

# The Kelvin Paperclip

Spring/Summer Issue 2022



Editors: Ava Byrne & Sarah Fontaine-Sinclair  
Teacher Supervisors: Mr. Burdeniuk, Mr. Gregory, Mr. J. Young  
Cover Art: Sydney Povey

*Sydney P.*

# A Note From the Editors

Hi Kelvin!

Welcome to the last issue of *The Kelvin Paperclip* for the school year!

Thank you to all of our talented contributors. Thank you as well to our teacher supervisors, Mr. Gregroy, Mr. Burdeniuk, and Mr. Young. *The Kelvin Paperclip* wouldn't be what it is now without all of you.

We've had an amazing time being editors to a tight-knit community of writers and artists, and we're incredibly grateful to everyone who's a part of *The Kelvin Paperclip* and those who've enjoyed reading our issues.

Unfortunately, come September of the new school year we will both be stepping down as editors. If you are interested in being an editor of *The Kelvin Paperclip* next school year, please contact Mr. Gregory.

Thanks to everyone who has read our issues and supported us along the way. We're excited to see where *The Kelvin Paperclip* goes next year!

We hope you all have a great end of the school year and a fun summer!

Sincerely,

Ava Byrne and Sarah Fontaine-Sinclair

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# *AWARNESS ON CURRENT AFFAIRS*

Photo by Ava Byrne

# Hot Air and Nonsense - the NDP-Liberal Agreement Explained

*by Julain McArthur*

The majority government, in all of its arrogance and strength, represents the standard form in Canada. Since confederation, only thirteen administrations have stood without their party holding an outright majority in the parliament (1), yet budgets have passed, and Prime Ministers have governed. The only way one party can govern as a minority and still expect to survive the very first confidence vote is with the support of members of the opposition. Thus, an arrangement necessary to the functioning of democracy is that of cross-party cooperation. However, only once, in 1917, was a formal coalition formed at the federal level in Canada, led by Conservative Sir Robert Borden, to strengthen the government's hand on the issue of conscription during the First World War, amid widespread opposition in Québec (2).

A coalition involves multiple parties joining to form a government. Seats in cabinet are divided, cooperation is formal; the agreement reached between the Liberals and the NDP in late March is not a coalition (3). Instead, it involves a supply and confidence agreement, whereby the NDP has pledged not to topple the government and to "supply" votes on confidence motions, in exchange for policy concessions from the Liberals (4). In this case, the Liberals have agreed to a national low income dental care plan and a universal national pharmacare plan (4). As usual, the devil is in the details. For starters, the pharmacare plan is not yet released, and yet already the pharmaceuticals industry has attempted to insert themselves into the process, a risk worth noting (5). This is, however, only a minor concern compared to the new federal budget, the first real test of the deal. A budget is the federal government's plan on spending and revenue for the year, outlining where the money goes, and where it comes from. The NDP has agreed to support the budget, despite the billions of dollars in tax breaks and subsidies that go to the oil and gas sector, theoretically to pay for decarbonisation (6). This

raises two fundamental questions: first, why not have an industry that has made many billions of dollars over the pandemic pay for going green themselves (7), and second, why would the continued mass production of oil and gas even be a part of a "green" economy?

The budget is in a deficit, and it does contain some new programs, such as a much needed but not nearly sturdy enough housing plan (4), but even fairly moderate, common sense policies have been too much for an endless stream of whiners claiming that Canada "cannot afford" to do anything at all, and even that the Liberals have sent Canada into a financial crisis (8). This budget and the supply and confidence agreement mentioned, as well as the surrounding debate surrounding them highlights a fundamental problem in Canadian politics and society. A growing inequality is eroding the very foundations of our country, as wealth is becoming more and more concentrated in the hands of the very rich, who, acting only in their own best interests, have pushed to accelerate such trends (9). The union, an institution that is absolutely fundamental to a free and democratic society, a force against that inequality and a shield by which workers may defend themselves, has been under assault for forty years, with membership bleeding and wages stagnant, as prices rise and working families drown (10). Rapid climate change has threatened to destroy the world. How is that for a crisis?

