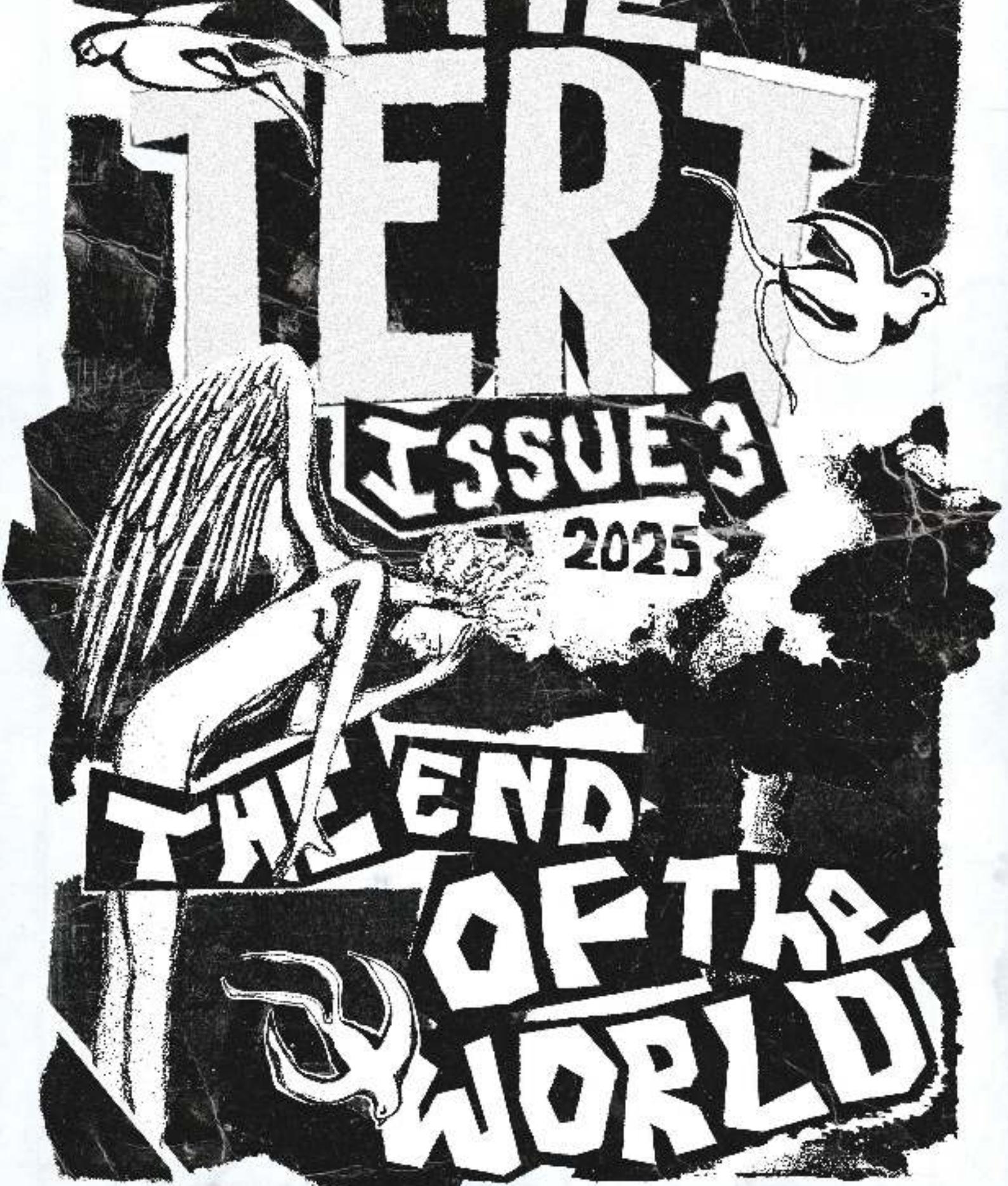


FOR A STUDENT  
MAGAZINE

# THE TERT

ISSUE 3  
2025

# THE END OF THE WORLD



## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The Tertangala acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land upon which we meet and work, that of the Dharawal people.

