

Itto Outini

[Website](#)

EDUCATION

2020	MA in Journalism and Strategic Media University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR, USA
2016	BA with Distinction in English, Applied Linguistics, Pedagogy, & Methods of Teaching Mohammed V University, Rabat, Morocco
2015	Associate's Degree with Distinction in English Literature University of Moulay Ismail, Meknes, Morocco

SKILLS

Languages	Fluent English, Arabic (Standard + all vernaculars), and Tamazight. Conversational French.
Hard Skills	Proficient in Microsoft Office 365, Google Suite products, and LinkedIn.
Soft Skills	Public speaking, written & verbal communication, grant-writing, text & audio editing, storytelling, social media management, publicity, outreach, marketing, networking, strategic development, creative problem-solving, market research, leadership, business counseling.
Certifications	TOEFL (2016). IELTS (2016). GRE (2016). Certificate in the Art of Debate from the American Language Centre in Rabat (2016). Certificate in the Art of Arguing from the American Language Centre in Rabat (2016). Certificates in Public Speaking from the American Language Centres in Rabat (2016) and Mèknes (2014).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2025 – Present	Podcaster – <i>Let's Have a Renaissance: The DateKeepers Podcast</i> Co-producing and co-hosting <i>Let's Have a Renaissance: The DateKeepers Podcast</i> . Conducting research and outreach, interviewing guests, editing audio, and promoting content on social media. Listen on YouTube or Spotify .
2022 – Present	Co-Founder & Book Coach – The DateKeepers

Guiding and supporting authors of literary fiction and memoir as they craft their manuscripts, research and apply for opportunities and funding, generate book proposals, develop publicity, outreach, and marketing strategies, build industry-critical skills, and define their personal brands to ensure the long-term sustainability of their artistic careers.

2015 – Present

Author – Self-Employed

Writing literary fiction and creative nonfiction, solo and in partnership with my husband, Mekiya Outini.

2021 – 2022

Intern – United Nations Development Programme

Contributed to the development of proposals, strategies, and promotional material. Tested digital systems.

2021

Interpreter – Olathe Public School District, Kansas City, MO

Provided Tamazight-to-English and English-to-Tamazight interpretation for students, parents, and educators in the school district.

2021

Producer – KKFI 90.1 FM, Kansas City, MO

Produced and hosted shows for *Radio Active Magazine*, conducted outreach, and interviewed subjects live on air.

2019

International Scholars & Students Office Intern – University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

Interviewed subjects and reported on efforts to expand cross-cultural understanding on campus. Participated in the Human Library Program.

2018

Journalism Intern – KUAF 91.3 Public Radio, Fayetteville, AR

Pitched, interviewed subjects for, and produced a podcast, *Living Blind in the Age of Technology*, using Logic Pro X software.

2016

Reporter – Radio Medina FM, Mèknes, Morocco

Hosted radio programs on topics of national and international interest. Wrote articles and conducted on-site radio interviews.

2016

Reporter & Producer – SNRT National Radio & Television Broadcasting Network, Rabat, Morocco

Hosted radio programs, conducted on-site television interviews, and managed broadcast schedules for radio and television.

PUBLICATIONS

Fiction

Forthcoming	“The Reanimation of Hippocrates.” Short Fiction. Co-Authored with Mekiya Outini. <i>The Lincoln Review</i> .
Forthcoming	“On the Verge of the Convergence.” Short Fiction. Co-Authored with Mekiya Outini. <i>Open: Journal of Arts and Letters</i> .
Forthcoming	“Stress Test.” Short Fiction. Co-Authored with Mekiya Outini. <i>Straylight Magazine</i> .
Forthcoming	“Green Means Go.” Short Fiction. Co-Authored with Mekiya Outini. <i>Fiction on the Web</i> .
Forthcoming	“The Bghlt el-Kaboor.” Short Fiction. Co-Authored with Mekiya Outini. <i>Afritondo</i> .
Forthcoming	“The Rain Is Falling on Tangier.” Short Fiction. Co-Authored with Mekiya Outini. <i>Aura Literary Arts Review</i> .
October 2025	“Field Notes.” Short Fiction. Co-Authored with Mekiya Outini. <i>Boudin</i> . https://www.mcneese.edu/thereview/field-notes/ . Winner of the Skinner Prize.
October 2025	“The Cheeseman Cometh.” Short Fiction. Co-Authored with Mekiya Outini. <i>The Spotlong Review</i> . XII. https://www.thespotlongreview.org/issue-xii-fiction-outini
October 2025	“Why I Don’t Deserve to Be in Jail This Halloween.” Short Fiction. Co-Authored with Mekiya Outini. <i>Midwest Weird</i> . https://www.midwestweird.com/post/why-i-don-t-deserve-to-be-in-jail-this-halloween-by-itto-and-mekiya-outini
October 2025	“Night of Transformations.” Short Fiction. Co-Authored with Mekiya Outini. <i>The Other Side of Hope</i> . Vol 5. https://othersideofhope.com/volume-5.html
October 2025	“Righteous Hombres.” Short Fiction. Co-Authored with Mekiya Outini. <i>Expat Press</i> . https://expatpress.com/righteous-hombres-itto-mekiya-outini/
October 2025	“A Scientific Mind.” Short Fiction. Co-Authored with Mekiya Outini. <i>DarkWinter</i> . https://www.darkwinterlit.com/post/a-scientific-mind-by-itto-and-mekiya-outini
October 2025	“The First Day of My Life.” Short Fiction. Co-Authored with Mekiya Outini. <i>New Contrast Magazine</i> . https://www.newcontrast.net/product/new-contrast-issue-209-digital/