The situation is not hopeless. There are some signs that labour has some life in it yet still (10), and Canada's carbon emissions peaked in 2007 (11). However, things will not improve unless we want them to, and unless we fight, like we have never fought before. The NDP has signed off on an agreement and a budget that will lead to barely incremental change, which the Liberals likely would have pursued anyways. The New Democrats, once the party of the farmers and the workers, has metamorphosed into something hardly distinguishable

from the Liberals. While realism and pragmatism are necessary, such things are often excuses to stifle the good fight, the fight that is required to fix our problems, against a tide of centrist windbags and a corporate elite that will defend the status quo until the sun engulfs the Earth. Moderate concessions are not enough. This is the challenge of our generation, and it is one that we will either meet or be destroyed by.

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Photo by Ava Byrne





Photo by Ava Byrne



# *ARTS AND CULTURE*



Photo by Ava Byrne



# Manitoba's New Music

by Ella Scratch

Manitoba has always been the birthplace of excellent art, but especially recently the music scene in this province has flourished. The following are some of the emerging artists in Manitoba that span a wide variety of genres and tones, so have a listen if you're looking for something new! These artists are constantly releasing new music and having gigs in local venues, so be sure to keep your eyes on some of these names in the future.

## Veneer

Coming together in soft harmonies and gentle guitars, this Winnipeg band embraces the simplicity of a good melody without getting boring. Listening to *Veneer* will take you far away from your overdue homework and transport you to a cute cafe somewhere in the Exchange, or maybe to the planet Venus. The carefree vocals are ones to sweep you off your feet, rivalling those of artists like Phoebe Bridgers or Girlpool. Veneer's music is composed of countless layers of smooth, atmospheric riffs, and flourishing melodies.

Favourite tracks: *Don't Get My Hair Wet*, *Bianca Casual*

## Zoon

As described by Daniel Monkman, the creative mind behind *Zoon*, this music is "moccasin-gaze", a spitting image of My Bloody Valentine circa 1991. The sounds created by Zoon are those of swirly guitars, fuzzy riffs, and dreamy vocals. The cool, mellow tracks are perfect for raves in the kitchen or catching the bus in the rain. Monkman works well on their own, but often collaborates with other artists, achieving a wide variety of sounds and styles.

Favourite tracks: *Vibrant Colours*, *Light Prism*, *Cherry Coke*

## Rainy Day Ritual

With music that has a piercing yet ambient tonality, Wakeman has come to greet the music scene with trippy rhythms and captivating synthesised melodies. Without overdoing it, Wakeman creates an atmosphere of psychedelia and unapologetic electronica. The encompassing sound of *Rainy Day Ritual* will not fail to fill the air with every colour of the aurora borealis. Just by listening, you can tell that Wakeman could (and would) sit you down and tell you all about his favourite synthesisers.

Favourite tracks: *Standard*, *Terra*, *Infinite*.

## Caid Jones

This young hip hop artist tells a story in every song with skillful narrative style. His words are quick, but each is meaningful. Through the way he raps, it's evident that Jones is passionate about his music, as well as his community. Jones circles around themes of Indigenous perseverance and resilience, as well as his story as an emerging artist. His songs are expertly mixed, complete with catchy hooks and infectious rhythms.

Favourite tracks: *Stay Woke*, *No Distractions*

## Sophie Stevens

The prep presented in Sophie Stevens's two released singles is undeniable. Stevens has a voice that sounds like it's smiling through their singing, dazzling wonderfully through intricate ornamentations. Their music is a delightful blend of folk and power pop, complete with harmonies that sound like the first snow. The clear imagery presented in the often melancholy lyrics starkly contrasts the happy, poppy

melodies of each tune. Sophie Stevens has given us songs that could either play in the background of a late night study sesh, or blast in the car with the windows rolled down.

