

THE VOICE

MAGAZINE

Vol 21 Issue 47 2013-12-13

Shining Light, II

Before the Road to Nowhere

Smart Phone Psych

Addictive or Productive?

Council Connection

Hidden Information

Plus:

*From Where I Sit
The Writer's Toolbox
and much more!*



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www.voicemagazine.org

500 Energy Square
10109 – 106 ST NW
Edmonton AB
T5J 3L7

800.788.9041 ext. 2905

Email
voice@voicemagazine.org

Publisher

AU Students' Union

Editor-In-Chief

Tamra Ross

Managing Editor

Karl Low

Regular Contributors

Hazel Anaka
Katie D'Souza
S.D. Livingston
Wanda Waterman

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



We love to hear from you! Send your questions and comments to voice@voicemagazine.org, and please indicate if we may publish your letter.

EDITORIAL

Karl Low



Wrapping Up

With December half way through, now is probably one of the most stressful times of year across North America. This is the time where everything you forgot to do before Christmas suddenly looms. Having to finish everything before the holidays arrive can make these last weeks pass like a whirlwind and leaves many people feeling dizzy and stressed.

It's no less busy for The Voice Magazine as well. Next issue will be our last one of the year, with December 27th being our annual Christmas hiatus, and the January 3rd issue will feature the Best of the Voice for 2013. This means that we have to go through all the articles of last year and choose the stand-outs then get in touch with the writers to make sure that they're willing to sell us reprint rights. But I'm just one person, and what I consider to be the best articles you might not agree with. So if you remember any articles over

the course of the year that you feel deserve to be included in our Best of The Voice edition, let me know at karl@voicemagazine.org.

Also, AUSU is planning for its own end of the year newsletter, which means *The Voice Magazine* advertisements need to be ready in time. More people knowing about The Voice Magazine gives us more opportunities to find new writers and bring you new perspectives.

Our reader survey is wrapping up over this weekend and the 8" Samsung Galaxy Tablet will be awarded and sent out—with luck arriving before Christmas—which means that if you haven't filled out the survey yet, you still have a chance. You can find the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VoiceReader> until it closes. After that, work will start in earnest on the much larger student survey that I'll be using to try to gauge where the Voice Magazine needs to go in future to achieve the goal of it becoming the best student magazine in the world.

In the meantime, however, some behind the scenes work has already started. If you're on the Voice Magazine website, you can see some small signs of it with the new AUSU logo and catch phrases that reflect The Voice Magazine's distinct style of funding and publishing more accurately.

And, of course, all of this is going on while The Voice Magazine continue to publish articles like the second part of our feature on Iqaluit, as experienced by AU student, Barbara Lehtiniemi, or like S.D. Livingston's look at smart phone addiction, where she makes a great point about how when we put everything we'd do anyway under one device, people think of it as being addicted rather than productive. Also in this issue you'll find the last of our French series on the poet Kamal Benkirane from Wanda Waterman, the conclusion of Christina M. Frey's quotation guide, Hazel Anaka's take on tourism, plus a number of other diversions to keep you busy.

Hope you enjoy! —Karl

Pretty Sweet Deal



In late November I spent a week at our Canmore timeshare: a functional, yet cozy location for a working retreat. After a few hours or days of work I feel entitled to goof off. That diversion may entail shopping or eating out. As I visited new and old haunts in town I thought about my role as a returning visitor.

Tourists have it made. We can dip in and out without any real investment in the community or area other than what we spend on food, fuel, and personal consumables.

Last year I saw a civic building under construction. As an outsider I missed the municipal government debates about the expenditure and the taxpayer weigh-ins on pros and cons. I missed the actual inconvenience of construction, the disruption to service, the traffic snarls.

A year later I get to see the magnificent Elevation Place: art gallery, library, bistro, childcare centre, rock climbing wall and more. I can see, use, and enjoy--often without cost--and then go on my merry way.

When I asked the gallery attendant about when the building opened and commented on its beauty, he seemed unsure of either. He, of advancing years, said the building was very big and cost a lot. I said I guess you're worried about taxes. He said he lived elsewhere. "So you're off the hook," I said. "Yep, I'm off the hook." Would his opinion about the investment be different if he was a library patron, a rock climber or had children in need of care? Probably.

