

# STRATHCONA WRITERS' MUSE

## February Impressions of a Mexican Resort

by Karen Probert

Blue-domed sky  
 Sand-scratchy feet  
 Long walk home  
 Sweet-scented flowers  
 Wind-shimmering fronds  
 Sea-salty spray  
 Cracked concrete path  
 Red-shelled crabs  
 Plume-blowing whales  
 Spume-rolling waves  
 Spiny backed iguana  
 Sun-burned tourists  
 Shriek-laughing children

Time-honoured habits  
 Pool-side lazing  
 Cold beer service  
 Thatched roofed palapas  
 Sun block scents  
 Sleep inducing heat  
 Bikini clad girls  
 Summer-bright clothes  
 Red-painted toenails  
 Squawk-calling parrots  
 Trailing pink bouganvilla  
 Winter blahs vanquished  
 In sunny Mexico



## EDITOR'S NOTE

Beth Rowe

I am looking forward to the conference coming up on the 30<sup>th</sup> of April. Going back to the basics will give us all a chance to

possibly learn something new and to refresh our old skills. Hope to see you all there.



### Important Events:

- IVC Volunteer Fair at the Agora on Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with the Farmer's Market
- WFSC 2016 Conference – Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at County Hall Meeting Room #1 – workshop sessions all day

### Upcoming Dates:

Muse Submission deadline:  
 April 26<sup>th</sup>  
 Writer's Circle  
 May 3<sup>rd</sup>

## Childhood Marks

Fingerprints, fingerprints everywhere  
Try to clean them if you dare.  
After a while you just won't care  
For your windows and walls will appear so bare

Handprints, handprints all around  
Almost everywhere can be found.  
It makes our home somewhat unique,  
A game of Handprint seek.

Lick marks, lick marks here and there,  
Luckily not everywhere.  
You will find them on my windowpane,  
At times it can drive me insane.

Crumbs, crumbs on the floor,  
This one I can't take anymore.  
Brush in hand constantly,  
I wish someone else would do this for me.

These stains of childhood all over the place,  
Not just the walls but on their face.  
One day it will all be clean  
But then their little faces won't be seen.

*By Lisa Rigney*

## Water Droplet

A water droplet falls from the sky  
Where it falls, it will never know  
Will it fall into the sea and live with the rest of the water droplets?  
Will it fall in a river and start a journey to the sea?  
Will it fall to the ground and provide nourishment for something near it?

A water droplet falls on a tree.  
It drips down, leaf by leaf, providing many opportunities for other creatures.  
A caterpillar that need a drink.  
Perhaps it removes dirt that was holding the leaf down.  
Once it reaches the bottom, it nourishes the tree to grow taller and stronger.

A water droplet is like an individual person.  
Each one has the ability to affect the world around it.  
Will it nourish with a river?  
Will it destroy with a flood?  
Will it simply fall and pass by unnoticed?

A water droplet can affect a vast ocean.  
A single drop creates a ripple that creates waves later down the line.  
A tsunami that forever changes the world.  
Uniting countries for a single goal.

A water droplet rises to the sky and moves on.  
It gets swept away by the wind and forms clouds.  
Navigating the sky, to a new location,  
Releasing more water droplets somewhere new.  
The water droplet life cycle begins again.

*By Mike Deregowski*

## Mountain Memories

The air smells fresh and crisp  
Cloud shadows undulate across rock  
Bird song surrounds me  
Water trickles between iced edges

Buds and blades of green surface  
Crunch of leaf litter under foot  
Sunshine radiates soft warmth  
Stillness surrounds

Mountain sheep and elk roam  
Glimpses of the natural world  
Surprise and delight  
Spring emerges slowly

Connection to inner peace  
Soul searching finds its goal  
Stress released  
Calmness rules

Mandy Eve-Barnett



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The pathways draw me into the center as I concentrate on my breathing, willing away intrusive thoughts by counting steps or looking at the textures and colors of the rocks laid out in the circular pattern. Sights and sounds and sunshine become part of the steps to seek inner solace. (*Labyrinth @ Grande Cache AB –Easter Weekend 2016*)

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