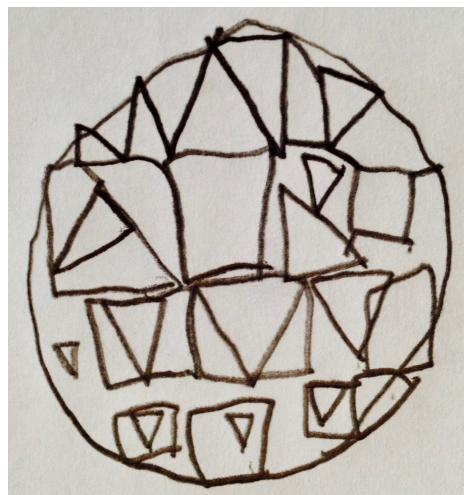
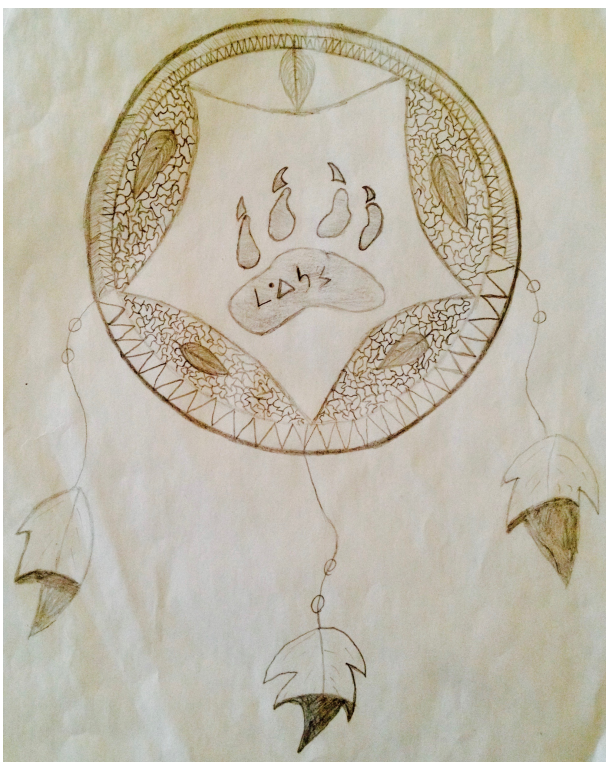
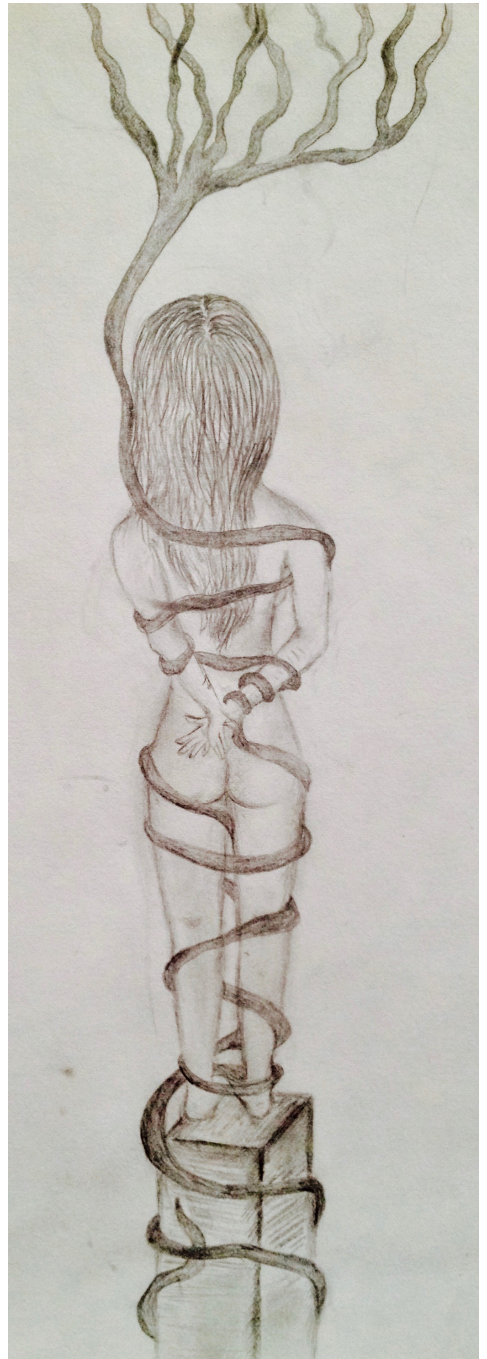
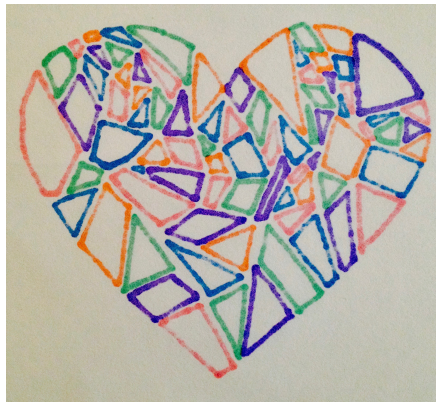
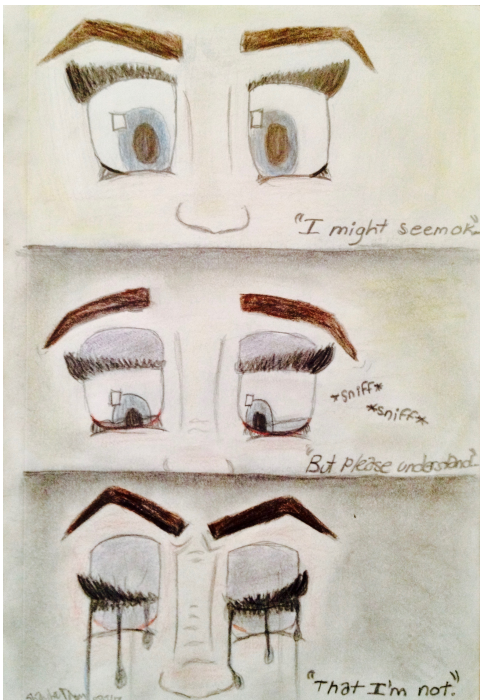


