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# the haiku study-work journal

# of the

Yuki Teikei Haiku Society

Volume XXVIII:2

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MarchApril 2003

### Members' Haiku for Study and Appreciation - Jean Hale, Editor

5082	a drifting log floating to the river's mouth spring twilight	5090	crossing the Rio Grande a hawk's shadow_
5083	he thrust his resignation at his boss April Fool's Day	5091	night of stars—- singed spots on the hearth rug
5084	still I don't know island or peninsula this mist	5092	afternoon cool a sheepdog runs circles around the ewes
5085	already April rental ad with a new word "fanabulous"	5093	the beetle whether or not to step on it
5086	blue haze of March memories through no memory of last spring	5094	first spring storm thunder booms shake the windows suddenly - darkness
5087	asparagus trucks over bowls of beef chili Saddam jokes	5095	the muddy fields too wet to plow - late growing season
5088	rabbits all gone a lone coyote yips at the moon	5096 <sup>.</sup>	frog song in the early evening - such a welcome sound
5089	war news forgetting a while— spring moon	5097	War! the buds on the maple tree deep red

5098	yellow violets	
	stopping to pick them	
	I moved on	

- 5099 the greening fields white geese waddling everywhere as fast as they can
- 5100 urban shopping mall blooming with potfuls of spring I forget groceries
- 5101 early evening hours loud clap of thunder during our worship
- 5102 a birthday surprise helium balloons remain on our ceiling
- 5103 early evening large clap of thunder and rain distant sounds of war
- 5104 thin morning sun crushed leaves of wild thyme he brings to her wheelchair
- 5105 almost sunset peregrine whistling dives to the tether
- 5106 after the firestorm a tiny white spider making lace
- 5107 Lantern Moon guiding mother's footsteps around the duck pond
- 5108 middle of March I bake Irish soda bread and hamentaschen

- 5109 peace lily blooming as war breaks out
- 5110 spring river a feather clings to the reeds
- 5111 gossamer down webbed by dew tranquillity
- 5112 farmer's hands the way he lays violets on her grave
- 5113 summer foghorn forging my new male friendship deep blast by deep blast
- 5114 it changes my world knowing egyptians worshipped Orion's belt stars
- 5115 dressing for summer though fully aware of the still lingering snow
- 5116 the ground rises a thousand starlings taking the sky
- 5117 passing stranger our two shadows one for a moment
- 5118 airport closed a vee of Canada geese in for a landing
- 5119 spring dream the flowers arrive without a note

) J	5120	screams at the Easter egg hunt someone's found the rubber snake	5131	brisk breeze stripping the dandelion one fluff at a time
	5121	overdone asparagus he tells me what a good cook his first wife was	5132	smiling back at the flower spring sunshine
	5122	hazy moon rising over the surfers suddenly big waves	5133	snail's trail up and over the locked gate
	5123	all singing five children in the truck bed the roadside poppies	5134	the homeless puppy given a home bag lady
	5124	if you could save our President, would you, oh spotted owl?	5135	stones thrown in the pool swallow the open calls of passing birds
)	5125	sleeping Buddha the cat curled into a ball opens one eye	5136	sudden hailstones on the lily pads hopping froglets
	5126	these two cats in love — and the sliding glass door that separates them	5137	new water feature a young thrush the first neighbour to be impressed
	5127	St. Patrick's Day another rain the greening fields	5138	a soaring skylark cutting the overcast sky — the first drops of rain
	5128	my sister e-mails about sharing many faiths so orange, these poppies	5139	early spring morning — filling the new apartment with old furniture
	5129	old red rooster crowing away the night cloudless morning	5140	quiet spring morning looking into the temple, the buddha within
	5130	the golden glow	5141	killing time

- of California poppies
  - desert sunrise

at the mall . . .

counting navels

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- 5142 wharf dinner a napkin slips into dark water
- 5143 this rain that rain . . . you're still gone
- 5144 we never got along the dead cousin and I
- 5145 argument ends slowly morning sun revives the white moth
- 5146 summer shoveling steaming manure remembering her perfume
- 5147 after the quarrel taking a night walk a scent of orange blossoms
- 5148 alone . . . moonlight through the screen door late night TV
- 5149 backyard party . . . neighborhood dogs in commotion the smell of barbecue
- 5150 wind drops still flying on hope
- 5151 again the crocus shows her secret to the sun saffron for my rice
- 5152 thin mist fairies dance by tea house for a six-year-old