As I continued my rounds in town it was sad to see some businesses had closed. I suspect that in true Alberta entrepreneurial spirit the shuttered spaces won't remain so for long. Some wide-eyed risk taker with a hope and a prayer (and the help of a bank) will open the next hot new shop.

As consumers, we vote with our wallets. We choose whom to support with our dollars and to what extent. I always shop at Café Books when I'm in Canmore. They're an independent and damn proud of it. Are their prices good? No, not Costco or thrift store good. But the selection of less mainstream titles and the ambience make you want to linger. I always leave with a bag of goodies and a skinnier wallet.

Another favourite, Second Story Books, a used bookstore housed in a below grade space on Main Street was closed because of the summer flood damage. By next year I'll know if they recovered and regrouped. I hope so.

Each year I catch the Christmas Artisan's Market at the high school and delight in the talents of others. I practice my dining alone strategy at Indochine, a Vietnamese fusion restaurant with the freshest, yummiest food. I drive to Banff National Park.

Luckily this whole visitor thing is reciprocal. I visit your town you visit mine. I drop some moola there you bring some here. Our respective taxes build our own infrastructure but we share it with others. Pretty sweet deal, from where I sit.

Hazel Anaka's first novel is Lucky Dog. Visit her [website](#) for more information or follow her on Twitter @anakawrites.

Primal Numbers

S.D. Livingston



Smart Phone Addiction

By now, we've all seen that look of dread in someone's eyes when they realize they've left their smart phone at home. It's as though they've dropped the equivalent of Tolkien's One Ring down a crevasse. They're suddenly adrift, powerless without their Precious. Some researchers claim this anxiety is a sign of smart phone addiction, a growing problem in our wired world. Maybe. Or maybe we're just putting too many eggs in one digital basket.

There's no doubt that a lot of us have become dependent on our smart phones. In one recent survey, 800 people around the world were asked to rate the stress they would experience if they had to do without their smart phone for a day. As this [CBC News video](#) reveals, more than half the respondents said that a day without their phones would be as stressful as their wedding day. As well, 66 per cent of respondents said they wouldn't be able to go a day without their gadgets, while 45 per cent experience anxiety if they don't have their phones with them.

The phenomenon even has a name: nomophobia, as in no-mobile phobia. But, as shiny and tempting as our smart phones are, it falls short of the mark to say that we're addicted to the devices themselves. Instead, it's more accurate to say that we're addicted to all the things we can do with them.

Not only do we use them as phones, we also use them to see friends in real time with apps like Skype. We do our banking, check the weather and traffic, search for directions, read books, watch TV and movies, and shop. We scribble reminders, make lists, and keep track of our diet and exercise habits. And that's just scratching the surface.

Now, to put the idea of smart phone addiction into perspective, imagine that you're getting ready for a typical day but you don't have a digital gadget. Try making a list of all the different items you'd use instead—items people have been using to manage their busy lives every day for decades without worrying that they might be addicted to them.

There's the newspaper or TV to check the weather, and the car radio to listen to news and traffic. If you're running late, you'll need to find a payphone and call the office. Need to run out and meet a new client? You'll probably reach for the paper map you keep stashed in the car. At lunch, you might need the phone book to look for restaurants nearby. Then, of course, there's the calendar on the kitchen wall at home to keep track of appointments. And the board games and books for family time on the weekend.

The list goes on, but you get the idea. All day, every day, we pick up, flip through, scribble on, and chat on dozens of useful items. We never track the collective time spent using those tools, never lump together the hours logged on work and play. Yet somehow, now that we've rolled all (or most) of those tools into

one compact digital gadget, we forget to look at the number of separate activities we use those smart phones for.

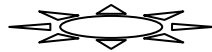
Indeed, it's as if we're carrying our calendars, entertainment, home phone, bank, and a dozen other things in our pocket—and then wondering why we spend so much time paying attention to that one device.

Does that excuse people who can't hold a conversation without constantly checking their screens? No. After all, it would be just as rude to keep checking a paper calendar while you're chatting with a friend.

But it does mean that we should be careful about labelling our multitude of daily activities an "addiction" simply because we've got the convenience of handling them all on one device. And if you do think you're addicted . . . well, there's probably an app for that.