Favourite tracks: *No One's Happy*, *Stamp (Playing it Cool)*

### **Ethan Lyric**

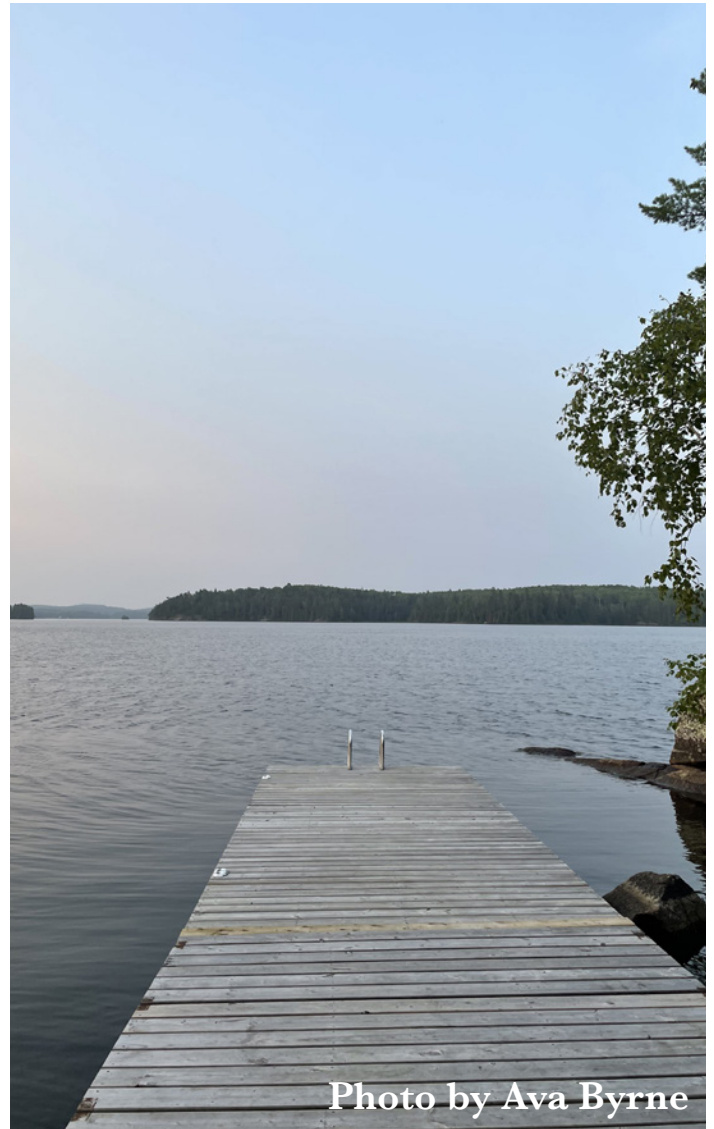
The young musician Ethan Lyric has presented the world with music that sounds like a kiss from the night sky. His folksy, acoustic songs are gentle and sweet; Lyric has created an array of summertime lullabies for the modern teenager. Lyric's music is calm, not rushed, taking its time moseying around pleasant plucking patterns on his acoustic guitar, often paired with minimal accompaniment. If you've always wanted to feel like the main character in a 2007 teen indie film, now is your chance!

Favourite tracks: *Sugar Plum*, *The Organ Song*

### **Archagathus**

Manitoba's very own grindcore! This prairie band takes metal to a whole new level, incorporating grit, edge, and a sense of humour into their songs. Through the thrashing guitars and whiny FX, the distorted vocals can't quite be made out as words, but that just adds to the fun of clicking on the lyrics to find out that a hard hitting metal song can have silly, self-conscious lyrics. The screamy, unintelligible riffs are enough to get anybody up and at 'em any day of the week, encouraging a Positive Mincecore Attitude.

Favourite tracks: *The Night Wolf*, *Soap a Dope*, *Brain: Dead?*





# Reviews and Recommendations

by Meredith Davis

## ***The White Album* by Joan Didion**

Joan Didion is known for her precise writing and insight. In this collection of essays, Didion examines the trends and prolific events of Hollywood in the 1960s and their aftermaths. *The White Album* discusses the impact of the events that took place with the Manson family and the fear that erupted in Hollywood shortly after. Didion's writing reflects the time period and gives readers insight into the paranoia and almost disoriented feeling of Hollywood during this time. The book's other essays discuss trends in the 60s, like drugs, shopping malls and rock music. Didion also discusses the Black Panther Party and music figures like Jim Morrison and Janis Joplin. Didion looks at the painter Georgia O'Keeffe's work, specifically how her work was inspired from where she had been, much like Didion's own writings. *The White Album* is full of essays and criticisms that put the 60s into a different lens, one many may not have looked through before.

Didion writes a lot about her own life and experiences in California during the 60s and 70s so *The White Album* naturally follows that path. Didion will write about her subjects and then tie in an experience of her own. *The White Album* reflects both the paranoia and spirit of California.

