“My dream job,” said Emily Boring pc ’18, “combines biology and writing.” Inspired by authors Rachel Carson and Aldo Leopold (Yale F&ES Class of 1909), Emily envisions her future using the power of the written word to convey the urgency of environmental issues.

In her hometown of Salem, in Oregon’s Willamette Valley, Emily grew up among the natural wonders of the Pacific Northwest. During high school, she spent a term at The Island School, an immersive program in the Bahamas where she studied marine ecology, learned scuba diving, and took field notes underwater. The experience of hands-on science was transformative.

At Yale, Emily majors in ecology and evolutionary biology, while also taking creative writing courses. She has tapped into both of her passions as a blogger and columnist for Yale Scientific Magazine. “We all benefit from understanding the natural world, and writing offers a way to share this knowledge with a wide audience,” she said.

Emily has also gained research experience. She traveled to Tanzania to study wildlife management and conservation, catalogued sponge specimens in the invertebrate zoology department of the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History, and pursued independent research with Professor Thomas Near, mapping the genomes of fish species that have recently gone through evolutionary changes. In addition, she has returned to The Island School as a teacher.

On campus, she sings with the Yale Glee Club and is active in peer ministry. “Yale is my ideal school,” Emily said. “I am so grateful for the opportunity to pursue my interests surrounded by people who are as passionate about learning as I am.”

Looking ahead, Emily will continue to pursue marine biology and hopes to write for publications like National Geographic.