S.D. Livingston is the author and creator of the Madeline M. Mystery Series for kids, as well as several books for older readers. Visit her [website](#) for information on her writing.

All day, every day, we pick up, flip through, scribble on, and chat on dozens of useful items. We never track the collective time spent using those tools, never lump together the hours logged on work and play.



Council Connection

Karl Low



Last Monday's Council Meeting was fairly uneventful.

Unfortunately, Council has adopted something called a "consent agenda", which has essentially hidden all Council activity from the students who may attend. Students who attend receive only the agenda, and while there are various reports submitted by the AUSU Executive, staff, and committee chairs, none of those are available to student attendees, and no information is provided during the meeting except where one of the Councillors may have a question about one of the hidden reports.

This makes the "public" nature of AUSU council meetings nearly meaningless. However, what I did manage to glean while I was there are that there have been changes to the Elections policy. After investigating further with the Executive Director of AUSU, most of the changes to the policy were simply adjustments in wording reflecting changes in the bylaws and eliminating redundancy.

There were a couple of substantive changes, however. First, scrutineers have been eliminated from the election, as the vote count has been done electronically and automatically for a few elections now, which means there simply hasn't been anything to scrutinize other than test election systems to ensure votes are being recorded properly—something which technically falls under the CRO position. And second, the CRO has received additional authority to adjudicate fairness in the elections, with a doubling of the honorarium being provided to reflect both that and inflation since the honorarium was first set.

Writer's Toolbox

Christina M. Frey

You Can Quote Me On That, Part III



In the first two articles of this series (see [Part I](#) and [Part II](#)), we examined the proper use of punctuation and quotation marks, including whether to place commas and quotes inside quotation marks and how to handle multiple sets of quotation marks. But although the steps and rules discussed cover most situations, they only deal with sentences in which one punctuation mark is juxtaposed with a set of quotation marks. To conclude the series, this week we'll examine situations where two or more punctuation marks are dueling for space next to a set of quotation marks—or worse, two sets.

Triple punctuation (or more!) can give rise to some very bizarre possibilities. However, it's not as confusing as it might look. In order to keep things consistent, the English language has developed a punctuation hierarchy that dictates which

punctuation mark gets used, what gets dropped, and whether two or more punctuation marks can coexist with a set of quotation marks. And it's easy to follow. Treat each nested quotation as its own entity, then apply the following guidelines. Soon you'll navigate quotation punctuation with ease!

First, drop periods in favor of exclamation points or question marks. This means that when you have a period and an exclamation point or question mark combined with a set of quotation marks, the period is dropped. This is the case whenever quotation marks are used, whether it's a quotation or citation.

Example A: I said, "He likes the song that begins with the lines 'How do you solve a problem like Maria?'" Note that first I dealt with the nested quotations on their own; then I applied the multiple punctuation rule. Here, normally the main sentence would end with a period, but because the lines quoted already end with a question mark, that question mark takes precedence and the period is dropped.

Note, however, that there's an exception: when the period is part of an abbreviation, it's retained.

Example B: "Did he really tell you that you'd 'better be at the office by 6:00 a.m.'?"

Second, never put two question marks or two exclamation points side by side.

Example C: "Do you like the song that begins with the lines 'How do you solve a problem like Maria?'" Although the first question mark is part of the quoted lyrics, the second question mark—which is related to the sentence as a whole—is considered superfluous and therefore has been dropped.

Third, when required by the needs of the sentence, the question mark and exclamation point can exist together with a set of quotation marks. This is uncommon in academic settings, as it is found primarily in the so-called exclamatory question. According to the *Chicago Manual of Style*, you should include both the question and the exclamation marks "only if they are different and the sentence punctuation seems essential."

Example D: I hate the song that begins with the lines “How do you solve a problem like Maria?”! Here, both the question mark (part of the quotation) and the exclamation point (part of the sentence itself) are important and are kept.

Example E: Sarah shouted, “I hate the song that begins with the lines ‘How do you solve a problem like Maria?’!” This example involves nested quotes, but the rules are applied in the same manner. Note that the possible final period has been dropped.

Quotations are an integral part of writing, both formal and informal, academic and otherwise. Learning to use them correctly and confidently will help your writing look cleaner and more professional. More importantly, it will ensure that your work will read more clearly—and after all, clear communication is what good writing is all about.

