

ITZAH C. KRET INTERVIEWS ITZAH C. KRET

ICK: Is that your lavender truck with a poem painted on it near 11th and F Streets in Downtown Washington, D.C.?

ICK: You mean the one with the poem that says “I live in a world of fantasy. So keep your reality away from me. I see what I want. I want what I see. And that is all okay by me.”

ICK: That one.

ICK: I can not confirm or deny the existence of such a truck or poem.

ICK: Did you just publish your third children’s book in three years?

ICK: Yup. This one’s called *Mop til you Drop*. It’s a nonsense story about a mean queen who insists her subjects Mop ‘til they Drop. Nero the Hero gives her a Chill Pill so she can smile. Then she does.

ICK: A third self published book in three years? You can’t find a publisher can you?

ICK: Silly you. I haven’t even tried to do something so simple and conventional as publish my color illustrated books the normal route.

ICK: Nevertheless, you’re appreciated by Daniel Pinkwater, Barry Louis Polisar, Studs Terkel and Joan Mondale.

ICK: Yeah. Go figure.

ICK: Is it true that several young boys love your books so much that they destroy them through overuse?

ICK: Yes, I create for destruction and repeat sales.

ICK: What’s the deal with this self-interview style?

ICK: I went to the Dali Museum in St. Petersburg, Florida too many times.

ICK: And what’s it with your crazy name that I can barely pronounce?

ICK: Say “Itzah C. Kret” out loud to yourself three times.

ICK: So what is your real full name?

ICK: I’ve turned down interview requests from two separate reporters at *The Washington Post* who insisted on knowing and disclosing my “real full name”.... But that was before Rove and Scooter were named.

ICK: Hmm. Okay. So what *do* you want?

ICK: All I want to do is live first, die second, and make beautiful things in between.

ICK: Really?

ICK: Really.