## ***Everything I Know About Love* by Dolly Alderton**

This memoir is one of the most interesting and realistic I have ever read. Alderton intertwines moments of her life while exploring her journey with self-worth and acceptance. This memoir discusses the journey of growing up with nuance and relatability, aspects which are important for a memoir to be engaging. Alderton explores stories of her life with observations of the world around her.

This was a very quick read, due to the writing style being relatively fast paced and easy to get through. While memoirs might not be for everyone, I really recommend this one, partly because it's very funny but also because it's able to not take itself so seriously.

Alderton writes like she's having a conversation with you. There will be a chapter about a recent break-up she is going through, followed by a recipe for how to make something, or a packing list. The book doesn't just focus on the topic of love. It discusses growing up, the awkwardness of being a teenager and why female friendship is so important. The books discusses the nuances of growing up, like growing out of people. *Everything I Know About Love* discusses experiences women might have which makes it relatable. Alderton writes with exaggeration but is able to capture everything so perfectly.

## ***Funny Weather: Art in an Emergency* by Olivia Laing**

This is another collection of essays, but these essays are about art — how it shapes our culture and impacted it had on our society. Olivia Laing includes some of her own essays that aren't art related but are interesting to read nonetheless. Among the many artist written about in this memoir are Jean-Micheal Basquiat and his influence in the art scene of the 80s and Agnes Martin's grid paintings. Laing also discusses art in the form of literature, from Sally Rooney's *Normal People* to Maggie Nelson's *The Argonauts*, musing about the ideas of these books and their significance in the world today. While the underlying theme of these essays is exploring the importance of art in the artist's current political scene, the essays also give a look into the artists' personal lives and their art as a whole.

***Happy Hour* by Marlowe Granados**

This book follows the main character Isa as she and her friend Gala live their lives in New York. The book focuses on female friendship and Isa talks about the joys of her life, like how fun it is to get dressed up to go out, while also touching on things like pretty privilege and power dynamics. This book was slow to get into, which was to be expected with the way the storytelling is formatted. The format was written as Isa's diary entries and the writing was very detailed, which made it difficult to really understand. The book is very character driven and follows how Isa and Gala are able to use their charm to keep a float and have some sort of social standing. Granados's storytelling is very descriptive and full of dry humour. I recommend this book to anyone who wants a fun slow-paced novel to read this spring or summer.



Photo by Azadeh A





*VALENTINES 2022*

Art by A Leal

Valentines 2022

# To the journey of self love

*by Miriam Taylor-Pirogov*

To my dearest self,

It is not a simple thing, to find love for oneself. The world around us holds high expectations for who we are supposed to be. It can be easy to get caught in a web of self hate. Seeing each and every flaw is draining. Only seeing our imperfections as things we have to change, instead of unique details that make us who we are. Constantly craving that self satisfaction, an image created by the standards of others. Self hate allows us to feel comfort in loneliness. We loathe in the abyss of negativity. Sinking further in the disparus cycle that only brings us to closed doors. It wants us to feel alone, in a world full of people. Hate cradles us in what feels like a safe manner. It closes us off so others can't see our vulnerabilities. But what if we somehow spread open our caged minds to a positive world of self love? What then, you might ask? Would we feel lost on this new unfamiliar journey of finding self expression? Or would this path wash away our darkest hateful thoughts? Though the opposite of love is not hate, it is indifference. The feeling of love and hate are scarcely similar, that we can't always see when hate has crept in. but if the emotion of hate can seep its way into us, can't love find its way too? In finding self love we have to spread apart our weaknesses and turn them into strengths. We must face our darkest insecurities and grow roses from the cracks and scars they left in us. You have to be willing to dust away your past selves, and let the idea of future you fade away. Then slowly we are able to fall in love with loving our present self. With letting in self love, we then can let in the flourishing love of others. Self love is intangible, we can't touch it with our hands, but it can be reached with our hearts.

With hope and love,

Miriam Taylor-Pirogov



# What's Love

*by Azadeh*

“What’s love?” She asked with her big, round eyes staring up at me. She climbed onto my lap and observed my hand, tracing its lines. Such a small, innocent thing whose life has only just begun. So many wonderful experiences to come.

She continued to trace my hand, silently and patiently waiting for a response. I thought for a moment. It would only make sense she’d ask such a question. After all, she was only four and had never experienced such a thing before. I looked down at her, trying to formulate a response. How coincidental she’d ask such a thing on the marketing day for love.

