



***Raise Your Voice***



**The Centre for Literacy of Quebec**  
Le centre d'alphabétisation du Québec

## **Writers in the Community Program**

November 2010

This zine was produced at Mountainview High School as part of Writers in the Community, a program run jointly by the Quebec Writers' Federation and The Centre for Literacy.

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**Canada Council  
for the Arts**

**Conseil des Arts  
du Canada**

This 'Zine is lovingly dedicated to our friend Kim Kurtz  
who supported this and many projects like it  
that made a difference in many young lives.

For more information on this program  
or to see more work from past sessions visit:  
[www.qwf.org](http://www.qwf.org)

Haiku

Staring at the pane  
Looking at the lovely leaves  
gathered up by rakes

-Deion

Love

Love to see  
feel, every inch of your body  
Love your laugh  
                  send you roses  
Take you places every day  
See new faces.

-James

## Frankly Worded

A Mad Lib Poem after e.e. cummings

Crookedly I have never walked, quickly beyond  
Any bookworm, your bags have their walks:  
In your most tired batteries are things which supply me,  
Or which I cannot demand because they are too rapid.

Your glad look responds, unbreaks me,  
Though I have opened myself as a pencil,  
You throw windows, always by keys, myself  
Italy finds.

Her speedy internet. Riding quickly, on the air.

-Nick

## Hellish Dream

Under each ember of the imagination  
Another flame.

And so the mystery of uncharted stars  
And the blackness outside the galaxy  
Goes on without ending.

If honesty is the purpose  
Humans are the experiment.

And the startled bones of that horror story  
Think about conscience-  
Their deep black sadness.

Danny

Lovely Boombox  
madlib Poem after e.e. cummings

Emotionally I have never bombed quietly beyond  
any bonyfish, your hypodermic needles have their boeing  
in your most hydrous bankman are things which iced  
me,  
or which I cannot hyphen because they are too quiet

you, lovely, sarcastically will unhyphen me –  
though I have iced myself as a boombox,  
you monitor always poltergeist by myself  
polarized, find  
polluting, monitoring sarcastically her hydrostatic doll.

Ashley

Help...  
Society imposes the fact we are equals.  
What is equal if not a lie?  
Is it wrong to compose a song with truth?  
It seems everyone has gone bulletproof.  
In the depth of our society many plead for help.  
Help for what? A brighter day. It seems we are all lost  
with no hope for rescue.  
We see life as an endless nightmare and dreams a waste.  
We've gone so bitter, with no sense of taste.  
The last trace of strength is found in those with faith.  
Faith in what? A brighter day.  
Even if it may be after their last breath into death.

-Kareem

**Just to say**  
**After Williams**

**I've been walking down the street**

**Bump into a fruit store**

**Grab a apple because it look**

**so sweet juicy and delicious.**

**Forgive me for my sin**

**The Red apple felt like it was buried in my hand**

**-Deion**

## Wondering

Staring at the sky,  
wondering why.  
Wondering why the sky is blue,  
wondering if the stories are true,  
hearing people making up stories about you.  
It doesn't only make me mad,  
It makes me blue.  
People hating on us because we're true,  
being together from day to day  
missing you every time you're away.  
Feeling all the pain you're going through  
every time I see you I comfort you  
I feel sad when I'm alone,  
I feel happy when you're on the phone  
or when I'm right beside you at your home.

-Ashley

## I've Been Walking Down the Street

A Collage Poem

'Cause I've been walking down your street.

With a love that I can't hide.

Now I see how wrong and reckless I've been

I've been waiting for a curfew

I heard an old man say *see you use up a lot of strength*

around with White Russians

this road too long

to the bar and grill on Second Street

on my way to school

In addition, its probably worth noting

Graffiti on a Palm

-Deion

## RECIPE FOR A GOOD GAME

IF THERE IS PEOPLE WATCHING  
IF THERE WERE THOUSANDS  
IF THERE ARE TOUCH DOWNS  
IF THERE IS RUNNING  
IF THERE IS ROASTED PEANUTS  
IF THERE ARE NO INJURYS  
IF THERE IS A FIELDGOAL  
IF THERE IS A GOOD COMEBACK  
IF THERE IS PASSION FOR THE GAME.  
IF THERE IS LONG PASSES  
IF THE GAME IS TIED  
IF YOU GET AN AUTO GRAPH

*GAMES*

## Als Chorus

Sorry we ran up the scorous  
But your defense was porous  
Your secondary snorous  
Your offense deplorous.  
Don't feel so sorous  
So now I implorous  
Go back through the doorous  
And try much much morous

Danny

## Football Dreams :

Fantastic

Original

Officials

Touch down

Balance

Awesome

Long bomb

Live crowd

*James*

One (1) Sentence Story .:

Timed bomb. Countdown. Planned Obsolescence.

-Nick D.