# Flowers

An Anthology  
Fall 2017



**Writers in the Community Program  
December 2017**

This magazine was produced at Dawson Alternative as part of Writers in the Community, a program run by the Quebec Writers' Federation.



[www.qwf.org/programs/wic](http://www.qwf.org/programs/wic)

Many thanks to teacher Melanie Margaret Burns, writer-facilitator Tanya Evanson and the students: for their energy and excellence in creative writing.

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**Donors to QWF's Pyramid Campaign**



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**TAKE THAT**  
**Group protest song**

**CHORUS**

*Didn't have the same skin  
I'm white and they're black  
Didn't have the same size  
I'm perfect -- Take that*

**VERSE 1**

I walk slower than usual today  
I know he's going to be there  
And I'm not all that anxious to go to school

I can see them all standing  
At the back door  
I know they're waiting for me

**CHORUS**

**VERSE 2**

One day at school sitting on a stool  
And that redheaded boy turned and said  
*"Sorry for not saying the truth but kill yourself"*

Never thought about it before, now she has a new score  
Never considering her house a home because she was always alone  
Mom and dad home drinking and though they were there she was alone

**CHORUS**

**VERSE 3**

I saw you standing over there with your long blonde hair, trying to figure me out  
Laughing in your secret corner  
With those witches in the back

Calling out my name I turn and they growl at me.  
They growl at me.  
They growl at me.

**CHORUS**

**BRIDGE**

I've been bullied yeah I have since I was five. When I realized life was *shhh* and so was I.  
Normal kids broke me down. Never knew you could be broken at such a young age. I finally  
snapped and said it's ok to treat others like *shhh* just as bad as I felt. It's normal to hate  
yourself *right?* I finally picked up the pencil and stabbed the eye of the devil. It's completely  
normal *right?* Never mind eff-it you should be happy now I'm not here anymore I'm dead  
look what you made me do.

