The Unpredictable Cactus (on the first psychedelic)
Emily Witt | London Review of Books
“Huxley took mescaline in May 1953, at his home in the Hollywood Hills; he was approaching his fiftieth birthday and at a low point in his life.”

Exhaust All Poisons. Reminiscences of Poetry and the Internet
Brian Kim Stefans | Poetry Foundation
“I’m not arguing that poets need to return to writing manifestos, though I might argue that a manifesto—or at least a pungent, well-thought-out essay—is a more satisfying expression of philosophically coherent, left-field, complex takes on art than memes and tweets.”

“Un Violador En Tu Camino” and the Virality of Feminist Protest
Verónica Dávila, Marisol Lebrón | NACLA
“How does a song about the ubiquity of sexual and gendered violence perpetrated by the state against women become an earworm?”

In Vitro Monetization. The American Approach To Scientific Procreation
Michele Pridmore-Brown | The Times Literary Supplement
“There are millions of embryos in freezers in the US - which a vocal few see as microscopic American citizens. Yet another irony: avoidance provided opportunities for the devout as for the market.”

Laudato Si’ in an Old-Growth Forest
Vincent Miller | Commonweal Magazine
“We don’t simply learn about the world around us, however, when we study these forests; we also learn the truth that we ourselves are part of a creation that reflects the relational character of the triune God.”

Liberating Women From “Political Economy”
Tithi Bhattacharya | Monthly Review
“The piece discusses Margaret Benston’s Marxism and a social-reproduction approach to gender oppression... Benston held that not reform of the system to industrialize or alleviate housework was necessary, but rather a revolution.”

Portugal Has Found an Antidote To Right Wing Populism
Matthias Punz | Kontrast
“Under socialist rule, the economy grew so significantly that the money made is now set to be invested and returned to the general population.”

How Linguistics Can Help Us Catch Sex Offenders
Emily Chiang | Oxford University Blog
“Online anonymity remains a hurdle to policing online crime, but not a barrier. It’s clear that there’s a lot we can do to discover people’s real identities even when an offender’s language is the only available clue.”

Art As Pizza (on Peter Handke)
Boris Vezjak | Eurozine
“Boris Vezjak looks into Peter Handke’s controversial Nobel Prize using the analogy of a pizza: whether one should only care if it tastes good and not about the morals of the chef. Isolationists only refer to tastiness, while holists’ criticisms don’t necessarily invalidate the award.”
‘Evidence-Based Medicine’ and the Expulsion of Peter Gøtzsche

Daniel Kolitz | Undark Magazine

“The Danish physician was a celebrity in the world of statistical analysis, but some say his views simply went too far.”