SIX(6) Word Bio. :

Smart , Clubber , Electric , Techno,  
House(Music) , annoying

By: Nick D.

ROCK N ROLL

R EMARKABLE

O RIGINAL

C RAZY

K NOWN

N IGH T CLUB

R OCK

O UT RAGEOUS

L OUD

L YRICS

*JAMES*

## If You Ever Been Loved

If you ever been loved  
If you ever been hugged  
If you ever been beat  
If you ever accepted defeat  
Walking on the streets  
At three in the morning  
Looking for your friends  
Running from that drama  
Run like Obama.  
What you find out is that  
Karma always comes  
Back to bite you.  
I got jumped on the street,  
That's how I got beat  
But I'm not going to admit defeat.  
What they soon will find out  
Revenge is sweet.

Ashley

## If

If I grew everyday, I'll be tall as a tree

There's a lot of things that people don't know about me.

You must be blind if you don't see

What if I was someone else

What if I played the hand I was dealt

What if I had no hands how could I have felt

What if you seen me what would you think of me

What if you seen me would you believe in me

What if I told you something and you disagreed

What if, I die today and wake tomorrow

What if, I fill your heart with a box of sorrow

What if I took but never Borrow.

-Deion

If

If you ever stabbed someone would you even cry.  
If you ever loved someone would you ever lie,  
If I died today would you remember me tomorrow.  
If you love me girl why you fill my heart with sorrow.  
I'll love you today but I can't promise you tomorrow  
because this life I live is currently borrowed.

-Ty-Shawn

## Window

Looking in but on able to go inside  
Don't know what to do not knowing what to decide  
The interior looks like heaven a peaceful place  
Walking in the sand while it's not leaving a trace  
Looking at myself in the reflection  
Feeling lone some in my own dimension  
While the window brake my soul disappear  
Looking from outside in and everything isn't there.

Kadeem

## WEARING MY HEART

WEARING MY HEART ON MY SLEEVE,  
WONDERING IF IT'S MEANT TO BE,  
Thinking to myself from day to day,  
Missing you when you're away,  
Beginning to wonder if I should stay  
Beginning to think if you're the one  
Thinking to myself as the moon turns into the sun,  
You're the one I dream of,  
You're the one i see when I look to the stars above,  
The only thing I have difficulty with,  
Is that I don't think I'm the one you want to be with,  
Look into my eyes and all you'll see is the confusion inside of me.

By Ashley

## Trying To Be Me

Trying to be myself when I'm around you  
But I can't because I don't know how to.  
Chillin' with you at my crib  
Showing you how I live,  
But then snowman comes over and starts some drama  
He said to you in Creole to go frig your mama,  
But he was jealous,  
He told me that too,  
But because of him I'm not with you.  
Your words felt like knives,  
My body like pins and needles.  
I felt things crawling on me,  
Like a bunch of beetles,  
I don't weigh it by the pound I weigh it by the kilo.  
I wish I could slip from here and reach Puerto Rico.  
Your words were so cold I felt like subzero,  
I'm trying to be the hero.  
I look to the sky for guidance,  
But I can't find any,  
So I look to myself for confidence.

Ashley

Forget you.

I don't wanna regret you. The time I put in to get you and the time it taking me to forget you. I'm all mixed up tryna do good without you here but this silence is so loud my thoughts aren't clear. Your memories turn to blank.

Ty-Shawn

## The Acid Rain

When it rains we bleed  
Destroying all the crops, mainly seeds  
No matter how you raised them or how they grow  
The battle between good and bad the positive always get over thrown  
It turns no matter how we nurture it

From the ghetto where the shoes are dirty and the shirts are ripped  
Not knowing that the whole worlds abstract  
That's why people be walking with them things in their knapsack  
No matter what I know we're gonna make it  
Some holding weapons, some giving all their praises  
Some living famous, some hoping to be famous  
Until then I'll never let my name go in vain  
While protecting myself from the acid rain

Kadeem

Who Am I ?

Am I the person I'm supposed to be?  
Am I myself when there's people around me?  
I look in the mirror before I go to school,  
My pouty lips and auburn hair,  
Is my life really fair?  
Is this the life I'm supposed to live?  
Being in a group home at night,  
Always in staff's sight.  
Going to school during the day,  
Is this the only way I could feel safe?  
I don't think it's supposed to be this way,  
But what could I do?  
How could I change the way I am?  
That is what I don't understand.  
Being myself is the only thing I know,  
But how could I be myself if I don't know who I am?

- Ashley

Waitin...

Today Bloodshed spread on the concrete.

I run for cover but no one cares 2 share a seat.

I still run, with no where 2 hide at the depth of my morning cries

Bodies spread out through the concrete.

I wait for 2morrow

It will be a better day. So far away from the past.

My last wish is a brighter day.

and tomorrow I wake and write a song

and feel so strong because of pride

2 know I fought and kept my faith alive..

-Kareem