

I AM A WOMAN



JUNE 2015

Illustration by Kaitlyn

Writers in the Community Program

June 2015

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



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

www.qwf.org/programs/wic

Many thanks to Dale Matthews

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

- ❖ The Centre for Literacy
- ❖ Donors to QWF's Pyramid Campaign
- ❖ Batshaw Foundation
- ❖ George Hogg Family Foundation
- ❖ Hylcan Foundation
- ❖ Intact Foundation
- ❖ Lester B. Pearson School Board
- ❖ McCarthy Tétrault Foundation
- ❖ Pearson Educational Foundation
- ❖ Zeller Family Foundation

The Quebec Writers' Federation and the Centre for Literacy acknowledge the support of the Canada Council for the Arts, which last year invested \$157 million to bring the arts to Canadians throughout the country.



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Being a Mom

Being a mom, especially a young mom,
Means a lot of change, work and courage.
Having a baby didn't ruin my future nor my life ...
It gave me a beautiful new one.
It only means we met a little early.
Being a mom is the best thing any woman can become,
The love of a mother is stronger than anything.
Being a mom is simply beautiful.

AT

I am a mother no less than a woman

I am a woman
I bear the weight of courage

I walk through fire
And walk on ice

I am a non-stop train
Provoking disaster

I am sunshine through the storm
And joy through pain

I am life itself

LT

What is a Poem?

A poem is like a lipstick
It is more than a lipstick that I paint on my lips
It comes in shades of colors
Shades of color that express my mood
A poem is shades, colors of expression.

A poem is like a reflection of the blue sky onto the ocean water
An ocean created from unknown worlds
Not created by man
Water created the sea
A sea, to many, calms the soul
A sea, to creatures, creates lives
A poem is deep like the sea.

Celine

Mes Qualités

Je suis tellement douce que même l'eau de la pluie me colle à la peau
Je suis tellement calme qu'on entend les mouches voler à des km
Je suis tellement belle que même le miroir est jaloux
Je chante tellement bien que même les oiseaux m'écoutent
Je suis tellement intelligente que même l'école ne me veut pas
Je suis tellement une bonne mère que mes enfants croient que je suis
une star

RG

Meaningless Hurt

They say words hurt
Hurt like a wounded heart, like a pistol bullet went through it
That's how I used to hurt
Used to, I say
Now words are nothing but meaningless
Meaningless
When I was young-minded and naïve enough to let words get to me
Forgetting my inner strength
Strength to never let words wound me
Now words are nothing but...
Meaningless
Untrue
Words coming from an insecure heart are meaningless.
Celine

I love you but ...

I love you I hate you

I want you near me I want you away from me

I want to kiss your face I want to punch your face

I love hearing your voice your voice makes me sick

kaitlyn

Dear Tiger

I have been looking at you from far away
I see your finest fur whispering in the wind
Your perfect piercing eyes glowing through the sun

I have been looking at you from far away
I have seen your glorious traits
Your eager devouring sense of prey
And your magnificent glare, looking deep inside my soul

I have been looking at you Tiger
And as a shadow eclipsing away
Your presence never dear, always seems to fade away

I see you dear Tiger

LT

Pain

*I have an aching pain in my beating heart
I feel an aching pain in my chest.
I feel your pain all the time when I look into your eyes
When I see you cry
It makes me want to cry
And makes me depressed.*

kaitlyn

I Know I'm Worth it

**Because I'm crazy
Always happy and sincere
I'm smart and beautiful
And the most important part
I'm a woman who's independent
And is important to a lot of people
And I made an awesome
Lil' boy that I love so much
That I'm crazy about**

Teisha

La Valeur d'une Mère

**J'ai eu la chance de vous sentir bouger à l'intérieur
J'ai eu le bonheur de vous mettre au monde
Je serai là quand vous êtes inquiets
Je serai toujours là vous aurez peur, mal ou serez malades
Je vous aime et vous comprends plus que personne ne le peut
Je vous ai créés
Voilà la valeur d'une mère**