**CHORUS**

I am Iesha  
I believe in change  
I have the urge to get out  
I believe in change  
I will never ever forget the past  
But I still try  
I believe in change  
I believe in change  
I believe in change

## I am Iesha

I have the urge to get out

I believe in change

I believe in change

I will never ever forget the past

But I still try

I believe in change

I believe in change

I believe in change

The scariest thing I've ever done is told my friend what happened to me

I believe in change

I believe in change

An experience I wish I could relive is when living with my little sis

I believe in change

I believe in change

What I am truly afraid of is staying here until I'm 18

I believe in change

I believe in change

The thing I'm most proud of is the changing I made

I believe in change

I believe in change

The one thing I would change about myself is the feelings I got

I believe in change

## Darkness

Why do repulsive mad men beat women

To the point that they are close to death?

And during those days the women want

To be a little girl again and do those things

Little girls do, and have dreams and not

Nightmares.

## **I Change the World**

**By Jennifer**

I am stronger than I have ever been from the day I was born. (I change the world)

I am not weak. (I change the world)

I am crazy about searching for an adrenaline to keep my heart pounding. (I change the world)

What drives me crazy is my lack of self-respect that I show to the world. (I change the world)

I have the urge to pop pills so colours can be brighter and my life can feel lighter. (I change the world)

I will never ever break the hearts that I care for but it's hard not to hurt my own. (I change the world)

In my other life I am a koala. (I change the world)

My super power is Honk (I change the world)

The scariest thing I have ever done is try to end my life. (I change the world)

The most exciting thing I've ever done is a lot of drugs. (I change the world)

The most unforgettable person I have met is Jesus. (I change the world)

## **The Cube Game**

**By Jennifer**

What I saw in my land was a beautiful diamond cube in the center of the desert where beautiful things happen. This diamond cube shined so bright you couldn't even stare too long at the cube. The desert was a very bright color orange that was a very bright color with a tint of yellow in it. There was a white horse that just stayed by my side. The white horse had dark spots on its body and beautiful long golden hair that was shiny and wavy. Behind the cube I saw beautiful colourful tulips that grew really fast behind the shining cube. In the distance I saw some sort of weird sand storm that was sucking all the sand up. In the closer distance I saw a ladder that looked like there was no ending to it; just one big fluffy cloud that the ladder went right through which I thought looked very beautiful, and so is this whole imaginary world in my head.

## **Night Terror**

### **By Jennifer**

At this moment I can't tell if I am asleep or awake. I feel confused and disoriented. I can hear my heart pounding in my head. The pound is so intense I feel like I am gonna have a heart attack. Suddenly the pounding stops and yet I am in major panic mode. I try to move my arm but my body is completely frozen head to toe. All I can do is stare at the blank ceiling from above my frozen body. All of a sudden I see a white floating sort of glowing fluff pass my eyes, and it is kind of satisfying in the moment. But all of a sudden I feel an ache passing through my whole body from my head down to my feet that I wish would just stop. I get a scary thought in my head; I ask myself am I still alive? Am I dying? Or am I dead... The thought of that triggers me to cry. I can feel the tears drip down the side of my cheek. I try to scream out for help from my loving parents but nothing is appearing to come out of my mouth. I can feel my arm fall to the side of the bed following on with my feet then my legs swing to the side of the bed. I try to lift my legs back up onto the bed but my body feels like its been possessed by a demon. I feel my body swing up completely so I am now facing my bedroom door ready to let my body lead its way down the stairs and that's exactly what happens. I am now in my kitchen staring at the green light on my microwave.

**F.I.N.E.**  
**By Jennifer**

I don't know if I can do this anymore. Every time I stand up I think I'm gonna hit the floor. And every time I am doing good I just want to walk out the door. I go up mountains and down hills, passing roads onto ghetto fields. I wait 'til I'm ready to make my mistakes where I suddenly fall down and break.

But I'll be F.I.N.E but that's a lie. That's my little secret. My family is mine and they're all F.I.N.E but that's a lie. That's our little secret. My friends are completely F.I.N.E but that's an even bigger lie. I don't know how I am gonna escape from all the lies. All I can do is try, until the day that I die.

Fake friends. Fake feelings. Fake life. Life is plastic.

