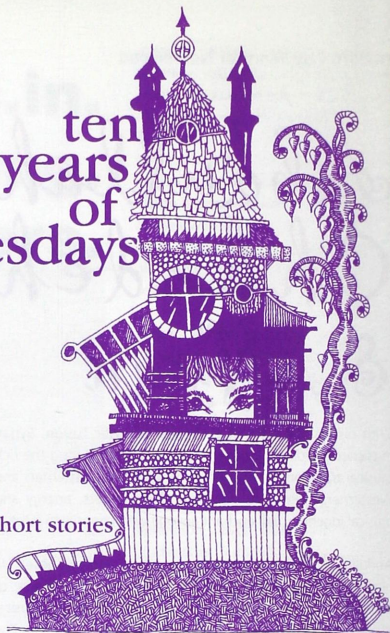


ten
years
of
tuesdays

short stories



Heinrich • García • Winkler • Thompson

The Rogue Writers and Ten Years of Tuesdays

Tuesday evening at seven-thirty for ten years, the Rogue Writers have met half way up Grouse Mountain to read and critique their work, to offer encouragement, and to catch up on what is new in their lives.

They have collectively drunk gallons of coffee and mountain berry tea, unknown quantities of wine, and smoked several cigarettes. They have divorced, married, become grandparents, and one of the members even died. Perhaps that is the only way out of the group once you have really become a member...

Other members of the North Shore Writers' Association (NSWA) began to notice that one group of individuals was acting up and misbehaving. Moira Thompson, Rogue #4, recalls: "We weren't called anything. We were simply a group of about six or seven persons who met regularly on Tuesday nights...All the Rogues were rogue-like before I joined the group, but they needed some call to action, a reason for their naughty ways...Why not celebrate the fact? And so, to our delight and whoever's dismay, we officially became the Rogue Writers."

According to Rogue member and Tuesday night hostess, Colleen Heinrich (a.k.a. one-eyed woman), the group has gathered for the past ten years to share "Honest opinions on our work, encouragement, criticism, friendship..." and to spend quality time with "...people who will be genuinely happy if you have a writing success."

Gerhard Winkler, the only male Rogue, shares his perspective when he says, "Being surrounded by a bunch of gorgeous females makes my heart feel young."

Gorgeous and sophisticated Rogue female, Raquel García, would most likely say (with a lavish Chilean accent) that her experiences with this writing group have been simply "Amazing." I was not able to track down or telephone this particular Rogue for an interview; I suspect she was off travelling in pursuit of the next exotic South American cemetery luncheon extravaganza or perhaps floating on a calm aquamarine sea.

Antics aside, the Rogues are a remarkable group of talented individuals whose writing reflects their almost illegal lust for creative expression. Although pleased with their myriad of written constructions the group deliberated for many years on whether or not to put some of these morsels together in a book. But alas, just this past year, these four Rogues (Colleen Heinrich, Raquel García, Gerhard Winkler and Moira Thompson) finally permitted themselves to take their writing beyond the ten foot by six foot comfort zone they use as a meeting space and created and self published their first of many books to come, entitled, *Ten Years of Tuesdays* (2004, Rogue Literary Press).