Christina M. Frey is a book editor and a lover of great writing. Chat with her on Twitter about all things literary @turntopage2.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS DESK



At Home: Quebec Education Minister deals with Sit-In

The group *Collectif éducation sans frontières* organized a sit-in at the office of the Education Minister in Quebec on Tuesday morning. The purpose of the occupation was to demand a commitment from the minister to open Quebec's primary and secondary schools to "non-status immigrant children", or more simply, children in the country illegally.

CBC reported that by Tuesday afternoon, the protestors had left peacefully and no arrests had been made, but while the government claimed that it had been making significant moves to help these children, members of the group reported that in some cases, these children were not allowed to register, or only allowed to register after

paying fees ranging from \$5,000 to \$6,000 per child.

Around the World: US & Canadian Medical Programs Make Landmark Agreement

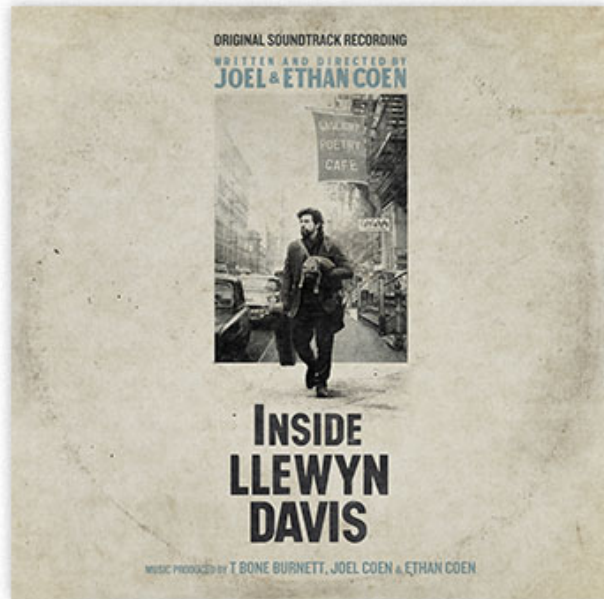
The American Medical Association (AMA) is reporting that they have come to an agreement with their counterparts in Canada, the Canadian Medical Association (CMA). This agreement will enable the two associations to set standards for accreditation that will be recognized by either association no matter which of the two countries the student was trained in.

The president of the Association of Faculties of Medicine in Canada says that the agreement will allow them to "fulfill our mandate to create an alignment of accreditation across the continuum from medical school to residency training to continuing medical education in Canada." With the agreement, Canadian programs will have some flexibility to address some of the differences from unique national demands.

Mindful Bard

Wanda Waterman

Books, Music, and Film to Wake Up Your Muse and Help You Change the World



Album: *Inside Llewyn Davis* (soundtrack)

Producers: Ethan Coen, Joel Coen, & T-Bone Burnett

The “New World Coming” Sounded a Lot Like the Past

Songs won't save the planet, but neither will books or speeches.

Pete Seeger

By the mid-70s, I wanted to get out of the business. I was tired anyway.

Dave van Ronk

The fact that the soundtrack for this film was made available online slightly before the film made it to most theatres makes reviewing the music first, if an evil, a necessary evil. I have

enough confidence in (read: adoration for) the Coen brothers that I can safely say this is probably a humdinger of a movie, so I'm going to plough ahead and say a little something about the soundtrack. A Mindful Bard piece on the film itself is sure to follow as soon as I can manage to watch it.

This soundtrack is a period-true depiction of the kind of folk music that saw a revival in the late fifties and early sixties and that somehow managed to survive the British Invasion (albeit with greatly diminished popular support). Greenwich Village songsters did covers of a motley collection of traditional subgenres, represented on this album by historical ballads (“Hang Me Hang Me” and “The Death of Queen Jane”), bluegrass (“The Roving Gambler”), Old Tyme (“Green, Green Rocky Road”), gospel, spiritual, cowboy, Celtic, sea shanties (“The Shoals of Herring”), and protest (on this CD a very clever and appropriately silly original tune—“Please Mr. Kennedy”).

