

By the Waters of Moratock

A GUIDE TO THE INSTALLATION BY CAROLINE RUTLEDGE ARMIJO, STOKES STOMP, MORATOCK PARK, DANBURY, NC, SEPTEMBER 12-13, 2015

SOURCES

WORDS
OF
WISDOM

I wrote this original poem as a love song to the Dan River and my memories of spending each September at the Stokes Stomp.

The poem also reflects my current concerns regarding the severe environmental impacts the Dan River and our community face from coal ash pollution and the risk of fracking.

THIS I BELIEVE

Taken from a series of cut art I created in 2014.

HOUSTON'S NEW PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY, 1897

A few of my favorite passages from the textbook, which match the text of the poem by chance, as do the lyrics to the Indian Love Song, BY THE WATERS OF MINNETONKA (1928) (below).

PART I.

THE EARTH
AS A
PLANET

As a child,
I spent two days
each September
overlooking
the Dan River.

THIS IS GOD'S WORK

Inertia is not confined to bodies at rest... Our earth moves through empty space on account of its inertia, and must continue so moving for eternities.

All heavenly bodies, however, do not shine by their own light. A few—those nearest the earth—shine by reflecting the light of the sun.



PLUTO'S HEART
JULY 14TH, 2015

Pluto was officially named on March 24th, 1930 and not included in the diagram.

PART II.

THE LAND

I would tiptoe
across the banks and
wade into the cool
water, but only up
to my knees.

If I were really daring,
I would crawl onto
the large, rough rocks
greeting the top of
the stream as it came
round the mountain.

YOU CAN CHOOSE THE VOICES YOU HEAR

The general climate of the earth during the geological past was much warmer than at present.

PART III.

THE WATER

I drank in all of the
weekend's sights,
sounds, smells, flavors,
and even the touch
between my toes.
But I never immersed
myself in the water.

WE LOOK NOT TO THE THINGS THAT ARE SEEN,

This circulation of water never ceases, and upon it depends the existence of all life on the earth.

PART IV.

THE
ATMOSPHERE

Yet there on the banks,
the roots grew up
through my soles and
developed my spirit.
Roots planted almost
300 years ago, when
those before us crossed
the Dan to settle
just beyond.

WE BELONG TO EACH OTHER

By retaining and modifying the solar heat, absorbing and distributing moisture, supplying animals with oxygen and plants with carbonic acid, the atmosphere plays an important part in the economy of the earth.

PART V.

PLANT LIFE,
ANIMAL LIFE
& MINERALS

And here I stand with
the Dan ever present,
immersed in my heart,
mind and spirit,
praying for guidance to
protect her, her health
and the health of those
who partake in her.

Love
God.
Love
each
other.

The variety and luxuriance of life found on the surface of the earth are far greater than is at first apparent.

FIN

CALL
TO
ACTION

Join us.

God
IS HERE

PLEASE PRAY
for the healing of
the Dan River, Stokes
County & those with
related health concerns
in your home or
place of worship
on the evening of
WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 23RD.

Belews Creek is home to 12.6 million tons of coal ash and one of Duke Energy's largest unlined coal ash ponds. It is 342 acres large and over twelve stories deep. The 140-foot dam is forty years old. Duke is currently working to stabilize the pond because it is overcapacity and the slope of the wall has shifted. To maintain the pond, 27 drains have been flowing toxic water continuously into the Dan River since 2006.

Fracking the land in Stokes County and surrounding the coal ash pond could cause failure and would cause a flood 25% larger than the 2008 Kingston, TN flood, which they are still cleaning up and has cost over \$1 billion. We would be known for being the nation's largest coal ash spill.

Coal ash is radioactive and contains Mercury, Chromium, Arsenic, Selenium, Lead, Boron, and other toxins. Our community suffers from a high rate of illnesses, including cancer. Visit www.facebook.com/nocoalash

#DownByTheDan
carolinearmijo.com