haegele lives in suburban Philadelphia, where she works as a freelance writer and a research assistant at a linguistics institute. Her essays, reviews, and articles have been published in *Utne Reader*, *Bitch*, *Adbusters*, *Philadelphia Weekly*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Minneapolis Star-Tribune*, among others. Her creative nonfiction has appeared in several anthologies, and in 2006 she won an Association of Alternative Newsweeklies Award for her travel column “The Dubliner.” She is the author of *White Elephants*. She has looked at different subjects in linguistics in her popular zine, *The La-La Theory*, since 2005. Her zine projects have been profiled in *Time* magazine, the book *Fanzines* (Chronicle), and on the BBC News website. As an undergraduate at the University of Pennsylvania Katie majored in linguistics, where she studied with Bill Labov, Gillian Sankoff, and Mark Liberman, all pioneers in the field of linguistics.

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