The original tunes penned during this period comprised an attempt to carry on these same musical traditions while adding introspective elements in keeping with the new counterculture's quest for meaning. It was these new songs and their inward gazing quality that formed the ground floor of what we know as folk music in today's western industrialized society. But this singer-songwriter-based music has continually referred back to the past for inspiration, especially when current circumstances turn us off what's happening now.

For example, after the British Invasion rendered the economics of American folk music precarious, the tragedy at Altamont drove a second, lesser revival of American roots music in all its incarnations. It pushed the American wing of the counterculture away from British-style rock and back to the past and a deeper investigation—and reinterpretation—of American music's folk roots.

This was the foundation for the long-term tradition of singer-songwriters (often falsely termed “folksingers”) that remained small but ended up among those musical genres that, like jazz and classical music, almost required exclusive obeisance. But folk music went even further than these in practically dictating a lifestyle and political bent to its aficionados.

On the down side, the folk tradition spawned some of the most contrived, self-righteous drivel imaginable, and this album carries elements of that as well ("Please Mr. Kennedy" is a brilliant spoof of anti-Vietnam songs). Such songs don't comprise a blight on this great collection—they were indeed a part of the quite marvelous big picture and deserve commemorating.

But the best bits really do carry all the atmosphere of those old recordings I used to borrow from the bookmobile as a child. From artists like Buffy Ste Marie, Leonard Cohen, Joan Baez, and other acoustic minimalist folksingers of the sixties, which remind me of the days I'd come home from school, lay a platter on the stereo, and chill out in the armchair with pot of chamomile tea and small plateful of cheese and crackers.

Some of the songs are even the same. There are a few original tunes here but most are very authentic arrangements of traditional tunes. Many of them form part of the repertoire of the divine Dave van Ronk, songs I've been hearing since childhood (I once had a Labrador retriever who I trained to dance to "Green, Green Rocky Road").

The song selection is brilliant, lead actor Oscar Isaac sings and plays the tunes himself, superbly, and the recording makes it all a delicious blast from the past.

And as if the singular musical achievement of the soundtrack to *O Brother where Art Thou* were not enough, the Coen Brothers and T-Bone Burnett apparently have enough chemistry to showcase America's rich musical history for films galore. (Please guys, don't forget Tin Pan Alley, dixieland, swing, and cajun. Please.)

Inside Llewyn Davis (soundtrack) manifests seven of the Mindful Bard's criteria for films well worth seeing: it's authentic, original, and delightful; poses and admirably responds to questions that have a direct bearing on my view of existence; provides respite from a sick and cruel world, a respite enabling me to renew myself for a return to mindful artistic endeavor; about attainment of the true self; displays an engagement with and compassionate response to suffering; gives me artistic tools; and makes me appreciate that life is a complex and rare phenomena, making living a unique opportunity.

Click of the Wrist

Friday the 13th

If you're reading this, you've made it through another Friday the 13th alive. The next one will happen in June of 2014, but until then, you can look at this link to see the history of the day and how it became known as an unlucky one.

On Display

From tales about the NSA working with Canada to spy on the G20, to the revelations of Ed Snowden about how the US government is intercepting just about every phone call out there, the idea of personal privacy is taking a beating. Some, however, are getting ahead of the curve and simply setting up personal cameras to show what they do all the time. This link will let you look at camera feeds made public by their owners and include things from animal pens in zoos to public intersections in the city of Waxahachie.

For the person who has everything

Do you have one of those exceptionally hard to buy for people on your list? Do you ever wish they'd just make a list of something, anything, just to take a bit of stress out of your life at this time of year? Perhaps what you need to do is pick up something from this list to encourage them to do better next year. When they ask you why you'd give them such a thing, just say, "It's one thing I knew you wouldn't have."

Under the Internet Tree



Shining a Light on Iqaluit, Part II

Barbara Lehtiniemi



(AU Student Barbara Lehtiniemi went to Iqaluit and brought us back her observations. You can find the first part [here](#).)

Do you want fries with that?

Our usual practice when travelling is to eat local. Yet our first few meals in Iqaluit were pizza, shwarma, or poutine. It took a bit of hunting to find food that didn't arrive by plane. On the fridge of our B & B was a set of ulu-shaped magnets with the food guide for Nunavut. In addition to bananas, pastas, and chicken, none of which are produced in the north, the magnets show blueberries, bannock, and caribou. We eventually found some restaurants that served musk ox and arctic char. Caribou was not on the menu anywhere, being in short supply. And then there was the coffee.