She looked back up at me as I responded to her question:

Love is what you feel when you come home after a bad day to your dog who’s always ready to put a smile on your face.

Love is what you feel when you bring your cat into your room and it stays with you, curling up at your side.

Love is what you feel when your parents embrace you when you get home a few minutes later than expected.

Love is what you feel when you look at your significant other and see the sparkle in their eyes and can’t think of anything but them.

Love is what you feel when you look in the mirror and smile at yourself.

Love is what you feel when you’re truly laughing with friends.

Love is what you feel when no matter how many times they hurt you, you’re always ready to give them another chance.

Love is what you feel when a stranger lends you a helping hand.

Love is what you feel when you’re at your wit’s end but someone comes along and shows you you’re far from it.

Love is what you feel when your sibling has your back.

Love is not material.

Love is an inexplicably complicated thing made up of many different emotions that you feel all at once.

Love is not what your heart desires, but rather what you feel in the moment towards someone or something.

Love should be unconditional, not temporary or one-sided.

She stared at me in awe, her eyes sparkling. There was silence for a few moments before she looked back up at me and said, “Will I ever have love?”

I looked her in the eyes and smiled. “You already do.” I gave her a kiss on the forehead. She climbed off my lap and ran off into the yard. I sat there, watching her.

How could such a young thing have such a traumatic life already? I thought. I sighed in relief. From now on, all she’ll ever know is love. Never again will such a question leave her lips. She may not understand it all now, but she will with time. I watched her chase the dog around the yard, giggling as he barked and crouched into a play bow before he rolled onto his back, asking for pets.

Love is also the sound of an innocent child’s laugh.

Valentines 2022

# Blockus Prowess

For A

Hey girl, you pretty

You pretty good at blockus

Rock babe, with much love

XOXOXOXOXO,

Sincerely





# To the chersihed group of people I call my friends

by Jyn

First of all, the sheer generosity I have to consider you all friends. Granted that, I didn't set the bar too high myself. Nonetheless, I still don't see an excuse. Well anyway, here comes the season of love and appreciation. Where apparently cupid shoots one of his arrows, but for this instance he shoots a few. And it so happens to land on all 7 of you. I suppose the only good thing that came out of that is the fact that 7 is considered a lucky number but that's not the point. Really the point of me finally addressing your existences is because of this lovely holiday. Anyway, to celebrate this holiday I suppose I should go on to express how great you all truly are.

To start us off, Alysa. To the girl who makes me question my entire existence, good and bad. Jokes, I'm kidding. This is to the friend who's been with me since time. She's that stubborn rock I learned to rely on and annoy. Someone who loves to express herself with the arts. A Picasso in the making or as I know her, a young Jaiden who would eventually own a pet bird. She's the one who feeds me snacks and who ran with me through the snow that one day on the sidewalk as we caught snowflakes on our tongues. She's the girl who loves red velvet cakes and wishes to open her own bakery. In all honesty, with the purest genuinity I have to offer, thank you Liz, you're gonna be an impossible soul to forget.

To another who's heart leads her, hello Azadeh. You were the first person I had told to expect a letter or a moment of endearment from me. And like promised I did say I was going to start with a poem. Behold poetry at its finest:

*Roses are red,*

*Violets are blue,*

*My heart is full*

*Of adoration for you*

Corny enough for you? I'm kidding, partly, that poem was genuine. Regardless, I hope you associate all roses are red poems with me from now on. Very much how I learned to associate magic with you. Talking to you is like taking a stroll through a lilac garden. Where each individual violet word has the potential to inspire me. Your aspirations are charming and I do too wish to be able to stroll through a castle with you and imagine the impossible. In fact, that wish alone is more than possible. I'll be waiting to have our adventure together.

My darling Yunela. I hope my voice rings through your head as you read my words. Honestly who am I kidding, it probably does. Just know that your laugh is forever blooming in mine. I'd give you a rose if I could but I hope these sappy words are enough. Thank you. I'm genuinely beyond grateful. Everything from our wonderful talks on the bus to the trust you give me. The heart you wear on your sleeve is the most spectacular thing I've seen in my life. You'll make it far. While the world can be cruel, you have the strength to brave through it. It's one of the most admirable traits you have. I just wanted to let you know Nel, keep wearing that heart on your sleeve. It's the most precious thing you should protect. With much love, I'll always be here.

