

月報俳句ジャーナル

GE P P O H A I K U J O U R N A L

J. T. Ball, Editor Humanities Department

Volume 10 Number 4

June/July 1989

Vote for 10 Haiku. Don't vote for your own. Also list the numbers of your top three choices. For the next issue send SIX haiku using summer and early autumn kigo. Return your haiku and votes by August 15

137. an old shop keeper
early in the morning
watering by hand
138. the middle aged lady
with shapely shoulders
a folding fan
139. hanging ball
tinkles in the wind
returning home
140. Sailing whittled boats
over blue sky and white clouds...
vast brown mud puddle
141. Early morning rain...
hummer's squeaky tititit
in the dripping oak
142. Gentle westerly
through wet glass chimes...
transient shiver
143. Distended tightly
with young waterdogs and frogs...
basking swamp snake
144. young birds at the bath
desperate parents watching...
cats tensed but waiting
145. Group of small children
trying to recall a name
my green "persimmons"
146. Lingering perfume
of honeysuckle enters
widow with spring breeze
147. Pigeons and old man
sharing bread crumbs from his bag.
Spring twilight in park.
148. Pause in spring plowing
Horse's one ear listening
149. No trespassing signs
torn down by spring winds
the open sky road
150. muddy mountain path
being drawn through the woods
the sound of sawing
151. the paler petals
hummingbird wings
before fushias
152. spring rainbow
stretched over the newborn
a many-colored caul
153. graduation night
an owl printed on a balloon
looking very wise
154. a paw print
catching spring sunshine
in wet sand
155. Startled by color
in the photo album -
rhododendron blooms
156. joggers
outrunning the first spring storm
skirt a wheelchair
157. during a workshop
on the craft of poetry
the sound of spring rain
158. braking the car
to snap picture of
a spring rainbow
159. this year
calling children long distance:
no Easter eggs
160. Easter eggs eaten
pots left to soak in the sink

161. Peony petals
bring back mother's face today
her garden in bloom
162. In total silence
refrigerator hum starts
outside first spring storm
163. In sudden spotlight
ribbons of a spring rainbow
vibrate in the mist
164. Loaded gapefruit trees
spring storm wakes us in the night
thuds on the porch roof
165. Up and down weather
two seasons fighting it out
today springtime wins
166. Historic relic
old farm windmill stands alone
high-rise from the past.
167. Bright blue artichoke
blossoms - head gone to flower.
Neglected garden.
168. Children's soap bubbles
drift among gusts in garden
Delighted laughter.
169. Back and forth on swing
grandmother floats under the oak.
Hidden children smile.
170. Prisms bridge rises
from the tops of two mountains.
Spring rainbow.
171. Farmer checks grafting
of new plum on to old tree.
Anticipation ripens.
172. The old gentleman
removes his small hearing aid -
spring tides' booming waves
173. The spring stars' brilliance
shouts through hospital window -
invalid's first steps
174. Dawn flames the sky -
from our new red windmill . . .
just a whisper
175. An empty child's swing
swings back and forth in moonlight .
the silence deepens
176. Through the knotholes
in the picket fence, sweet peas -
and a small boy's eyes
177. Peach trees blossoming -
not noticing
the rocky terrain
178. Lost, run-away dog
Aimless frenzy of searching
Child's swing in the park
179. Dried-up cherry tree
A few old fruits at the top --
The birds ignore them
180. Rough on the garden
the first spring rain floods the land
Great against the drought!
181. Railroad "Right of Way!"
Fam on the far-reaching track --
Rumble of a train ...
182. Seemingly dead vine --
Three new visteria leaves
the very tip end!
183. One balloon breaks free
What printed, read-letter word?
J-dash O-dash Y!!
184. summer sunrise ...
through the morning haze
the bobwhite calls again
185. farm dog barks
echo through the forest
deep summer night
186. farm dog calling
calling to its echo
deep in the forest
187. summer thunderstorm --
sirens in the distance
as the first drops fall
188. on the second day
I buy a deck of cards--
spring rain
189. The First of July...
overcast evening echoes
early firecrackers!
190. Neighbor's loquat tree
shedding most of its leaves
our side of the fence

191. Muggy afternoon...
barks of neighbor's dog weaving
into cat nap dreams!
192. Framed by the doorway...
the midday sun just inches
from summer solstice!
193. Back home from the beach
sticky and gritty with sand...
a minor erosion!
194. Thousands of people
returning home from the beach...
erosion of sand!
195. Field of drooping grass
At just a hint of small breeze
Excited windmill
196. At end of mist path
Crowned by arching spring rainbow
Secluded valley
197. Thousands of puddles!
Stepping into each of them
Kids on muddy road
198. Funeral at dusk
As long cortage slowly pass
Spring flowers closing
199. Walking muddy road
Squish of puddles grow louder
Nightfall descending
200. Rising and falling
Dozens of gay shouting swings
Schoolyard for the blind
201. telling about it
the loaded apricot tree
nearest the freeway
202. summer afternoon
a second pack of sugar
poured into coffee
203. in the windless heat
the custodian's dustmop
propped against the gate
204. midnight in July
the sound of the passing freight
from across the town
205. sound of mosquitos --
just before going to bed
a word of advice
206. summer afternoon
the librarian wanting
the overdue book
207. Only the string remains
from last summer's wind chime
slight breeze
208. you whisper something
I only hear
the roses
209. Another summer...
the simple wooden cross
no longer standing
210. Dead dragonfly
stuck in my windshield wiper
summer sunset
211. early morning mist
white cane tape on garden path
peony fragrance
212. bright summer morning
clear damland pool unruffled-
dragon-flies hover
213. plaintain gone to seed
yard-man in the hospital-
hungry doves arrive

Editor's Notes

A little faster this time. I'll try to keep the issues coming. Dave Wright will be on his way to a year in Japan in September. I'm sure he would enjoy notes from members. I'll print his address when it's available.