- 5153 misty rain a line of yellow tulips against the bricks
- 5154 peonies the tight whorl of petals beneath the ants' jaws
- 5155 morning mist the birds descend to strip the toyon
- 5156 the redwing blackbird balances so perfectly – how does he manage?
- 5157 puffy drifts of fog a continent away from the battlefield
- 5158 from the pine's tip-top the fluid song of a lark lightens my day

### Challenge Kigo Plum Blossom By Fay Aoyagi

chilly cheeks redden – plum blossoms

#### **Gloria** Procsal

plum blossoms! again he washes his new red bike

faintly visible on the stark branches early plum blossoms

Carolyn Hall

Joan C. Sauer

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starry night	midlife
trying to catch the plum taste	the virgin white
chewing on plum petals	of plum blossoms
Zinovy Vayman	Carolyn Thomas
on the kimono	plum blossom rain –
red plum blossoms	gently, the dark crevices
she changes her lipstick	of the bark brighten
Louise Beaven	Roger Abe
during the year	plum blossoms
plum blossoms fall	a new road map
and become fruit	in my pocket
Eve Jeanette Bloom	Laura Bell
from a brown clay jug	harsh wind following –
scent of plum blossoms	plum blossom chasing me
uncorked in the sun	- in front of me
Janeth H. Ewald	Graham High
the red plum blossoms	early morning walk —
have come and gone	shaking the lingering snow
in my absence	off the plum blossoms
Ruth Holzer	Richard St. Clair
damp grass	a kind of fever
a circle cast	even the plum blossoms
by plum blossom	are imaginary
Patricia Prime	John Stevenson
I stay indoors all day	old man jogs
practicing its kanji	to the top of the hill
white plum blossoms	white plum blossoms
W. Elliott Greig	Dave Bachelor
from your house to mine	challenged
all up and down Plum Street	by deep steps of the Great Wall
plum blossoms Yvonne Hardenbrook	plum blossoms through smog Christine Doreian-Michaels
plum blossoms	new oranges
in the same dream	turning color
I'm falling again	early spring
Cindy Tebo	Naomi Y. Brown

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she tries to resist		
a look back as she hurries-	_	suddenly
the first plum blossoms		my granddaughter's long legs
-	PJM	beginning of summer
filled with plum blossoms		Anne Homan
water in the rain barrel		after the foal
risen to the top		pitching horseshoes
isen to the top	Jerry Ball	under a morning moon
		Gloria Procsal
a day of rain		
the plum blossoms		my long shadow
draw into themselves	Iorry Ball	floats onto the distant hill
	Jerry Ball	first sunrise
		Anne Homan
Members'	Votes	ice melt
for January-	February	a bubbling brook's
Debisis Drives - E010 1 E		unfamiliar song
<b>Patricia Prime</b> – 5010-1 5 <b>Gloria Procsal</b> – 5013-4 5		Gloria Procsal
Hank Dunlap – 5016-6 5		right down main street
Anne Homan – 5019-6 5		chasing a tumbleweed
<b>Ross Figgins</b> – 5022-0 50 <b>Naomi Brown</b> – 5025-1 5		dry summer wind
<b>John Stevenson</b> – 5028-9		Hank Dunlap
<b>June Hymas</b> – 5031-0 503		
<b>Teruo Yamagata</b> – 5034-3 <b>Richard St. Clair</b> – 5037-1		rose petals
Carolyn Thomas – 5040-=		cling to tangled bedsheets
Kermit DeLaurant – 5043	3-0 5044-6 5045-1	the morning after Anne Homan
<b>Ruth Holzer</b> – 5046-1 50		
<b>Eve J. Blohm</b> – 5049-0 50 <b>Graham High</b> – 5052-6 5		laden pine branches
Yvonne Hardenbrook –5	055-3 5056-3 5057-5	release their snow burden
<b>Joan Zimmerman –</b> 5058-5	5 5059-0 5060-1	as the crow settles
Donnalynn Chase – 5061 Christine D-Michaels – 50		June Hopper Hymas
<b>Cindy Tebo</b> – 5067-5 506		returning home
Joan Sauer – 5070-1 507		the whole valley yellow
Zinovy Vayman – 5073-2 Kay Grimnes – 5076-3 50	5074-2 5075-5	with mustard
Michael D. Welch – 5079		Carolyn Thomas
		only memories
January-February H	aiku Voted Best	disturb the silence-
by Readers of		winter garden
		Kermit DeLaurant
New Year's Eve		demande de a set e la
the last drink		through the window
becomes the first		the day collected
	John Stevenson	in a drop of rain Graham High
		Graham High