Double for your double-double

You'd better believe there's a Tim Horton's in Iqaluit! Three, in fact. The largest is in a corner of the Northmart. At this Tim's, customers pour their own coffee, cafeteria-style. The coffee tastes the same, but it costs double the price of coffee down south.

Where are you from?

One cab driver, dark as ebony, had a noticeable Caribbean accent. "Where're you from?" we asked. "Calgary, mon," was the smiling reply. Fourteen years after the creation of Nunavut, its capital Iqaluit retains the energy of a frontier town. The population grows every year as adventurous people move there hoping to benefit from the boom. Housing and infrastructure struggle to keep up. There are no traffic lights on the dusty main street, which is clogged with cars during the afternoon rush. Although the influx of new residents is slowing, it's still legitimate to ask them where they're from. We talked to people originally from Quebec or Newfoundland who had worked in Iqaluit for two weeks to twenty years. There are people here from Germany, Poland, the Philippines, China, South Africa, and all areas of Canada, north and south. The hotels are full, not of tourists but of employees on long-term assignment. It's a dynamic place.



Nunavut Food Guide magnets remind us that fish head soup is a good source of calcium



*Always Fresh in Inuktituk
Where it costs double for your double double*

Good Water In, Bad Water Out

In the newer areas of town, two fleets of trucks go door to door, like bees busily collecting pollen. The clean-looking white trucks are delivering water. In the older sections of town the water is piped to each house through heated pipes. In the newer sections, every drop of water is delivered by truck. To prevent overfills, a red light shines outside each house when the tank is full.

And what goes in must go out. Every flush of waste water is collected in a household septic tank. A fleet of aromatic sewage trucks make the rounds, sucking all the nasty stuff into their tanks and carting it away. We hoped the drivers never mix the tanks up (although we did hear that a septic truck driver has occasionally reversed the flow by accident, filling the septic tank instead of draining it.)

Road to nowhere

Walking from one end of Iqaluit to the other takes about 45 minutes. If we'd kept walking another 20 minutes, we would be over the hills and out of sight of the city without any landmarks to guide us back. It's a disconcerting thought. The roads stop at the edge of town, and to continue further requires either a snowmobile or an ATV, depending on the season. Those unfamiliar with the land don't leave town without a guide.

The aptly named "Road to Nowhere" goes where it says it does, although it's more track than road. The challenge is to find it, because tourists keep stealing the signs. Not suitable for cars, it makes a pleasant summer walk for those who want to get away from the constraints of town. Because it was snow-covered during our visit, we could only follow it with our eyes as it disappeared into the vast whiteness. We'll save that adventure for our next visit.

Barbara Lehtiniemi is a writer, photographer, and AU student. She lives on a windswept rural road in Eastern Ontario



The Road to Nowhere

Voix du Maghreb

Wanda Waterman



Kamal Benkirane, Partie III : Dans Mon Éternité

Extrait du poème : "J'ai chanté" :

*Dans mon éternité, mon fiel et mon ivresse
L'on m'a dit d'un élan plus fiévreux que le jour
`` Que t'importe la rose insidieux troubadour
Puisque dans ce monde elle n'est plus enchanteresse
Puisque le capital est despote absolu
Que la réalité est le seul viatique
Ton idéal brumeux n'est que chimère antique
Qui se fait complice à ton songe révolu*

Kamal Benkirane a commencé sa carrière littéraire dans sa ville natale, Casablanca, au Maroc, en écrivant pour des journaux, magazines locaux, et tout en enseignant là-bas. Il rejoint des sociétés littéraires et poétiques et gagne des prix littéraires en France. Il s'installe au Québec en 2001 pour étudier en Éducation à l'Université de Montréal. (Les ormes diaphanes), est son premier recueil de poèmes. Il a été publié en 2005 par la maison d'édition (Fondation Fleur de Lys), au Québec. Il a beaucoup œuvré pour la promotion littérature francophone du Maghreb en Amérique du Nord. Il publie en 2006, aux éditions L'Harmattan, de France son livre (Culture de la masculinité et décrochage scolaire des garçons au Québec), qui a été suivi en 2010 par un autre recueil de poésie (Dans la chair du cri), publié aux Éditions du Cygne, en France, et en 2013 par un autre recueil publié en France (Feuillets de l'aube)

Kamal Benkirane a beaucoup œuvré pour la promotion de la culture marocaine au Canada et pour la création de passerelles d'échanges en ce qui a trait à l'altérité et à l'interculturalité, et à la fusion entre la littérature et les technologies d'information.

