



The Cooked and Eaten Reading Series
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Poetry of Everyday Life Marathon Info Sheet

Who: The Poetry of Everyday Life Marathon involves writers and poets across Canada and beyond. Poetry groups, writers groups, and teachers and classrooms read together in a group or organize their own mini-marathons. Individuals read alone, in front of an audience or to whomever passes by.

Anyone can be involved and the commitment is only that each poet read aloud for 15 minutes sometime during the day of Friday, April 17, 2009.

The marathon is organized by the **Cooked and Eaten Reading Series** in Peterborough Ontario. **The Cooked and Eaten** hosts an ongoing series of events based in Peterborough, Ontario which motivates the creators of fiction, poetry, theatre, performance and lecture by promoting new and adventurous authors to an engaged and informal audience.

What: The Poetry of Everyday Life Marathon is a twelve hour marathon of poetry.

When: Starting at 9am poets start reading in fifteen minute time slots. When each poet finishes another poet starts either in the same location or somewhere else entirely. It starts at 9am East Coast time and ends at 9pm West Coast time. (So it's really a 15 hour marathon, but what is time to poets?)

Where: Poets reading in diverse locations across Canada and in the U.S. Each poet chooses their own location or joins a group that has selected a location for their mini-marathon.

So far this year poets have signed up to read:

- **Nanaimo:** Pearson Bridge underpass in downtown Nanaimo, backside of Howard Johnson's where Comox Road intersects the Island Highway. This site is an unofficial homeless campground and is also part of Nanaimo's famed "Scenic Harbourside Walkway" for tourists. We will be the Cooked & Eaten Poets of the Underpass for one hour. Other poets are welcome to join us.
- **Peterborough:** Either a street corner or at Natas Cafe maybe, if I'm working.
- **London, Ont:** In a greenhouse.
- **Burnaby, BC:** Somewhere in the Ramada Hotel, Burnaby BC
- **Toronto:** At MSC Fitness in East Toronto, to a gathering of people practicing yoga, when they are in sivasana, corpse pose, I will read poetry to them while they lie relaxed and receptive, open like lotuses.
- **Toronto:** "Among Friends," a community group meeting in Toronto.
- **Winnipeg:** Bar Italia, at the corner of Corydon Ave & Cockburn Street
- **Hamburg, NY:** At Gifts Of Gaia Bookstore
- **Halifax:** The Company House bar on Gottingen Street, North End
- **Seattle, WA:** On the beach at Golden Gardens, Puget Sound
- **Parry Sound:** West Parry Sound District Museum, and at the Mad Hatter Cafe
- **Nanaimo:** The Diana Krall Plaza in front of the downtown branch library
- **Calgary:** On Nose Hill. Many deer and coyotes live there. Ravens fly over often. Nose Hill is a place known for its mystical energy, for ancient voices of art, healing, poetry and creativity's vital, vital nourishment.
- **Peterborough:** At The Only cafe
- **Nanaimo:** At the Nanaimo Art Gallery

Why: April is **National Poetry Month** and **The Cooked and Eaten** wanted to do something different and decided there'd be no better way to celebrate poetry nationally than to have a national reading. The marathon is a way for poets across the country to feel connected, to see that there are other brave poets out there prepared to test their poetry on unsuspecting audiences and to give their poetry a voice all together all on one day.

From the flier poets hand out on the day of the event:

While you are here, listening to this poet, and as you go about the rest of your day, take a moment to notice the poetry all around you. The poetry of everyday life. Today, poetry is being brought to life across the country. Tomorrow? It will still be there, perhaps more silent, but still there. Take time to look for it, when you can.

How: To get involved poets fill out the online form linked from the **Cooked and Eaten** web site at **cookedandateen.com**. Participants need only name their time and place and the length of time they will be reading. Once they have signed up they will be added to the schedule.

The schedule of poets will be posted the day before the marathon and will be sent out to the poets and several mailing lists including **Cooked and Eaten** and **The Canadian Authors Association**.

What else: Poets are encouraged to create documentation of their reading: video, audio, still photography, sketches or a combination of the above. These records will be posted to the Cooked and Eaten website.

In the week after the marathon, check the **cookedandateen.com** web site to see what poets were up to during the marathon.

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For more information please contact:
Esther Vincent, (705) 749-8512, readings@cookedandateen.com
or go to the page for the event at:
<http://www.cookedandateen.com/archives/events/20090417.html>