

larly, combined with the physical effects of hosting a gestating human being, giving birth, sleep deprivation and general exhaustion. Yet these pale in comparison to the stress and anxiety of an unstable pregnancy provoked by tear gas and the shortage of information relating to associated health risks.

There is no proof that tear gas is safe for public consumption. If anything, the scant research that has been conducted in this area indicates that there are grounds to assume it is unsafe, especially for people at particular risk. An outstanding example is risk to prenatal development. I went to Quebec City as a citizen exercising my democratic right to protest. I was Jane Public, one of over 50,000 people who felt strongly enough about globalization to stand up and be counted. There is no reasonable way that I or the vast majority could be perceived as a security threat. Yet, we were gassed repeatedly. For many people, the Quebec Summit was an intensely politicizing event. It certainly confirmed my own commitment to resisting the negative effects of globalization and

fighting to protect civil liberties. But the urgent need for thorough testing of the human toxicity of tear gas prior to any further dissemination of the compounds must be underscored. This must become part of the policy agenda surrounding Canadian civil liberties, health, and safety.

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HOLLY DAY

Floor Pie

when dreams of escape fade
into wasted breath
she picks up her memories

like cloudy marbles
whispers,
"this is what pockets are made for"

those men in the hall
are like needles

that shouldn't be used again.

Holly Day's poetry appears earlier in this volume.

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