Thanks for your comments. I keep touting the masters in haiku and pleading with you to look beyond what Kiyoshi San called "fortune cookies." These are the cutsie sort of thing: clever, nostalgic, puppies, ... The fortune cookie makes the judgement for the reader. The true haiku presents a clear image AND if the image conveys something emotional, then it is worth presenting. We construct images by our craft. We select images worth presenting by our haiku sense. I still get a feeling from #50 of the last issue: Taruo Yamagata's: A visitor/accompanied by a girl/in a winter hat. Not everybody agrees with me. Here's a comment by Dorothy Greenlee:

About the membership rather overlooking #50... and considering the Basho famous crow ... Yes, I considered #50 before making final choices, and see the image and its ramifications. However, there is something I feel, deeply, about the crow on the withered branch. It is so stark, and there is isolation, and meditation, and a lot of other things. I don't mean to down-play #50 but I just didn't FEEL it enough. But then - I fear I don't get what I feel into my own haiku. the feeling is left in me and only the shell gets on the paper!

Thanks for the very thoughtful remarks. Well, readers - what about 'getting the shell on the paper and leaving the feeling ...'? This is the point.

On this month's voting. Cheers to Tom Arima for #102: In pouring spring rain/a cat sits on a neighbor's porch/pawing a wet leaf. David Priebe's #97 also has a clear image: Puddle on the tarp/covering the swimming pool/reflecting spring sky. Ethel Dunlop's #130 also has merit: On the front porch/tulip bulbs I planted -/loam on the dog's nose. To my mind one of the best is #101, Tom Arima's: Sparkling and refreshed/After chatting with a friend/the wet spring grasses ... Here is a clear image that convey's freshness. Also, you might take another look at Jane Reichhold's #124: garden waterfall/cherry petals float to earth/on the sound.

REMINDER ABOUT THE RETREAT!!

Our 1989 Haiku Retreat will be at Asilomar beginning Thursday, September 7th. Registration is from 3:00 to 5:30, then dinner. Our first session will be that evening at 7:30 when we meet each other and will hear Patricia Machmiller give the keynote. Friday morning Jerry Ball will present "The Tao of Haiku", and in the afternoon we will have a ginko - poet's walk, writing, and discussion. Friday evening will be social, and we hope (not sure at this point...) that Prof. Nazuo Sato will be our special guest. Saturday morning Mary Hill will present a talk on calligraphy and its relation to Haiku. Our special Guest for this retreat is Yuriko Doi who is the founder and Director of the Theater of Yugen. She is dynamic, insightful, dramatic, and charming. She will show the relation of Japanese Noh concepts to haiku. On Saturday night our advisor Kiyoko Tokutomi will lead us in the writing of a renga style verse. On Sunday Morning we will meet for farewells and conclude with a box lunch on the beach. Total Cost for the retreat is \$185. This includes room (double occupancy), all meals (excellent food), and conference expense (meeting room, facilities, etc.) Asilomar is near Carmel, so there will be time for shopping and relaxing. Reserve your space NOW! Write: Jerry Ball, Director Haiku Conference,

Reserve your space immediately. Call me at home for information:

KIGO LIST FOR LATE SUMMER/EARLY AUTUMN

THE SEASON: ending of summer, beginning autumn, indian summer

SKY AND ELEMENTS: heat, summer rain, thunder storm, ~~summer clouds~~, evening
cool, summer sunset

DES AND MOUNTAINS: dust, dry grass, forest fire, brown hills

HUMAN AFFAIRS: Labor Day, vacation, camping, hiking, swimming, ice cream,
beer, outdoor restaurant

TREES AND FLOWERS: fruit harvest, cherries, apricots, ripening wheat,
corn, peaches, summer garden, tomato

ANIMALS AND BIRDS: mosquito, fly, bugs, soaring hawk, trout fishing,
fleas

VOTES FOR THE MARCH - JUNE HAIKU

David Priebe: 96*5-2;97**6-4;98-3-1;99*4-0;100*5-3

Tom Arima: 101-3-1;102***8-3;103-2-1;104-1-1

Paul Truesdell: 104-1-0;105-2-1;105*4-0;106*4-0;107-2-0

Teruo Yamagata: 108-3-1;109*4-1;110-0-0

Dorothy Greenlee: 111-1-1;112-1-0;113*5-2

Winnie Fitzpatrick: 114-3-1;115*5-2;116-2-0

Pat Shelley: 117*-4-2;118-3-1;119-2-0

Ian Wolfe: 120-1-1;121-2-0;122-3-2

Jane Reichhold: 123-3-0;124-2-1;125*5-2

Joan Edwards: 126-0-0;127*4-0;128-2-0

Ethel Dunlop: 129-2-0;130**6-2;131*5-1

Paul Elliot: 132-1-0;133-0-0

J. T. Ball: 134-3-1;135-0-0;136-3-0

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