# Tree of Life: Poetry Anthology



By The 8th LadyZ June 2016

### **Writers in the Community Program**

#### **June 2016**

This zine was produced at Elizabeth House as part of Writers in the Community, a program run by the Quebec Writers' Federation.



www.qwf.org/programs/wic

### Many thanks to Greg Santos

We would also like to express our gratitude to the following supporters, without whom the Writers in the Community program would not be possible:

Donors to QWF's Pyramid Campaign



Eric T. Webster Foundation George Hogg Family Foundation Hylcan Foundation Zeller Family Foundation











The Quebec Writers' Federation acknowledges the support of the Canada Council for the Arts, which last year invested \$153 million to bring the arts to Canadians throughout the country.



Conseil des Arts du Canada The day u left

Mom dad where r we going who are we gonna see.

Mom dad, please don't leave me.

Who's coming for me?

Uho gonna love me?

Mom dad

Where are we I'm scared and lonely

I know nobody here

I'm not home I'm scared

. Mom dad

Please don't turn your back on me

You say u love me but you abandon me

Mom dad

VINCYCHILD.....

# SPRING - an acrostic poem

Showers

Pollen

Roadwork

Ice melted

No more snow

Gardens bloom

a collaborative group poem by the EH LadyZ

Gzay

Gray. the color of my life

High. like me my expectations

Afraid. like a newborn child

Mother. Dead never to be returned

Father. There but absent

MEJUST THERE

### the ram

Drip drop as the rain drops from the sky above on my face

Rain to the left rain to the right

People running looking for shelter from the rain

I don't run from the rain I run to the rain.

I think of it as a blessing from God

Washing my sins away and pouring down his blessing

On the just and unjust

Vincychild if u don't know

### Collage by SC



# I Lost My Talk

I lost my talk when I went into IGA.

5 of your shop clerks followed me and asked me if I needed help with anything...

Then a few minutes later the PoPos were called with a false accusation of shoplifting...

There were onlookers as I was being dragged away by the police.

# LOOK AT THAT N\*GGER! CAN'T THEY GO INTO A STORE WITHOUT STEALING WHAT DOESN'T BELONG TO THEM?!!!

I could feel them watching me with disgust, whispering among themselves.

I lost my talk cuz I didn't have a say to begin with.

By VINCYCHILD (If u don't know ask somebody)

## I lost my talk

I lost my talk When I had my first heartbreak

I lost my talk When I had my fizst kiss

I lost my talk When I started missing you

I lost my talk When I fizst met you

I lost my talk When I fizst had feelings foz you SC

### Creative twist

If a green animal crosses your path, you'll be cursed

It is bad luck to sing at Mont-Royal

Step on a crack, and you will break your foot

When a dog howls, death is near

Break a glass and you'll have two years bad luck

Sell black pepper, wet the bed

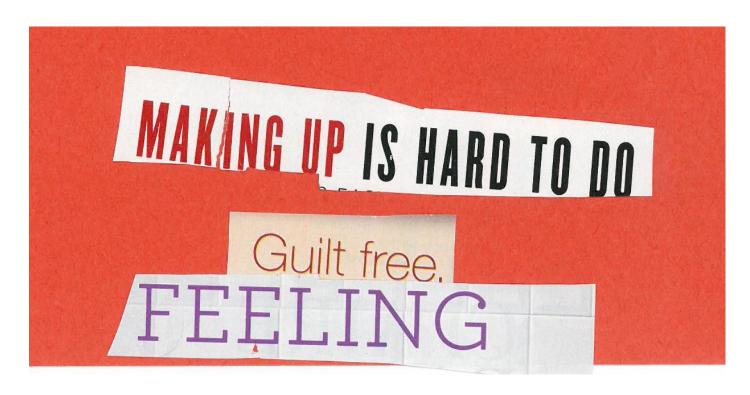
At the end of the rainbow is diamonds

An acorn in the tree can keep lightning out of the house

Praying will frighten evil spirits away

SC

Collage by Vincy Child



### WHITE HOUSE - an acrostic poem

Washington

Hustling

**Incorrect** 

**Trump** 

Election

Hater

**Offended** 

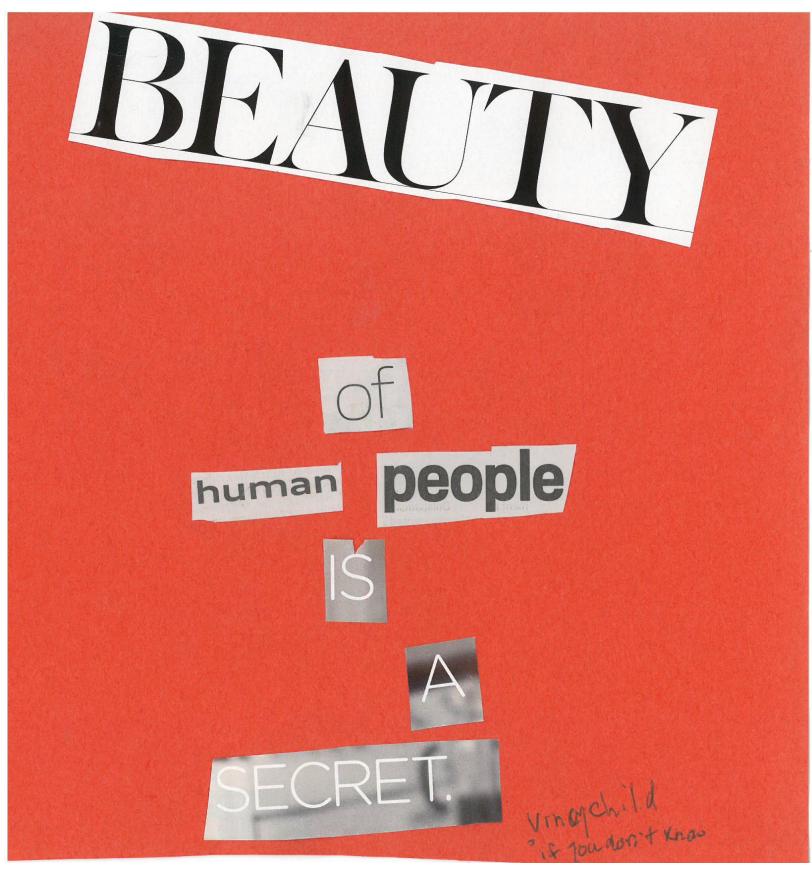
**Un-understanding** 

Sucker

Exercising our rights!

a collaborative group poem by the EH LadyZ

### Collage by Vincy Child



### I Lost My Talk

I lost my talk...

When they said it was a boy.

I lost my talk...

When they said it was a girl.

I lost my talk...

When I saw you take your first breath.

I lost my talk...

When I held you.

I lost my talk...

When I heard you cry.

I lost my talk...

When I heard you laugh.

I lost my talk...

When you called me mommy.

NP

# 1 Lost my Talk

Trapped
Diminished
Rage
Push back
Violent

I lost my talk when my ethnicity was muted

Be "normal" . . . according to who?

Can't use my gestures

Exaggerated arm motions

Being loud is normal for me

Others think I am violent and intimidating.

By Clementina \*PING\*