

Seattle City Council

Housing, Human Services, Health and Culture Committee Meeting

2 p.m. Wednesday, April 14th 2010

Words' Worth

The Poetry Program of the Seattle City Council

Curated by **Priya Keefe**

Today's poet is **C. Albert**

C. Albert lives in Seattle where she divides creative time between making collage and writing. Her poems and some collages appeared recently in *Pirene's Fountain*, *qarrtsiluni*, and *Centrifugal Eye*. She has two portfolio sites of collage and poetry:

<http://www.runawaymoon.blogspot.com> and
<http://www.aerialdreams.blogspot.com>. "Million Dollar Views" and "Today Her Name is Annie" were first published as two poems in *The Centrifugal Eye*.

Two Vagabonds

by C. Albert

1.

Million Dollar Views

The bricks fell
from his apartment building
like a bomb dropped

almost seventy years ago
and no one cared

the front doorway stood alone
without a door
open to the rubble

the new townhouses have views
of skyscrapers that grow
to the furnace in the sky

he wheels a suitcase
big enough to sleep in
past his home
that disappeared.

2.

Today Her Name is Annie

Wearing her favorite
four shirts
two skirts
two pairs of pants
one long scarf twirled around her head
no shoes—too confining

Annie salvages newspapers from the garbage can
stacks them on a ledge
beside stained coffee cups
empty soda cans
and fast food plates
with dried ketchup

decides they might prefer
to be disorganized
and stashes her refuse in the cart
taken from the grocers

scatters a mosaic
of cigarette butts in mud
to smoke later

guesses the time
by the angle of the sun
blankets the cart
with a purple towel

pushes it across the street
stops traffic to rescue
a scrap of worthy paper.

-- end --