illliterature. issue v.
the graphic novel.

Featuring:
Melissa Salt
Gary Soto
Derek Issacson
Amanda Earl
Claude Sermonde
Faye Horneski
Benjamin Rammclau, Jr.
Mark laptop
Mark Latham
Chris Plouffe
Sven Stabents
Lisa Terzaghi
Andrew Lopez
Seth Tracy
Nick Inglis

Paddles of My Form (2015)
Chapter One: Late Fall

fallen leaves
wind driven
flattened against
the wire fence
In this frame, a superhero origin story begins with the search for a word’s etymology and toxic ink.
In this frame, a telephone rings, but it is only the oak outside, caught in the wires.

In this frame, the tree is carved into hundreds of startled wooden mice.

the bye
main
var

into the hair

rodents (family
mice, live in arid pa
d have long hind le
ouches

size 

07) 1: of a size c

ket 2: SMALL
In this frame, it's nearly Hallowe'en and the geese haven't left; the hero purchases all the infant-sized brontosaurus costumes the department store supplies.

In this frame, the hero walks out, leaving behind a trained parrot instead of a goodbye note.
Chapter Two: Winter

white utility wires
-WRITING-
+ WRITING-
- WRITING-
+WRITING+
Elsewhere...

THE CALAMITOUS CLAM

1. Hmmm... 2. 2. 3.

Chapter Three: Early Spring

flattened leaves
still bug
the wire fence
live the riddle

In this frame, the backstory rides in on a racing horse, but not the one Lor bet on.

In this frame, Lee loses track of his hands; in the next frame he will worry about the silent music they conducted.
In this frame, Lor tries on a pair of horse legs, and they fit perfectly.
In this frame, the sun wonders when humans will finally learn to read heat.
this means war

WHAT HAVE I STARTED?

SKREEEEE EEEEEEEEEE!!!
snagged on a dead weed

a plastic bag

waves in the breeze like a flag

tugs the bending stalk.
2: ALBUMIN
n [L, fr. albus] (1599)
2: Albumin
n [ISV albumen + -in n. (1578)]
An albumen is a class of water-soluble proteins, the whites of eggs, milk, insect secretions, plant tissues and fluids. Albumin (n.: relating to...)}
sunshine

sneek

The letter h replaced by a bird
Biographies, Index & Notes
Nelson Ball’s most recent poetry book is *Some Morning* (Mansfield Press, 2014). An online chapbook of his poems, *A Battle of Spring Frogs*, appears on the website of Hamilton Arts & Letters. Chapbooks forthcoming this year will be *Small Waterways* (Apt. 9 Press), *All and Everything* (Laurel Reede Books) and *This Close to Being a Tree* (Moor Press). Nelson and his late wife and soulmate, artist and writer Barbara Cucco, are the subjects of Nelson Ball & Barbara Cucco / Home Project / A Photo Documentary, a video created by Catherine Stevenson. The video can be viewed on YouTube.

Gary Barwin is a writer, composer, multimedia artist, and the author of 20 books of poetry and fiction, and books for kids, mostly recently, *I, Dr Greenblatt. Orthodontist*, 251:1457 (short fiction, Anvil) and *the wild unharmable always* (vispo, Xcosexual). A PhD in music, Barwin was 2014-2015 Writer-in-Residence at Western University, has taught creative writing at a number of colleges and universities and lives in Hamilton, Ontario. garybarwin.com GB

derek beauille is the author or editor of 15 books, the most recent of which are *Please, No More Poetry: the poetry of derek beauille* (Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 2013) and *burn (Les Figues press, 2014). He is the publisher of the acclaimed no press and is the visual poetry editor at UBWeb. Beauille has exhibited his work across Canada, the United States and Europe and is an award-winning instructor at the Alberta College of Art + Design. He is the 2014-2016 Poet Laureate of Calgary, Canada. DB

Amanda Earl’s *vispo chapbooks have been published by Puddles of Sky, avangardpress & AngelHousePress. vispo blog: elmamincognito.blogspot.ca. AE