But remember my secret?  
I'm F.I.N.E.



*The fakeness is drowning me*



Corpse Game  
By Marissa (Rose) & Lauren

Peaceful to mad, he doesn't understand he's stupid

No one understands those people who annoy  
everyone, who have real problems

Only if they understand it's time to stop, but stupid  
people push to the top and never stop

Stupid people drop their glasses and wonder why  
they can't see

Under the moon, stupid people shine, fly, then they  
get told leave, go home, you stupid dumb ass

The blood drips out of your head and you wonder  
why? But then remember the stupid people hurt you

When we go down a river the rapids appear and  
stupid people jump and stupid people die

Stupid people only see things in contrast because  
they're not normal

Forever eternity, stupid people will stay. Stupid  
people will die, and I'll sit back and watch, for stupid  
people will hopefully one day change. Stupid people

## **The Cube**

**By Lauren**

Big desert with a large black horse. A shiny sleek ladder stuck in the sand, going straight up to the sky, leading to a cloud. A black small cube with lights shining off it all around. The flowers were short, right beneath the ladder in a patch. The storm rain was far away but close enough, there was lots of sun and an oasis full of water.

## **The Day I Met Him**

**By Lauren**

In the parking lot when the tent was there in Bedard at night, it was a quiet evening when we were alone chatting away about our troubles in life. We walked over, shoulders touching inseparable from the start. The sky got darker and we made out sitting on the hay bails. Warm air, big lips touching mine, sweet, damp out, but nice, clouds but stars, brick buildings but no wolf to huff and puff. Puddles soaked into my shoes as we danced across the rocky ground, but I didn't worry, I was in love. Levitation. He held me in his arms like holding very delicate china, I felt very safe, like the world stopped and it was just me and him. Everything was alright, nothing else mattered, just safe in his arms.

## **DAWSON VARIETY SHOW ADVENTURE**

**By Lauren**

Ashley finishes her rapping and it's my turn to go up, so nervous. All my peers are cheering me on, but I want to puke, Iesha and Alyssa say now we will have Lauren sing reflection from Mulan. I slowly walk onto the stage scared as hell looking at all those people, stalling... trying to talk to Brook-Lynn and Iesha, and looking at Faith and Kyra in the crowd for support. Being nudged to start and even though I'm not ready Brook-Lynn and Larry start playing the music loud, and there is no choice but to go with it, singing as low as possible trying not to be seen but it's impossible. In the middle of the song I screw up but keep going, ignoring my parents. Kyra's mom looks at me and her face tells me not to worry, just keep going it's fine so I keep going and before I know it's finally over and I walk off the stage crying, hugging my classmates, but mostly Faith.

## **Depression**

**By Lauren**

Nature lost all hope  
The sick fish swim cautiously  
There's fear in the air  
The bears don't wanna wake up  
The birds' wings are getting tired

## SPACE

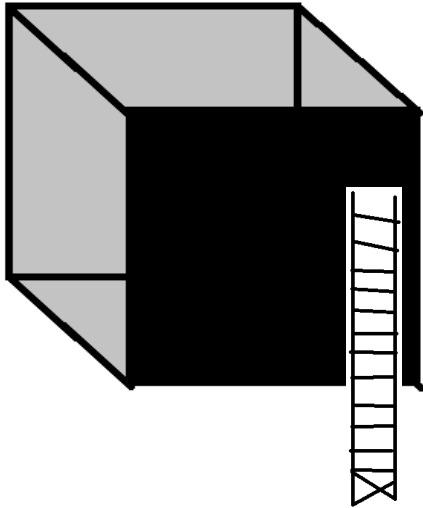
*BY LAUREN*

I WAS A CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT FLOATING IN SPACE WITH A BUNCH OF OTHERS. I WAS BLUE, CAREFREE, UNTIL THE HORRIBLE DARKNESS TOOK OVER AND TOOK THE REST OF THE LIGHTS AWAY UNTIL I WAS ALONE.



