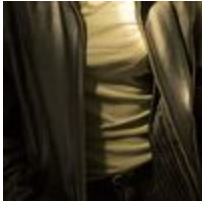





February 4th 2018	Marking Of The Bends	#1
	<p>On our most recent excursion into The Bends, Anthony and I entered with the intent to re-enforce warnings left behind by miners who have succumbed to the noxious gases that pool low in the earth.</p>	
<div data-bbox="204 562 545 646"> Tony Sylvester <i>Moderator</i> </div> <div data-bbox="204 646 545 758">  1701 </div> <div data-bbox="204 758 545 869">  1644 </div> <div data-bbox="204 869 545 974">  Drydenne, ON </div>	<p>It's a tight fit for any grown adult- especially with clunky breathing apparatuses strapped tight to our faces, tanks deceptively heavy for being so thin. It takes a deft hand to mix up the right concentration- most enthusiasts rely on the careful calculations of top of the line monitoring devices. I still drive manual. That should be enough explanation for my preference on equipment.</p> <p>It's difficult to get people to listen. Young people are always eager to stick their noses into business better left lying alone. No matter how many papers or debates or even cautionary tales you fold up into children's books, classes, and the community at large: you will always have to deal with the odd adrenaline junkie searching for their next high. It's inevitable.</p> <p>It's for these people we leave warnings smeared on site, and peppered through- instructions, on what to do when shit hits the fan. If you didn't heed our callsign: then at least you'll have a thin thread of hope to guide you through the nightmare you've chosen to bring down upon yourself. You can't save everyone, though. It weighs on you. There's a bitterness that comes with the years- a toll to pay for this line of action.</p>	
	<p>If you insist on running the gauntlet regardless: remember what your mentors have told you. Drydenne is rife with second hand knowledge that we hand down to our successors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heed the miner's warning: if something strikes by night- then bring forth the light, and you'll be safe 'till morning. • Red in the morning, the angels' warning: blue in the night, the seeker's delight. • If God's name they profane, it's like not faen. • If their eyes are black, turn back. • If to the touch cold, go forth and be bold. If to the touch hot, you'd best trot. <p>Alongside these: commit this list to memory.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) It doesn't want to be seen. 2) It will attack you if you witness it. 3) Keep your eyes to the ground. 4) If it charges- turn your face into a corner. A junction where two walls meet is ideal, the crook of your elbow will work if you have no other option left to you. 5) It cannot force your hand. That does not mean it cannot touch you. It can hurt you. But it cannot make you do anything outside of your own free will. 6) It will try to cajole you into looking. Ignore it. Do not entertain the voices of the dead, or still living- it isn't lying to you, per se: but it's manipulating the factors of a situation. It does this like breathing. It's allowed this. 7) Whatever you do, do not look. <p>We accomplished what we set out to. Don't roll our odds. Take care.</p>	