Claudio Ghirardo These pieces were created in connection with *Art: a conceptual character who does art free from pre-conceived methods, concepts, and practices. Wanting to free art from the conventional confines of galleries, museums, commercialization of the art world, *Free Art explores the spontaneous, chaotic responses of the artist by playing with the "look" of a word and the "reading" of an image within a narrative environment. CG

Faye Harner is a certified braille transcriber and co-creator of *The Bealls Project*, a series of tactile paintings and poems. She is the author of the young adult novel *Girl Fight*, and her visual poetry can also be found in *The Capilano Review. Poetry is Dead, Ramparts, and The Busy Image*. www.fayeharner.com & www.thetribalproject.com FH

Gene Kannenberg, Jr has published academic and popular essays about comic art, as well as the book *500 Essential Graphic Novels* (Collins Design, 2008). His pieces here come from his current project, creating a new comic every day at *comicsresearch.blogspot.com, GKr*

Mark Laba lives in Vancouver. He likes moonlit walks on the beach, ping-pong, size 10 shoes and jerry-rigging abandoned hamster habitats into backyard distilleries. You can read plenty of his poetry at *http://marklabawritingreport.blogspot.ca/*.

Mark Laliberte is a Toronto-based artist-writer-designer-curator with an MFA from the University of Guelph. He has exhibited extensively in galleries across Canada and the USA, curates the online experimental comics site *spanel.ca*, and edits the hybrid art/mag *CAROUSEL*. Laliberte is currently working on two full-sized comic-poetry manuscripts, *BalloonCloudBibble* and *BLKKK ML.*

Chris Piuma is an editor of *eth press, which publishes poetry that engages with medieval texts or textual practices. He has had a few chapbooks and the like published, yep. He lives in Toronto.*

sven staelens is a belgian visual poet, writer & math teacher. In 2009, he began to explore the boundaries of language & literature, resulting in ongoing experiments in visual poetry, poesia visiva, asemic writing, poemics, abstract comics, collage art & flarf. His visual work was published in various magazines and on several blogs/sites. SS

Lin Tarczynski has a passion for asemic writing and rummaging the hot piles. Three times a week, she produces an online cartoon called *Geranium Lake Properties*, an experiment in abstract comics and visual poetry. Her work is influenced by her early training as an illustrator in pen and ink. She was one of the twelve writers/artists who created the asemic graphic novel, *A Kick in the Eye*. Her asemic comic "Harrow", was published in the 17th issue of *Zoompy Kaamoksaar*. "Quotation", an asemic piece, appeared in the March 2013 issue of *Gard* magazine. Her visual poetry has been published online in *COLDFRONT* magazine, and the National Poetry Month 2015 site at *Angel House Press*. LT

if you must know something about *andrew topel*, know this—that he wishes for you to know nothing about him. AT

Dale Tracy studied contemporary poetry for her doctoral degree. She teaches poetry to university students in Kingston. When she writes poetry, she tries to let it teach her. DT

Nico Vassilakos wrestles letters to free them of their word serum. Many of his results can be found online and on his website, *Staring Poetics. Alphabet Noir*, a book of texts about visual poetry, is forthcoming from *c._l. Books. Nico is also vispo editor for COLDFRONT magazine. NV*
Index

To find out which author/artist provided a specific frame, see the index below. Rather than indexing by author/artist the pieces have been indexed by page and frame. Frames are numbered starting in the top left of the page and continue sequentially from left to right. For example: Page 7 frame 1 is the burnt page with 'printed matter' in bold. Page 7 frame 4 is the moose silhouette. Page 7 frame 8 is the mountain landscape. Where there may be confusion editor's notes have been added in regular font; titles are in italics. Authors/Artists are credited with their full name or the initials that follow their biographies.