RG

I AM FLAWLESS



Illustration by Teisha

My Love

The meaning of true love is unknown
The love within yourself
The love towards others
The type of love and the how
But my love flows like deep running water
Love with no regrets and with no tomorrow
Unquestionable love

My love is passionate and kind
Always patient
Free for all, however well deserved

My love is joy and celebration
It's the brightness of a smile
And the twinkle in the eyes

My love is just
It is endurance
Devotion through hard times
My love is pure

LT

La Magie d'être Maman

**Debout un sentiment de joie de foi l'imaginer respirer sourire noble chanson
À la tête la voix spéciale la voix spéciale mystérieuse que tout le monde veut
Organisation internationale coopération magique et même confédération
internationale - section maman**

RG

Him

Is it love or is it lust?
Does he love me or just want something from me?
Is it fear or is it true intuition?
What is it, please tell me?
Because you are a great actor
Your heart goes hot and cold
You are sweet and loving
When you're with me
But you are a completely different person when you're not in my eye sight.
You can be a player like Charlie Sheen
You can be a liar like Jim Carrey
But I will always love you, remember that.

KM

You!

Roses are red
Violets are blue
Why am I so blue, is it because of you?
Why did you do what you did?
Did you like hurting me, the sound of me screaming my heart out on the phone?
Did it satisfy you?
Every scar has its story and every tear has its memory
And you've caused a lot of tears
But we've had a lot of memories, good and bad

KM

One's Self

Perhaps you can call me pretty
Perhaps you can call me even beautiful

Short, dark hair
Pink velvet lips
Bright eyes
Sensational smile

Perhaps I should be named Mrs. Ray of Sunshine
Perhaps even Golden Flower

Confident walk
Confident smile
And confident self

So perhaps you should qualify me as an empowered woman

Self-taught
But unconditional in love and unconditional faith
Persevering in life
While still being hopeful of tomorrow's uncertainty

So beware of my power
I am a miracle of life
I am the symbol of fearless
And the qualification of strength
I am a woman
I am me

LT

f... you right back!

See I don't know why you crying like a b....

Talking shit like a snitch

If you really didn't care you wouldn't wanna share just telling everybody how you feel.

f... what I did, was your fault some how.

f... the presents, I threw all that shit out.

f... all the crying, it didn't mean jack!

Well guess what 'yo' f... you right back!

You thought you could really make me moan, I had sex all alone lol!

Now you want me back,

you must be smoking crack.

So f... it

Now I'm gone and moving on .

kaitlyn

What is a Poem?

A poem is a door

You don't know where it goes

Or what's behind it until you open it

You can open it or keep it shut

You can lock it and throw away the key

And start a new beginning

kaitlyn

Step by Step I Rise

Haiti was the country I was born from
La Perle Des Antilles, we called it
Warm Island, beautiful sky, loving people
But appearances are never fully accurate
For there were various façades of this country of mine

Nonetheless, the breathtaking bright sky
The shining stars
The humid smell of nature caused by a good shower of rain
The nice breeze of the night sky,
That shadows a promising day,
Never ceased to mesmerize me

Oh! There comes my mother's smile
I can already see her miles away
Feeling the tightness of her warm embrace
Smelling the sweat of her hard work
Oh! Wonderful memories,
That's all my mind is full of

Blooming out of my innocence
Surrounded by thoughtful families
And loved by many
I became an individual of pride and confidence
And now that I think of it, my childhood had no imperfection.

Memory Poem

I remember a time and place

Where I was an AWOL-er.

I was always on the run

Hiding from the police.

I was always on the go

Couch to couch.

Now I'm not on the run.

I'm not on the go.

I'm getting my shit straight.

I'm a new mom.

I'm doing my best to become a better person

than I was in the past

for my daughter. I love you Everly

kaitlyn

Le Clown

Je ris de te voir constamment rugir

Je t' imagine avec un nez de clown qui jongle avec ses crises

Je trouve drôle quand tu parles sans arrêt et que tu répètes toujours

Les mêmes choses, on dirait qu'on shake un disque tournant

Passe ton chemin et laisse-moi vivre ma vie

RG