

# WHO LIKES CHRISTMAS and other poems

By Arianna Sebo

**WHY I LIKE IT:** *Poetry editor Hezekiah writes: Arianna Sebo is a unique voice with something to say. Her observations are original and to the point. I didn't know you could make garlands from VHS tape. "who likes Christmas / anyway." '2 to 45 More' and 'Fat Pets' are each light, artful and humorous with a dash of Ogden Nash...(Spacing and font sizes poet's own) HS*

Who Likes Christmas

VHS tapes

so old

decrepit, really

smelling musty

feeling dusty

should disassemble them

to make garlands for my trees

but it's not Christmas

who likes Christmas

anyway

2 to 45 More

2 more postcards to write

today

45 more minutes to pretend to work

today

2 beers waiting at home to drink

today

45 pounds to lose by summer, but not

today

2 more days to wait for a sale, so not

today

45 more days of Ichiban left in my cupboard to eat

today

2 more lines to write in this poem

today

45 more days of madness, including

today

Fat Pets

I feel bad for fat dogs  
when I see them walking  
down the street  
It doesn't matter if their  
owners are fat or skinny  
a fat dog means you don't  
take care of it properly  
A fat cat on the other hand  
is okay  
Cats have a will of their own  
At least that's what I tell myself  
and my fat cat

**THE POET SPEAKS:** *2 to 45 More is about getting through everyday life, counting the days through to the good times. The everyday moments of life sometimes lack that mystical feeling of being connected to the rest of the universe. We get stuck in our daily routines, and as we age our social circles often shrink. As a blue collar worker at the time, I was just counting the days till the good times.*

*Who Likes Christmas was written after dealing with my outdated television-watching technology: my 28" CRT TV and my dual VCR/DVD player with my stacks of VHS tapes containing taped television shows. I couldn't part with them, but with the newer technology available, it was unlikely I was going to watch those tapes again. Little did I know I would watch all of them late last year to see if there was anything I wanted to keep. I kept one VHS tape with a clip of me being interviewed on a local news show.*

*Fat Pets was inspired by a portly hound dog I saw being walked by its owner. Its belly was almost scraping across the cement when it trudged along, so I felt bad for it. Then I looked at my fat cat and he was the happiest cat I'd ever seen. Thus Fat Pets was born.*

*I enjoy lots of different poetry now that I have a free library card and can download new books to my iPhone using hoopla. Some of my favourites are still Russell Edson and Bukowski. I'm enjoying new poetry by K.Y. Robinson, Atticus, Rupi Kaur, and old favourites like Margaret Atwood, Leonard Cohen and Emily Dickinson. I read poetry for fun and I write poetry to express thoughts or emotions that I don't normally express in my everyday life. That's what poetry is for me: a means of expression and an avenue to share the essence of my being. It's often irreverent and/or odd, but that's me.*

**AUTHOR'S BIO:** Arianna Sebo (she/her) is a queer poet and writer living in Southern Alberta with her husband, pug, and five cats. Her poetry can be found in *Capsule Stories*, *Kissing Dynamite*, *Front Porch Review*, and *Lucky Jefferson*. Follow her at [AriannaSebo.com](http://AriannaSebo.com) and @AriannaSebo on Twitter and Instagram.