page 1: Nelson Ball

page 2: f1 puff puff pant ML; f2 GB; f3 NV; f4 in this frame... DT; f5 AT; f6 LT; f7 DB

page 3: f1-4 Duchamp variations DB; f5 burnt paper AT; f6 GKjt; f7 DB; f8 LT

page 4: f1 GB; f2 DB; f3 AT; f4 & 5 in this frame... DT; f6 GKjt; f7 LT

page 5: f1 CG; f2 GKjt; f3 AT; f4 LT; background piece NV

page 6: f1 LT; f2 & 5 Duchamp variations DB; f6 AT; f7 NV; f8 GKjt

page 7: f1 AT; f2 & 3 GKjt; f4 DB; f5 AT; f6 DB; f7 NV; f8 GB; f9 AT

page 8: f1-3 DB; f4 AT; f5 NV; f6 AT; f7 LT; f8 a is dreamed... GB; f9 LT

page 9: f1 DB; f2 AT; f3 GKjt; f4 & 5 NV; f6&7 LT

page 10: f1 LT; f2 AT; f3 DB; f4 NV; f5 DT; f6 LT; f7 background piece NV; f8 AT; f9 DB; f10 GKjt

page 11: f1 LT; f2 GKjt; f3 NV; f4 in this frame... DT; f5 AT

page 13: Nelson Ball

page 14 & 15: NV

page 16: Writing CG; snowflakes AE

page 17: f1-3 CG; f4-8 AE; f9 CG

page 18: f1 CG; f2 DB; f3 CG; f4 DB; f5 CG; f6 AE; f7 CG; f8 AE; f9 CG

page 19: & so on... CG; poem 1 GB

page 20: later that day... GB; f2 dot snowflake DB; f3 NV & AE; f4 DB

page 21: top game of life's a users manual DB; bottom GB

page 22: f1 GKjt; f2 mean/while/letter GB; 2 pieces bottom left DB; 4 pieces right side AE

page 23: top DB; bottom CG

page 25: Mark Laba

page 27: Nelson Ball

page 28: f1 GKjt; f2 live the riddle AT; f3 in this frame... DT; f3 speaking wave GKjt; f4 2 x ponds... LT; background piece DB; f5 AT; f6 DT

page 29: f1 AT; f2 DB; f3 FH; f4 DB; f5 LT; f6 DB; f7 CG; f8 DB; f9 LT; f10 AT; f11 FH; f12 AT; foreground piece AT

page 30: background piece, left AT; f1 AT; background piece, right DB

page 31: f1 AT; f2 bottom left DB; f3 communication breakdown GKjt

page 32: background SS; f1 GKjt

page 33: f1 GKjt; f2 money transaction AT with dialogue by GKjt; f3 WH"V" CG; f4 in this frame... DT; f5 a need to go CG; f6 DB

page 34: top left CG; f1-3 GKjt; f4 bear DB with text by GKjt; f5 LT; background SS

page 35: in this frame... DT; speech balloon GB; f1 GKjt; background SS
Notes

illiterature, issue v, is a journal of collaboration. As an editor it was a real joy to take the work that was submitted and play with it in a way that both honoured the original intent of the pieces while still placing them in new and unexpected contexts. Some pieces were submitted as single frames, others were submitted as full-page comics. The full-page comics were dissected and broken down into individual frames and spaced throughout the novel to allow for a more seamless and cohesive collaboration. While working on this project I tried to work with as little foresight as possible. Some pages I approached with only a visual aesthetic in mind and some I approached with whatever abstract narrative seemed to be forming. In this way I was both a conduit for the collaboration, as well as the very first reader. I’d like to extend an enormous THANK YOU to each of the contributors for allowing me this opportunity, for being so open to this collaboration, and for continuing to create such strange and wonderful works of art.

illiterature, issue v.
the graphic novel.

editing, design, and layout by Michael e. Casteels

Published in an edition of 100 copies
by Puddles of Sky Press
Kingston, Ontario
October, 2015
all contents © Copyright 2015 by the authors

ISBN: 978-0-9939454-4-1

www.puddlesofskypress.com
director@puddlesofskypress.com