Kim Anderson is a Cree Métis writer and educator. She is the author of A Recognition of Being: Reconstructive Native Womanhood (Second Story Press, 2000). Kim lives in Guelph with her partner and their two children.

LORRAINE THOMAS

Kohkom

Elsie flows like a river
Secretly thru my veins
Like a waking bear from winter
Medicine comes thru dreams
Calling calling in whispers
Accented in forgotten Cree
Her Indian image preserved
On a black and white photograph
She wore thick braids of sweetgrass
Cupped by a bandanna
Small and sturdy Birch bark skin
She was Mooshums backbone
She walks carefully thru my sleep
My mother’s mother
Her moccasins dancing the round dance
With ancestors of the sky

Lorraine Thomas is a 27-year-old First Nations Cree. She has published several poems as well as a short story.

Words Out There
Women Poets in Atlantic Canada edited by Jeanette Lynes
foreword by Gwendolyn Davies

“What a gift this book is to us.” — Lorna Crozier

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DIANA PEACOCK

Guérison

On espère
Que la blessure Guérit Finalement
Souvent on attend Longtemps Même jusque A la fin de la vie
Cette blessure Qui dure des années C’est causé Par une perte Si profonde Inexplicable
Ça hante tôt le matin Et tard le soir Mais l’assurance existe Que la guérison viendra

Diana Peacock is a Toronto poet.

MALCA LITOVITZ

Bubbi’s Limoge

When I look at your dishes, your splendour returns — casserole dishes with gold rims and roses on lids — stately cake dishes towering with the majesty of the occasion — breads with crowns regal beneath the full moon of the New Year; the sugar bowl smiles and the creamer dances, curtseys to the New Year — full, round, sweet.

Magical law of return —

God of small miracles ringing in the year on Limoge china.

Malca Litovitz is a professor of Creative Writing at Seneca College. Her recent poetry collection, To Light, To Water (Lugus, 1998) is this year’s winner of the National Book Award for Jewish Poetry.

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