We pay our respect to their Elders past, present and future, for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and the hopes for Indigenous Australia.

## **DISCLAIMER**

The University of Wollongong accepts no responsibility for this publication.

## **DISCLOSURE**

The contents of this publication are made for and by the students of the University of Wollongong. Views expressed are those of the individual authors and do not reflect those of the University of Wollongong.

## **CONTENT WARNING**

This issue contains discussions of potentially sensitive topics.

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# Editor's Note

*Serena*

As the earth cracks beneath our feet,  
The Sun still smiles to every beat.  
Knowing soon that it must eat,  
Taking us all therein his heat.

No longer Life; Death too, deceased.  
With no one 'round to witness this,  
Will noise and screams still persist,  
When the Earth ceases to exist?

The Star warns us without concern,  
"Take heed, none of this must return,  
If only humans learn to yearn,  
For a world that doesn't spurn."

"Until then all will burn."

It truly feels like the world is ending. Fuck.

Palestine. Trump. Neo-Nazis. The Congo. Femicide. Cost-of-living crisis. Healthcare crisis. Housing crisis. The March for Australia. Transphobia. Homophobia. Fatphobia. Ableism. The decline of tertiary education. University cuts and attacks on the Arts. Racist Australia. Pedophilia in schools. Domestic violence. Media censorship. Women's rights and autonomy. Abortion rights. Immigration protests. Nuclear threats. Climate change. Artificial Intelligence. Social media. Deepfakes. Mental health crisis. Shootings. Earthquakes. Sudan. Coral bleaching. Tariffs. Afghanistan

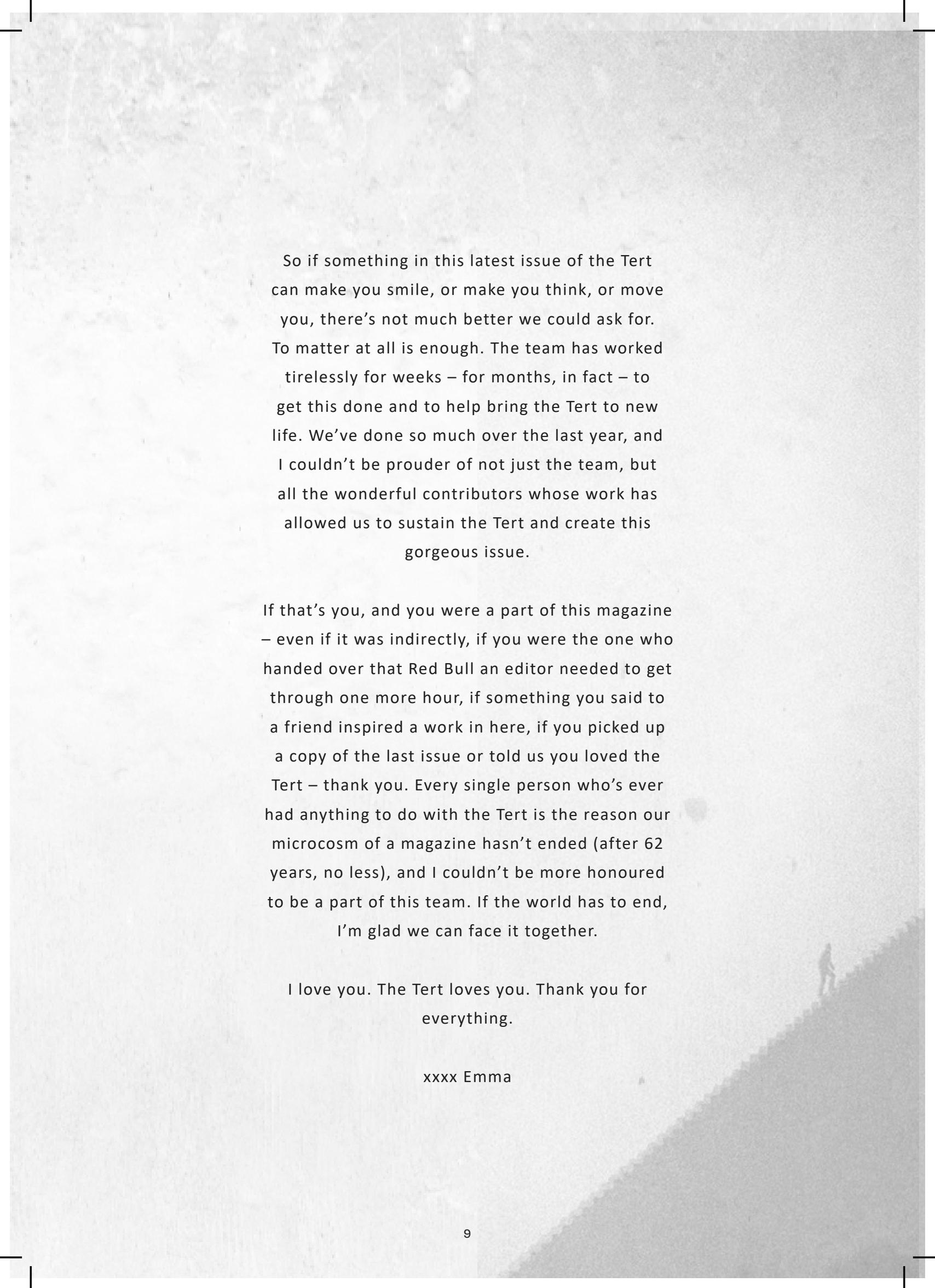
women. Book bans. Terfs. Tsunamis. Religion. Toxic masculinity ...