I FELT LIKE ALL THOSE LIGHTS WERE ALL THE WRONG PEOPLE, THEN WHEN THEY WENT AWAY, I WAS WITH ONLY ONE ORANGE LIGHT THAT WAS BLINKING AND THAT WAS THE ONLY GOOD FRIEND I HAD.

**The Cube**  
**By Marissa (Rose.L)**



A desert with a pink and purple sky.  
A big black and silver cube ripples on the  
dark entrance to the cube.  
The light brown horse who was wandering  
around.  
When a ladder emerged from the dark  
entrance from the cube.  
When a beautiful rainstorm started wetting  
the dry sand moisture healing dry cracks.  
A big red flower growing for the ground in a  
matter of seconds when little multicolour  
flowers started growing around the big red  
flower.

I go into the cube using the ladder to get into  
the dark entrance in which I realize.



# Rose

By Marissa (Rose.L)

I am rose.

I am not afraid of change.

I am crazy about pupusas.

## ***What drives me crazy are lies***

I will never ever let them hurt me again

I believe in love and lust

## ***What drives me crazy are lies***

My superpower is the touch to kill & heal

My dream is to be a wonderful and powerful woman

The scariest thing that's happened to me was getting pushed off a bridge

The most exciting thing was running from the cops

## ***What drives me crazy are lies***

What I am truly afraid of is getting hurt

The one thing I would change about myself is everything

What fascinates me is the art of music

## ***What drives me crazy are lies***

## ***Drives me crazy are lies***

## ***Me crazy are lies***

## ***Crazy are lies***

*Are lies*

*Lies*

**Does It Matter If  
By Marissa (Rose.L)**

**He's gay.**

**She's lesbian.**

**Their questioning and I'm bisexual.**

**He's straight.**

**She's pan.**

**They're who they wanna be.**

**What does my sexuality have to do with you?**

**Does it matter if I like girls?**

**Does it matter if I like boys?**

**Would it matter ever to you it shouldn't**

**Even bother you but you're bothered.**

**SEX      SEx      Sex      sex**

**With whom I want**

**1 or 2,3 or 4 I want**

**MORE MORE MORE More more**

**??Who am I? Who am I??**

***Hold on or let go?***  
***By Marissa (Rose.L)***

So was I supposed to let go or hold on?

Was I supposed to cry or stay strong? **Let go & cry?**

Your sexy smile stuck in my head but now I wish I was dead.

Hold on & stay strong? **Let go & cry?**

Rope tied around my neck not afraid of death.

The thought so unsettling

Suffocate & drown **or stand up & stay strong?**

Letting go of everything including love?

& cry my eyes out?

Everyone who loves me is turning their back on me.

Their hands around my throat

But I've tried to devote, devote myself to god but I'm not worthy for his

Super inhuman godliness love but

Letting go or holding on? **Crying or staying strong?**

DIE Die Die die

OVER OVERer OVER Over over

Big to small but I choose to

**Hold on & stay strong**



# **blood red**

## **by Marissa (Rose.L)**

the sky starts blue, turning grey  
the clouds are getting in the way  
im f\*\*ked up, im messed up and the drugs are getting in the way  
they're telling me to watch that poor old lady whose in pain  
now what the hell did i take  
i now see blood red, poor women almost dead  
i wake to see blood  
sleep to drown  
sleep a nightmare, i wake to another  
a beautiful rose on the floor now turning black  
wilting and dying  
the colour around me is black  
beauty replaced by horror

## **The Truth in You**

### **By Marissa (Rose.L)**

The thing is I see your eyes,  
I see the truth beneath your lies  
I breathe in then out but anger has taken over my body  
I can tell you see I know the truth  
But yet you continue  
You're under a trance  
Not a chance you'll tell the truth  
But you never knew that I knew

## **Red Blood**

**By Marissa (Rose.L)**

it hurts, i know, words spinning around  
my friend fallen on the ground  
and me its not like i mattered  
it hurts but still it feels good  
painting a layer of red on my arm, pain shooting to my head  
im almost there, im almost dead  
shes fallen  
and im drowning in my own blood  
wondering if they care, they dont care, they're just doing their job  
getting paid to protect me but i dont need protecting  
WHEN WHEn WHen When when  
will it end, when will it end  
my chest tight, heart burning, heart beating so fast  
so fast i might pass, i pass out and see black  
wake up and im back  
BACK TO BEING BLOODY AND SCARED

