



IT'S RAINING DUCKS
(IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN)
;))

Acknowledgements

December 2012

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

Thanks to writer-facilitator Greg Santos and teacher Rita Langer.

Thanks to Vanguard Intercultural School.

Thanks and shout-outs to the students of Vanguard, 9A.

Cover image by Dennis Jarvis.



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



Poetry to Me

Poetry is like the waves refusing to stop hitting the shoreline
Refusing to leave my mind
I always wonder why?
I love and hate it
Poetry makes me overthink
But pours my heart out onto paper

It confuses me and challenges me
That's the reason why it comes back to me

Sabrina

I Am From

I am from never leaving my twin's side
Living on one floor with four other people
Reading goodnight stories with my mom

I am from tripping everyday (literally) at school
Waking up at 6am to watch Power Rangers
And watching way too much TV

I am from a big imagination
Like making up songs and stories
Reading with all of my free time

I am from playing all the time
Going to the park
Playing Barbie, Polly Pocket, and LEGO

I am from speaking on the phone with my best friend
About our favourite band at my grandmother's house
Practically living at my grandmother's house

I am from the best childhood

Sabrina

Double S Poem

I put the Double S in Shaun S

My smile brings life in the tormented

My sadness makes God bring storms in monstrous forms

I swim as fast as a shark as my dog barks

My reading creates breeding of new thoughts

My knowledge of history makes ghosts of the past cry
and my teacher quit with no bye

My snowboarding and skiing is so majestic
that I am too good for the Olympics

Shaun

I Am

I am known as the history teacher
I come from the Jewish General Hospital
At six I discovered my passion for history
I have collaborated with Nicolas, Daniel, and the Jew Crew
History, swimming, snowboarding and skiing
Those are my talents
But videogames are my skills
My inspiration is in constant danger but I stand up
My dream is peace for Israel

Shaun

Poetry Is...

Poetry is a way of expressing yourself, a way to let out feelings that you can not express through regular words, a way to have fun, a way to pass the time.

Poetry is a way to let everything inside of you out! A way to have fun with words and think of them as more than words, a way to let your mind escape and think out of the box, a way to be different, a way to feel like you're someone else.

Steven

I Am From

I am from waking up early, building and playing with Legos.

I am from Golden Eye on Nintendo 64 with my brother and sister.

I am from hide and seek, tag, and not getting caught!

I am from hanging out with my friends and video games.

Steven

Arnold Schwarzenegger as a Limo Driver

Everybody get to the limo!

Do it now! We must get to the party!

Stop whining! Just get in! Now!

I hate my job! It's so stupid!

I have to listen to little kids complain about the music isn't loud enough!

UGHHH!

What do you mean I am going the wrong way?

Shut up! Just sit down! Let me do my job!

UGHHH! I have a really big tumour in my head.

UGHHH! Well... I guess I can't complain.

I make good money and it puts food on the table.

But I still hate this stupid job!

Anthony

I Am

I am human.
I wonder what my purpose in life is.
I hear that God created us.
I see people that are dedicated to him.
I want to know.
I am human.

I pretend to trust him.
I feel empty when I don't know things.
I touch the spirits.
I worry what happens next.
I cry because something happened.
I am human.

I understand what my purpose is now.
I say to people life is great.
I dream to fly.
I try to reach the sky.
I hope he is helping me.
I am human.

Sean

Iron Man as a Therapist

I am Tony Stark. I have a new job.

Avengers kicked me out after being too superficial.

I am the richest man in the world
and I have to work as a therapist because my girlfriend said so?

I am on the first week of the job and I talk about myself and complain.

I am a philanthropist just like Bill Gates but he still gets more credit than me.

Sean

I Put the W in Weird

I put the w in weird
The f in fish

I am weird, so watch out
I might growl at you
with my teeth

I can walk to the store
and buy cat food for my mom

I put the ab in abnormal
the s in sexy

I am Justin Beiber, so watch out
I will produce bad music
with my high pitch voice

When I lift my arms I lose my friends
B.O. B.O.!