# Editor's Letter

It's easy to believe the world is ending. It sounds cliché, but it's true: society is crumbling, the environment is careening towards total annihilation, and politics is in a state of disrepair. Even on a small scale, the end is becoming more pertinent a concept than ever – our own uni is ridden with budget cuts and bad decisions, Ozzy Osbourne is dead, and the end of my degree is mere weeks away. In as many forms as the world can end, it feels like it is, and what's even more intimidating is that I – like many, I'm sure – don't know what to do about it.

I don't mean about the uni thing, of course – do honours, I can hear you say. Get a real job, go travelling! Sure, I can do those. But can I stop climate change, or save Palestine, or keep Elon Musk from taking over? God, no, not on my own.

And yes, the irony of printing a few hundred magazines while talking about climate change and 'the end' isn't lost on me. But I don't want to believe there's no room left for art, even in a dying world. With all the contradictions around us, I hope you can forgive us this one, because although the Tert isn't going to change the world, what we can do is offer a space for expression and creativity, and I don't want that to stop.



So if something in this latest issue of the Tert can make you smile, or make you think, or move you, there's not much better we could ask for. To matter at all is enough. The team has worked tirelessly for weeks – for months, in fact – to get this done and to help bring the Tert to new life. We've done so much over the last year, and I couldn't be prouder of not just the team, but all the wonderful contributors whose work has allowed us to sustain the Tert and create this gorgeous issue.

If that's you, and you were a part of this magazine – even if it was indirectly, if you were the one who handed over that Red Bull an editor needed to get through one more hour, if something you said to a friend inspired a work in here, if you picked up a copy of the last issue or told us you loved the Tert – thank you. Every single person who's ever had anything to do with the Tert is the reason our microcosm of a magazine hasn't ended (after 62 years, no less), and I couldn't be more honoured to be a part of this team. If the world has to end, I'm glad we can face it together.

I love you. The Tert loves you. Thank you for everything.

xxxx Emma