Hi Alyssa, or as I typically greet you, hey sis. It's sudden, but you remind me of fireworks. I'll let your linguistic brain piece that sentence apart. Anyways Lyssa, no words can express how much of a comfort your presence is. Nothing I can say or do will convey how grateful I am with your patience. Really, the fact that you think it's the other way around surprises me. Oh, I should mention how I put your addressment near the centre of the letter... because you know, the centre spotlight and you. Jokes, I'm kidding, well not entirely. You're my guidance, you know that? I'm sorry I don't say it often but I hope you believe me on this. You changed me, for the better, trust me. Thank you for trusting me with your breathtaking thoughts.

I'll be wishing for your Amsterdam dream, even if it means sacrificing all my good karma. Love ya sis!

To the girl with pretty eyes, also known as you Alexa. I genuinely don't know how you do it but it makes your eyes sparkle a bit more than I remember. That's probably why they stuck out to me so much. I'm glad I got to meet you both in grade 9 and again the first day of our grade 11 year. While I might not agree with the idea of liking raisins, I suppose I can give a pass to you. Even though your reasoning is absolutely off. Keep your eyes sparkling girlie, it looks good on you.

SARAH! She's the girl who wakes up at 6am willingly and thought it was a good idea to make me her first friend in Canada. It's funny, I haven't gotten to know you that long but it seems like I have. All those stories from your life back in Vietnam to how you got a scar on your forehead because you opened a glass covered shelf really told me a lot about you. It told me that you're an incredible girl. Someone who calculates equations in 5 seconds and someone who I can laugh with. I'm glad we're going through school together because honestly I don't know how I'd have survived without you. Again, I wish you the absolute best life has to offer. Whether that is you being famous in Hollywood, joining Nasa, or becoming a teacher but pretty please when and if you do become a psychologist please don't try to read my mind.

To the golden rose of the bunch, hey Mya. Referring to the golden rose, I don't know if you remember but I kept that one gold rose you gave me back at ESC. In fact, it's sitting in a pencil vase in my room right now. I also kept the little bracelet you gave me and I promise you I'll take that little photo in my phone case to my grave. Really what I'm trying to say is that I'm grateful for you. As well as that I'm proud of you, I really am you know. First of all your outfits are incredible, second of all, you really are just good vibes. Also, sorry for adding too much whip cream

to your hot cocoa that one time. I swear if we do it again, I'll be a better barista.

It's incredible really, no matter how I try to avoid it, all of you really are just incredible. I really do love all of you. Happy Valentine's Day <3

Yours truly, Jeanyce



Photo by Azadeh A



# Vegan Vanilla Cake

*by A Leal*

## Ingredients

For the vanilla cake:

- 1  $\frac{3}{4}$  cups flour
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1 tsp baking soda
- $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp salt
- 1 cup non-dairy milk
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- $\frac{1}{3}$  cup vegetable oil
- 1 tbsp apple cider vinegar

For the vanilla frosting:

- 3  $\frac{3}{4}$  cups powdered sugar
- 3 Tbsp vegan butter or margarine
- 4 Tbsp non-dairy milk
- 2 tsp vanilla extract

For decoration:

- Anything you will like to add (I personally like to add fresh strawberries or any other berry, but you could add chocolate chips, sprinkles or any candy)

## Instructions

Preheat the oven to 350°F (180°C).

Sift the flour into a mixing bowl and add the sugar, baking soda and salt. Mix together.

Add the soy milk, vanilla, oil, and vinegar. Then, give it a quick whisk with a hand whisk until just combined.

Pour the batter into the pans.

Bake for 25-30 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into the centre of one of the cakes comes out clean.

Let the cakes cool in the pans for a few minutes before transferring them to a wire cooling rack to cool completely.

## Frosting

Add the powdered sugar, vegan butter, vanilla and half of the soy milk.

Beginning on low speed, mix with an electric mixer, slowly increasing speed. Add the rest of the soy milk, but only as much as needed; until it is smooth and creamy. If your vegan butter has a higher water content you may not need to use all of the soy milk.

If your frosting is still a little thin, add more powdered sugar. If it's a little thick, add more soy milk (one tiny drop at a time). The consistency must be thick enough that it doesn't slide off the cake, but still thin enough to be spreadable.

When your cake is completely cool, add frosting to the top of it.



Photo by Azadeh A