Voici son blog : <http://landalou.blogspot.ca>

En quoi votre éducation communautaire contribue à votre imagination créatrice?

E Dans ce contexte-ci, la poésie a besoin de solitude et de méditation, et ce qui a contribué en plus à cette imagination créatrice, c'est la lecture, ou plutôt la variété dans mes lectures, la confrontation aux textes et l'initiation à un certain esprit poétique auquel j'ai adhéré à travers mes lectures pour un souci de fusion entre l'esthétisme et la poésie. Donc, l'éducation est un tremplin qui enrichit le parcours par les rencontres, les lectures et surtout l'expérimentation. Une éducation rigide générera probablement une expression poétique conservatrice, le contraire pour une éducation plus ouverte sur le monde. La solitude reste pourtant un moteur essentiel pour donner à la créativité le ton, le style et la contenance qu'il faut.

Avez-vous déjà eu l'impression que cette imagination a été envahie par les autres? Pourquoi?

Cette imagination a été plutôt enrichie par les autres. J'ai écrit des textes poétiques sur le pauvre qui ne touche pas grand chose comme salaire et qui a de la difficulté à boucler le mois comme j'ai écrit sur le riche qui ne manque de rien et qui s'évertue à regarder les gens d'en haut. J'ai écrit des textes sur les cas sociaux aussi tels que l'hypocrite, le mal aimé, l'idéaliste, etc. Je crois qu'il ne faut pas que l'imagination se rétracte et se ferme à tout ce qui lui vient de l'extérieur et ou a ce qui est inhérent à la réalité car l'ouverture est nécessaire pour varier l'imagination. La souffrance est aussi un élément majeur pour permettre la maturité dans la création, le questionnement, la stylistique, etc. La souffrance est un cheminement vers la pureté, vers l'élévation au-delà des sens.

Lorsque vous avez aimé, tout jeune, les bandes dessinées. Avez-vous déjà envisagé de collaborer avec d'autres artistes pour mettre vos poèmes dans le format d'un roman graphique?

En réalité, je n'ai jamais imaginé envisager une collaboration pour ce qui est de mettre mes poèmes dans le format d'un roman graphique. Ma conception a toujours été et reste au niveau de l'écriture des textes poétiques, romanesques, nouvelles, ce n'est pas plus une censure du roman graphique ou des bandes dessinées qu'une tendance à donner au littéraire une vision du monde, un style, une conception existentielle personnelle qui consiste à faire des mots non seulement un moyen de naviguer et de surfer sur le réel et l'abstrait mais de les utiliser comme moyen graphique par la tournure des styles, par la métaphore, le format des textes, etc.

Comment définiriez-vous le rôle du rythme dans la poésie?

Le rythme dans la poésie peut facilement être interprété en musique. Le rythme est musicalité, chant et son. Le rythme en poésie accapare les autres, attire l'attention. Ça pourrait donner envie de prendre tout de suite sa guitare, de gratter les cordes, d'enlever un mot et le changer pour donner au rythme plus de saveur. Le rythme devrait être interprété comme un complément pour émouvoir les autres par les mots et le chant, et je pense que c'est un idéal de faire combiner le rythme et le mot sur la même longueur d'onde



Pouvez-vous nous donner une de vos lignes préférées de Rumi et expliquer pourquoi vous les aimez?

Djalāl ad-Dīn Muḥammad Rūmī est un mystique persan musulman qui a profondément influencé le soufisme. Djalal-el-dine veut dire « majesté de la religion » (de Djalal, majesté, et dine, religion, mémoire, culte). Rumi est un poète perse soufi que j'avais découvert en même que Khayyām. Mon intérêt pour le soufisme vient de la particularité et du cheminement de ce courant comme étant une voie intérieure apparue avec la révélation prophétique de l'islam. Dans Soufisme, il y a *Safa* qui veut dire clarté ; limpidité, qui signifie finalement « pureté cristalline », Les poètes soufis recherchent l'intériorisation, l'amour de Dieu, la contemplation, la sagesse, c'est une tendance initiatique et une quête de la pureté. J'aime beaucoup cette poésie qui est une tendance marquée pour tout ce qui est quête de la pureté, de la vérité en cherchant de l'intérieur.