- October 2025 “Three Paths.” Short Fiction. Co-Authored with Mekiya Outini. *The Eunoia Review*. <https://eunoiareview.wordpress.com/2025/10/05/three-paths/>
- September 2025 “Metamorphosis.” Short Fiction. Co-Authored with Mekiya Outini. *Litbreak*. <https://litbreak.com/metamorphosis/>
- September 2025 “The Cost of a Cake.” Short Fiction. Co-Authored with Mekiya Outini. *The Thieving Magpie*. <https://thievingmagpie.org/itto-mekiya-outini-fiction/>
- September 2025 “Death of an Icon.” Short Fiction. Co-Authored with Mekiya Outini. *The /t&nz/ Review*. 32. <https://www.thetenzreview.com/outini.html>
- September 2025 “The Angel of Forgetting.” Short Fiction. Co-Authored with Mekiya Outini. *The New English Review*. <https://www.newenglishreview.org/articles/the-angel-of-forgetting/>
- September 2025 “Leila Enabled.” Short Fiction. Co-Authored with Mekiya Outini. *Harpy Hybrid Review*. 12. http://www.harpyhybridreview.org/hybrid_works/leila-enabled/
- August 2025 “Johnny, From Another World.” Short Fiction. Co-Authored with Mekiya Outini. *Literally Stories*. <https://literallystories2014.com/2025/08/06/johnny-from-another-world-by-itto-and-mekiya-outini/>
- August 2025 “There Is No Home, but You Can’t Stay Here.” Short Fiction. Co-Authored with Mekiya Outini. *Modern Literature*. <https://modernliterature.org/there-is-no-home-but-you-cant-stay-here-by-itto-mekiya-outini/>
- July 2025 “The Virginity Consultant.” Short fiction. Co-authored with Mekiya Outini. *Mount Hope*. <https://www.mounthopemagazine.com/the-virginity-consultant>
- July 2025 “The New Sufyan.” Short fiction. Co-authored with Mekiya Outini. *Gargoyle Magazine Online*. 11 <https://gargoylemagazine.com/itto-mekiya-outini/>
- July 2025 “The Full Package.” Short fiction. Co-authored with Mekiya Outini. *Hidden Peak Review*. <https://hiddenpeakpress.com/2025/07/07/itto-mekiya-outini-the-full-package-short-story/>
- July 2025 “The Long Now.” Short fiction. Co-authored with Mekiya Outini. *Stickman Review*. 24.1. <http://stickmanreview.com/V24N1/outini.html>

- June 2025 “Old Meats and No Service.” Short fiction. Co-authored with Mekiya Outini. *Stonecoast Review Literary Journal*.
<https://www.thestonecoastreview.org/issue-23/old-meats-and-no-service>
- June 2025 “Blue Mucus.” Short story. Co-authored with Mekiya Outini. *Lotus-Eater*. Issue 21. Pp. 21 – 28. https://lotus-eatermagazine.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/lotus_eater_issue_21-definitivo-2.pdf
- June 2025 “To the Island and Halfway Back.” Short story. Co-authored with Mekiya Outini. *Sortes*. Issue 22: ain’t that high brow stuff archy.
<https://sortes.co/#outini>
- June 2025 “How to Make Your Man Smile.” Short fiction. Co-authored with Mekiya Outini. *DarkWinter*. <https://www.darkwinterlit.com/post/how-to-make-your-man-smile-by-itto-and-mekiya-outini>
- May 2025 “For the Sake of Truth and Beauty.” Short fiction. Co-authored with Mekiya Outini. *Rundelania*. Issue 17. <https://rundelania.com/for-the-sake-of-truth-and-beauty/>
- April 2025 “Ten Years.” Short story. Co-authored with Mekiya Outini. *Modern Literature*. <https://modernliterature.org/ten-years-by-itto-mekiya-outini/>
- April 2025 “The Breadwinner.” Short story. Co-authored with Mekiya Outini. *Fine Lines*. 34.1. <https://www.amazon.com/Fine-Lines-Spring-2025-Issue/dp/B0F4KQLKR3>