**She's a Real Whisper Controlling Me  
By Marissa (Rose.L)**

it was weird like a click or a voice  
telling me i need to, no have to, so i listened because i was scared  
whispers in the air whispers in my head  
they say they want me dead, gone  
but i couldnt control it  
i picked it up and used it, thought it was going to kill me  
but i didnt, i just bled a little  
but it wasnt me, it was her and she wont friggen stop  
she wont leave me alone i ask her to leave but she cant  
she will stay with me till i breath in her monsters  
and till i kill myself. she said that only i could see her  
im sorry im scared of her, of what shes made me do, what shes  
going to make me do  
i cant control when shes in me, i cant control her demons  
cant control anything. shes everywhere.  
shes in every corner every crack every door every window every mirror  
watching me analyzing me piercing me with dead, cold eyes.  
and she wont leave.  
shes the whisper in the air, the whisper in my head  
she will be the last whisper i hear before im  
Dead

# DEAD HURTS LESS THAN BEING ALIVE

By Marissa (Rose.L)

Dead is how I feel.

Im making a deal.

This heart never heals.

Its ok not to feel ok but its not ok to feel how I feel.

Remembering what it was like to be happy.

They ask me my pain one to ten.

I say "zero Im fine" but Im actually dying.

Dying on the inside.

I see a new side to life.

How I hate being alive.

Dead is how I feel.

Im making a deal.

This heart never heals.

I guess our broken hearts never healed.

But that was our deal.

# The F\*\*k up

By Marissa (Rose.L)

The moon the sky the stars the sun

The man who tells me to run

The hurt the pain the rain that stops

The dry land that kills people because there are no crops

When we're young we're free and from then we grow up

Everybody makes bad choices

**but man i F\*\*ked up.**

In the system at 14 & 15 now i'm 16.

Now wishing i'd flew a kite, wishing i rode a bike

But i did drugs

Everybody makes bad choices

**but man i F\*\*ked up**

i guess it's time to grow-up and change

Stop smoking stop fighting

**and stop f\*\*king up**

i still wish i flew a kite, still wishing i rode a bike

**But i F\*\*ked up**

***RED, BLACK AND BLUE***  
**By Marissa (Rose.L)**

You in the red, black and blue apparently  
it's all about you, you and you.  
what about me, you make me want to make them see  
it was me.  
and suddenly they see it was suddenly.

You in the red, black and blue  
always about you, you and you.  
that girl goes boo boo hoo  
you have white pale skin like a ghost

**BOO**

i'm mixed  
but my race and your race isn't important  
it's what's on the inside.  
But you in the red, black and blue  
it's all about you, you and you  
and now i'm an outsider even a downsider  
White, black, asian, native and indian  
what's the difference between us but culture and colour  
we're all the same and we're all worth it  
i'm optimistic and you're not  
you in the red, black and blue  
it's not all about you, you and you  
it's about the world as a whole, i love us all  
and the world loves me and you don't make it about you  
its about us <3

## The Sound of Tomorrow

### By Britney

As a kid I always wanted to write my own ~~music~~.  
Thoughts about that came into my mind a ~~thousand~~ times  
I would always ~~ask~~ god ~~please~~, oh ~~please~~  
Let me fulfill my dreams. I always ~~like~~ to write my raps.  
But most of them always involve pain, depression, ~~rain~~.  
I feel like I can do much ~~better~~.  
Some people say I won't make it but that ~~doesn't~~ matter  
because I'm ~~here~~ the ~~woman~~ I am today  
Will probably never meet Chris Brown and them but that  
Don't matter  
because I'll achieve my music goals one day.

# HOME

By Britney

A simple word. Four letters two consonants,  
one of them silent.

**Home.**

You wish you could walk through a familiar door  
shout out

**the word**

in a simple two word sentence I'm home  
but that door

**has**

been closed to you, slammed shut in your  
face, and

**no**

amount of pleading will open it again.  
Two consonants, two vowels one word without

**meaning**

when you don't have a home to go to.





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