Voici finalement quelques textes de Rumi qui sont non seulement poétiques mais dans la profondeur est marquante:

*Je suis de cette ville
qui est la ville de ceux qui sont sans ville
Le chemin de cette ville n'a pas de fin
Va, perds tout ce que tu as,
c'est cela qui est le tout.*

*Sois comme l'eau pour la générosité et l'assistance.
Sois comme le soleil pour l'affection et la miséricorde.
Sois comme la nuit pour la couverture des défauts d'autrui.
Sois comme la mort pour la colère et la nervosité.
Sois comme la terre pour la modestie et l'humilité.
Sois comme la mer pour la tolérance.
Ou bien parais tel que tu es ou bien sois tel que tu parais.*
~ Djalāl ad-Dīn Muḥammad Rūmī

DID YOU KNOW?

Online Course Catalog



With the arrival of online courses, from MOOCs to SPOCs to everything in between, the question becomes not if there's a course for your particular interest, but rather where it is that you can find it.

To help with that, the site Online College Courses has been created, providing a list of open college courses from Harvard, Stanford, Princeton, and even courses from Oxford. Just remember when you go that the large blue area at the top of the page is actually a sponsor's link. The useful information is below that, starting with the "Browse by Category" tool. Find it at: <http://www.onlinecourses.com/>

~ More Dysfunctional Love Languages ~

ROMANTIC LANGUAGES

SETTING UP IMBALANCES OF POWER



WHY DON'T YOU LET ME BE THE STRONG ONE, POOPSIE PIE.

RATIONALISING INFIDELITY



LOOK, SUGAR,
ALL NORMAN WANTS TO DO IS NECK.
AND THAT'S ALL I DO WITH HIM!

DAMNING WITH FAINT PRAISE



LISTEN, BABY,
I WANT YOU TO KNOW RIGHT
NOW THAT I AM NOT THE
LEAST BIT ASHAMED OF BEING
SEEN WITH YOU.

AUSU UPDATE



Dear Members,

You may have recently seen information on the internet speculating about the future of Athabasca University. These reports suggest that the Alberta government may broker a merger between AU and University of Alberta, and that this may result in drastic changes to the services and programs offered to students AU students.

We want you to know that AUSU is aware of these rumours and is actively investigating the source – we will keep you informed as we know more.

We can tell you that AU is governed via a bicameral structure with two main governing bodies: the General Faculties Council (formerly Academic Council) and the Board of Governors (formerly Governing Council). AUSU has representatives on both of these governing bodies and we can confirm that there has been no formal discussion of a university merger among these groups. The AU president, Frits Pannekoek, has also assured the press that there is no truth to the rumour. On behalf of our members, we are seeking more information from the Board of Governors, the minister, and AU executives.

At this time we simply have no evidence that a merger is being seriously considered by AU, the U of A, or the Alberta government, and we note that among the many committees and working groups of AU, planning and development for the future continues as usual.

We know that our members are worried and want more information. We will update you as soon as we know more. At this time we do not feel there is any reason for students to worry or make changes to their study plans.

Do not hesitate to contact our office if you wish to talk about this or any other issue affecting AU students.

AUSU.

This column is provided by AUSU to facilitate communication with its members. *The Voice* does not write or edit this section; all content has been exclusively and directly provided by AUSU, and any questions or comments about the material should be directed to ausu@ausu.org.

CLASSIFIEDS

Classifieds are free for AU students! Contact voice@voicemagazine.org for more information.

THE VOICE

500 Energy Square - 10109 – 106 St NW - Edmonton AB - T5J 3L7
- Ph: 800.788.9041 ext. 2905 - Fax: 780.497.7003 attn: Voice Editor

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Editor-In-Chief Tamra Ross
Managing Editor Karl Low

Regular Columnists Hazel Anaka, Katie D'Souza, S.D. Livingston, Wanda Waterman

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