Nonfiction

- Forthcoming “My Seeing-Eye Husband.” Essay. *Hobart*.
- Forthcoming “I Stepped in Benjamin Franklin’s Poo.” Essay. *Southland Alibi*.
- August 2025 “Neutral Territory.” Essay. *Silk Road Review*.
- May 2025 “Over the Counter, Under the Toilet Seat.” Essay. *Lowestoft Chronicle*. Issue 62. <https://lowestoftchronicle.com/issues/issue62/ittooutini/>
- April 2025 “Child of the Book.” Essay. *Jewish Life*. Shavout 2025 Issue. <https://www.jewishlife.co.za/new/2025/05/16/child-of-the-book/>
- April 2025 “Who Watches the Witches.” Essay. *Good River Review*. <https://www.goodriverreview.com/post/itto-outini>. Nominated for the 2025 Best of the Net Award.

April 2025	“Cost-Benefit Analysis.” Essay. <i>Emerge Literary Journal</i> . Issue 33 34. https://emergeliteraryjournal.com/cost-benefit-analysis/
February 2025	“Chapter 9: English” Memoir excerpt. Co-authored with Mekiya Outini. <i>The North American Review</i> . 310.1. https://northamericanreview.org/node/18248
February 2025	“The Lazy Angel.” Essay. <i>Corporeal</i> . Vol. XVII. https://www.corporeallitmag.com/volume-xvii/ittooutini
November 2024	“Does Hard Work Pay Off?” Op-ed. <i>The American Spectator</i> . https://spectator.org/does-hard-work-pay-off/
February 2020	“A Moroccan Orphan Finds the American Dream is Also Accessible.” Op-Ed. <i>The Chicago Tribune</i> .

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, & RESIDENCIES

Oct 2025	Edward F. Albee Foundation Residency The Edward F. Albee Foundation has offered me a fellowship to support work on a novel about sex work and AIDS in Morocco.
Mar – Apr 2024	MacDowell Fellowship (Spring/Summer Residency) While in residence at MacDowell, I completed my memoir.
2023 – 2024	Steinbeck Fellows Program I was selected as a fellow by the Martha Heasley Cox Center for Steinbeck Studies at San José University to support the completion of my memoir.
2022	Fulbright in the Classroom Award As a recipient of this competitive grant, designed to expand interest in and access to grants and scholarships awarded by the Fulbright Program, I created and hosted a series of virtual information sessions for students and prospective scholars all around the world.

SCHOLARSHIPS

2019 – 2022	Linda K. Overstreet Scholarship This scholarship is awarded on a competitive basis to University of Arkansas students with physical disabilities, demonstrated financial need, and good academic standing.
2017 – 2020	Fulbright Scholarship (AMIDEAST)

As a Fulbright scholar, I completed my MA in Journalism and Strategic Media at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

April 2023	California Institute of Technology
February 2022	International Trade Center
July 2021	Verizon Wireless
April 2018	North Seattle College
November 2017	Boston Polytechnic Institute
September 2016	English House Language Centre, Mèknes, Morocco
June 2014	Fluency Language Centre, Azrou, Morocco
July 2010	Ghaly Centre, Azrou, Morocco

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

December 2022	The United Nations International Day of Persons with Disabilities Networked with stakeholders and policymakers.
June 2022	15th Session of the Conference of State Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Co-chaired Roundtable 2: Economic Empowerment and Entrepreneurship of Persons with Disabilities.
July 2018 – 2020	Spring International Pre-Academic Orientation Participated in a series of panels welcoming incoming cohorts of Fulbright scholars.

VOLUNTEER

2024 – 2025	Reader – <i>The Harvard Review</i> Read fiction and nonfiction submissions to <i>The Harvard Review</i> , contributed comments, voted to accept or reject submissions.
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