I put the a in apple juice
the s in Spider-Man

Ryan

Poetry Is...

Poetry is that feeling you get when you land that 360 off the big air in the snow park.

It's that one adventure you go on, that feeling of a great idea.

Picture yourself climbing a mountain, a very tall mountain,
You are struggling but you finally overcome the challenge with hard work.

Poetry is that mountain.

My point is, no matter what the point is, there is a great poem in all of us!

Ryan

I Am

I am sweet but hidden
I wonder why beauty is brighter than light?
I hear that people only see what is pretty
I see rejected people and wannabe models
I want to see more than just bright colours and shiny objects
I am not what I seem

I pretend like everything is fine
I feel like it is not
I touch the feelings of others
I worry that what I say is not what people want to hear
I am reality

I understand problems and emotions
I say "no more" a little too much
I dream to touch the sky
I try to be a good person
I hope that bad people will change to good
But, I am only human

Dominique

I Am Smart

I am smart

I wonder if I am the smartest person

I hear my friends talking about the world

I see myself making a difference

I want to make an impact

I am smart

I pretend I am a scientist

I worry if I will actually succeed at life

I cry when I fail

I am smart

I understand my intelligence

I say I am the smartest

I dream to be the world's greatest genius

I try to something I'm not

I hope to be an inspiration

I am smart

Joshua

I Am From

I am from playing with yellow Tonka trucks and building construction sites

I am from swimming and playing all summer and from playing Monopoly on rainy days

I am from wood working in my free time

I am from hearing Mick Jagger singing “Satisfaction” and listening to classical music

Joshua

Who I Wish to Be

I am worthy and special.
I wonder if I can be who I want to be.
I hear "If I try, I can."
I see people do it, so I wonder if I can, too.
I want to be what I wish to be.
I am worthy and special.

I pretend I am who I wish to be.
I feel like I can but I'm not sure if I should.
I touch the real me like music touches me.
I worry sometimes if I'll ever be the one I wish.
I cry sometimes to become the real me.
I am worthy and special.

I understand when they say I can be who I wish to be.
I say to myself, "I can do it", over and over.
I dream what it would be like if I was the one I wished to be.
I try hard to be that one person.
I hope that one day I'll be the person I wish to be.
I am worthy and special

David

I Am

I am kind and insecure

I wonder if I will ever truly stop doubting myself

I hear thoughts running through my mind fast

I see my ideas pour out of my mind on paper

I want to play a song on my guitar

I am kind and insecure

I pretend that I am okay but deep down it hurts

I feel sad and ignored

I touch my emotions

I worry that I am not good enough

I cry when I can't be with the guy I like

I am kind and insecure

I understand that I have people in my life who care about me

I say I'm not confident

I dream of being a rock star

I try to stay positive

I hope to find someone

I am kind and insecure

Carli

How I Feel Inside

I am not what I want to be.
I wonder is this really me.
I hear people say, "Why do you sound like a man?"
I see nothing. No one here for me.
I want to be happy.
I am not what you see.

I pretend to be someone I am not.
I feel as if I am alone.
I worry that all my friends don't actually like me.
I cry because I love.
But I am not your dream girl.

I understand that you hate me.
I say "I don't care."
I dream that you are with me.
I try not to care.
I hope you don't hate me.
I am paranoid and scared.

Kathryn

Poems

I am a girl that seems happy
That has lots of friends
To be honest with poems
I try not to pretend
To tell you the truth
I say lots of things
That people never even
Bear to think
The truth is
I am sad
It does not really show
Cuz I try to be happy
And no one will know
I pretend all the time and
Can't fix all my lies
No one can tell
I am sad all the time

Kathryn

Poetry Is...

Poetry is the flow of life.
The growth of all the plants.

Poetry is the heat from the fire,
The mist from the waterfalls.

Poetry is the birds in the sky,
The fish in the reef.

Poetry is the bear in its den,
The wolf on the prowl.

Poetry is what we experience in life,
What we see, what we hear.

Poetry is on the top of the mountain,
At the bottom of the sea.

Poetry is everywhere
And anywhere we will be.

Phillipe