

Post North 4

Ryan White,
Contributor

Poets are seldom described as exciting by the general public; however, Post North4: For Love included Northern British Columbia poets who deserve such a title. Whether it was Jana Tausendfreude giving me goosebumps after examining the horrors of detox for both the user and the witnesses in poetic form or Dave Ogilvie trading in his hard hat and tools for pen and paper. The diversity was immense. The Twisted Cork was chosen to house these rebellious poets and their rowdy audience; a perfect venue to read poetry because of its beautiful décor, soft palate colour schemes, and pitchers of Canterbury costing \$11.95. Post North4: For Love was held on February 10th 2012 to correspond with the poets views on love around Valentine's Day.

As tagline may have already implied, a vast majority of the readings examined love as an event leading to imprisonment, torture, and/or death. However, despite the lost hope of love, the air during the readings was absolutely electric. Graham Pearce began the event with some poetry, humour, and honesty, while creating the energetic tone that lasted throughout the readings. Some poets added a touch of humour to an overall impressive reading. For example, Darcie Smith created a humorous, but powerful list including both orgasms and the thought of Obama with a moustache, while Melodie St. Jean wrote about her love for a big red cherry bong. Other poets, such as Azedeh Gagnon and Shane Darroch captivated the audience's attention with strong material and powerful undertones examining the fragility of the human condition and the downfall of love. Kael Walske was also of
1 The Confluence



*High Fashion at the Main Event, the wrap-up to Black History Month
Andrea Johnson, Photograph*

Environment Canada 5-Day Weather Forecast: For Prince George, BC. 1-5 Mar 2012

Thursday, Mar 1. High of -3°C, Low of -10°C. Mix of sun and cloud
Friday, Mar 2. High of 2°C, Low of -9°C. Chance of flurries. 60% POP
Saturday, Mar 3. High of 3°C, Low of -3°C. Rain or snow.
Sunday, Mar 4. High of 4°C, Low of -2°C. Cloudy. 60% POP
Monday, Mar 5. High of -1°C, Low of -9°C. Cloudy. 60% POP

interest, as I rarely hear sound poetry done so confidently while still being interesting and deep. The charming Andrew Kenway also had a fantastic reading following a mulligan to take control of the surly crowd.

Immense amounts of applause, confident poets, a full venue, and the occasional wolf call from yours truly added to the energetic atmosphere that made Post North4: For Love such a huge success. There was not a time, except for the occasional bathroom break, that I was not shoulder to shoulder with fellow poetry lovers. The place was packed: I would say we were less like sardines in a tin and more like a group of the faithful, listeners waiting for the good word of poetry.

It is important to note that Post North did not always run so smoothly. The previous Post North events were criticized by the "great literary minds" of Prince George as offensive, tasteless, and demeaning. It was enough complaining and criticism about the event and its coordinators to create enough local buzz to make this an annual event.

The event was a huge success and I didn't have to get my Toronto Mapleleaves jersey covered in blood, poetry groupies, and beer. If you ever have the chance, go to Post North. You can expect to laugh, get goosebumps, and meet an exciting poetry community that leaves shame at the front door.