

1. What made you choose this piece for pulp MAG?

I chose this piece for this issue because I feel like it fit with the theme of the climate+ contest.

2. Is there anything in particular that you're proud of about this piece, or that you learned while creating it?

Yes, I took a Chinese culture class at Kwantlen and was interested in the environmental aspect. I decided to write a story based on the environmental crisis in China and I came upon Mao Zedong and his deeply damaging impact.

3. Where did your inspiration for this piece come from? What is the piece's "story"?

My inspiration for this story came from my own experience with my grandmother growing up, and how when she created food it was almost magical.

4. What messages/themes do you want viewers to pull from this piece?

I want readers to see themes of love, family, food, and environmental issues. Also hopefully learn something new about China.

5. "Secret Ingredients" is a winner of the Climate+ Challenge Creative Writing contest and commentates on the connection food has to our environment, past, and culture. Would you like to comment on this story's use of food and how that connects to the themes of the contest?

Yes. I believe that food, being a necessity to life, has a huge impact on the environment, and it is something we can all do to improve it. Whether it is using reusable cups, recycling, not wasting food, or growing your own produce just like the characters in the story, food is a simple way we can reduce our carbon footprint.

6. What does your creative process or practice usually look like?

I need to get some sort of spark of inspiration first, and then I need to sit down somewhere quiet and write it all out.

7. What sorts of things inspire you?

It's really random, usually things that happen in my life that make an impact on me.

8. How long have you been creative?

Since I was born!

9. Have you ever been published before? Where can we find your work?

I haven't been published before, but I won the Bess Coyne Creative Writing award last year for one of my stories.

10. Do you plan on continuing your creative pursuits into the future? If so, what does the next project look like for you?

Yes I do. I want to release a book of short stories shortly after I graduate in the winter.