

Let's No One Get Hurt: Reading and Author Q&A with Jon Pineda

Weds, 14 June | 18:00-19:30

Haus der Begegnung, Hinter der Grieb 8, 93047 Regensburg

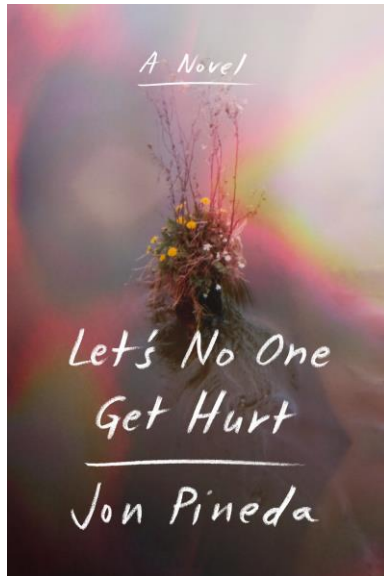
Building Images: Creative Writing workshop for students and staff

Friday, 16 June | 10:00-12:00

UR Sammelgebäude, Room 214

Register by 14 June via dimas.office@ur.de

BOOK DESCRIPTION



With the cinematic and terrifying beauty of the American South humming behind each line, Jon Pineda's *Let's No One Get Hurt* is a coming-of-age story set equally between real-world issues of race and socioeconomics, and a magical, Huck Finn-esque universe of community and exploration.

Fifteen-year-old Pearl is squatting in an abandoned boathouse with her father, a disgraced college professor, and two other grown men, deep in the swamps of the American South. All four live on the fringe, scavenging what they can—catfish, lumber, scraps for their ailing dog. Despite the isolation, Pearl feels at home with her makeshift family: the three men care for Pearl and teach her what they know of the world.

Mason Boyd, aka “Main Boy,” is from a nearby affluent neighborhood where he and his raucous friends ride around in tricked-out golf carts, shoot their fathers’ shotguns, and aspire to make Internet pranking videos. While Pearl is out scavenging in the woods, she meets Main Boy, who eventually reveals that his father has purchased the property on which Pearl and the others are squatting. With all the power in Main Boy’s hands, a very unbalanced relationship forms between the two kids, culminating in a devastating scene of violence and humiliation.

AUTHOR BIO



Jon Pineda is the author of six books: two novels, three poetry collections, and one memoir. His work has appeared in numerous literary magazines and anthologies, including the *New York Times Magazine*, *Shenandoah*, and *Sierra Club*, and has twice received the Library of Virginia Literary Award (one for fiction and one for poetry). His memoir *Sleep in Me* was a Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers selection, and his debut novel *Apology* won the Milkweed National Fiction Prize.

A 2022 Virginia Center for the Creative Arts fellow, he is a core faculty member in the MFA program at Queens University of Charlotte and has taught in their Latin America MFA program in Rio de Janeiro and in Buenos Aires. He has served on the teaching faculty at Kundiman, a “national nonprofit organization dedicated to nurturing generations of writers and readers of Asian American Literature,” and is Associate Professor of English at the College of William & Mary.

Photo by Emma Pineda