

DUMB IDEA

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### **Nikita Sunburn Chronology**

**1921** Born April 14<sup>th</sup> Toronto (reference: *Contemporary Literature*. Vol. 61).

**1928** At age 7 creates a 500 page comic book about super-philosophers who create proofs of the absence of God with kitchen utensils. Home schooled by his Aunt Rose in Keene.

**1932** Falls in love with a cat.

**1934** Wins the Schopenhauer International Sport Cards Knock-Down Competition. After stealing some cards in a preliminary game and winning 8 cards he eventually wins 14,000 sports cards in the competition. Upon being awarded the prize he tosses the sports cards into the air which causes a riot.

**1936** Selected to play centre-half for the Canadian soccer team sent to The Berlin Olympics. Refuses to go.

**1939** Accepted at University of Toronto after passing an entrance exam. Takes classes with Northrop Frye and Harold Innis.

**1940-45** Studies Deep Plumbing, Crosswords, Origami, and becomes a spy after joining the armed forces carrying out a failed attempt to organize the avant-garde artists of Belgrade into a force to be reckoned with.

**1948** Publishes *Symbolic Plumbing*. Invited to Duke University to lecture in Plumbing and Existentialism. Refuses.

**1950** Some assert he published *Against Indigestion*, though this seems unlikely. References in *Against Indigestion* suggest that it would have had to have been published in 1967. It has been suggested that what was written and published at this time was *Prolegomena to any Future Metacritical Pipework*.

**1951** Was not hounded by Robert Taschereau. Was not linked with Igor Gouzenko. Did not know Fred Rose or Sam Carr, but probably should have since he formulated plans for the "New Functional Socialist Fluid Dynamics Theory" based on his "Unified Dynamic Relativity Theory" sometimes considered the beginning of Integrated Splinterism.

**1952** Starts the Integrated Splinterism International with a motley assortment of plumbers, soccer hooligans, booze-hounds, petty thieves, layabouts and self-indulgent poets. Their first act was to disrupt a press conference for Tyrone Guthrie at the initial Stratford Festival (Canada) exposing it as the anti-union circus it was and shouting, "Out Brit Twits!" Sunburn publishes *What Fellatio Means to Me*, which is seized by the RCMP. Somehow editions of this show up in Scranton, Pennsylvania and

Bristol, England. Translations appear in Bulgaria and in Lyon, France. Most suspect that Sunburn is still a virgin and has read Remy de Gourmont.

**1953** Mostly spent walking the streets and drinking in bars with the UD members. Theory of Dumb Ideas born. Exposed, through Jean-Guy Talbot, to ideas about psychoindigestion.

**1954** Finishes the greatest literary masterpiece of the 20th Century: *One Bald Girl*. Banned in most Western countries but surreptitiously published in Nova Scotia by an old Fabian sect who practise free love.

**1955** Publishes *Piss on Modernism, Shit on Post-Modernism*, the most important work of critical theory in the 20th century. While a few hundred copies were secreted to Norway, the bulk of the run was burnt when Screed Publishing was fire-bombed by a gang of motorcycle riding Northrop Frye students who called themselves The Fearful Symmetry. They were arrested and then pardoned. Most people knew it was the RCMP dressed up in tweed coats, smoking pipes and quoting Blake.

**1972** Meets Dee Kay.

**1974-75** Involved with F-art Group, on the periphery. Too timid to delve strongly into the struggle against Dumb Ideas and too old to be of much use in the street battles with nascent post-modernist gangs. A little bit ashamed at this time about the whole metaphor-sucking theory.

**1976** Brakes with Dee Kay and the F-Art Group. Cries like a baby and begins to write haikus.

**1977** Disappears into thin air.

These notes about Sunburn were supplied by:

The Sunburn Archive, Sturgeon Falls, Ontario.