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an ancient kettle boiling in the darkness of another room

Graham High

abandoned station butterflies through the open window

Kay Grimnes

high mountain trail a boot print emerging from melted snow

Michael Dylan Welch

### Submission Guidelines for GEPPO

Deadline for next issue is June 10.

- Print your name, address and all poems and votes on a single, full size sheet of paper. You can include:
- Haiku up to three haiku appropriate to the season. Poems must be in three lines.
- Challenge Kigo Haiku one 3-line haiku that uses the current issue's Challenge Kigo. Try to use just the one'season word. The poem will be printed with your name.
- Votes Write numbers of up to ten poems from the current issue that you especially appreciate. Each of the poems you select will receive 1 point. Poems with the top number of votes are reprinted with the author's name in the next issue.

Send to: Jean Hale

#### email:

Membership in the Yuki Teikei Haiku Society is \$20.00 per year in the U.S. and Canada and \$25.00 International. Membership includes six issues of the *Geppo* per year.

### SEASON WORDS for late spring /early summer

selected from the lists In the Members' Anthology

Season: May, June: spring dream, spring dusk, ~ melancholy, tranquility, beginning of summer, long day, slow day, short night.

Sky and Elements: bright, haze or thin mist, spring rain, spring rainbow, spring sunbeam, summer dew,calm morning/evening, cumulus/billowing cloud, cloud peaks, sea of clouds, ocean fog, thunder, lightning, sudden shower, rainbow, heat, coolness.

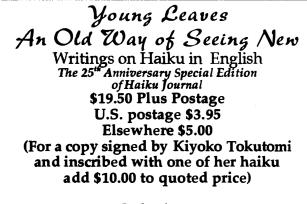
Landscape: spring or summer hills, lake, sea, or river, waterfall, clear water, summer grove, deep tree shade.

Human Affairs: awning, parasol, perfume, summer concert, ice water, iced tea, nakedness, bare feet, swimming, sunglasses, wind chimes, mowing grass, weeding, Mothers' day, Memorial Day

Animals: abalone, bee, baby animals (nestlings, fledglings, calf, colt, kitten, puppy, fawn, lamb, etc.), cats in love, crane, flying squirrel, frog, izard, pheasant, robin, mud snail, soaring skylark, stork, swallow, tadpole, nightingale, ant, bat, caterpillar, cicada, crab, cormorant, firefly, flea, louse, house fly, goldfish, blue/white/grey heron, kingfisher, moor hen or coot, mosquito, mosquito larvae, moth, silverfish, slug, (garden) snail, snake, spider, summer butterfly, termite, toad, tree frog, trout, water beetle.

Plants: blossoms or leaf buds of trees and shrubs (almond, apple, apricot, cherry, plum, etc.), forget-me-not, grass sprouts, hyacinth, mustard, parsley, California poppy, primrose, seaweed, violet, amaryllis, bamboo sprouts, carnation, cactus flower, dahlia, dill flower, foxglove, fuchsia, gardenia, geranium, gladiolus, summer or rank grasses, hibiscus, hollyhock, honeysuckle, hydrangea, iris, lily, lotus, marigold, mold (mildew), moss grown (mossy), oxalis, peony, rose, salvia, sunflower, summer thistle, leafy willow, yucca





Order from: Jean Hale

**Dojins' Corner** January-February, 2003 by Jerry and Patricia

pjm: From the following list of preferences—5029, 5031, 5033, 5044, 5046, 5052, 5054, 5055, 5057, 5062, 5063, 5077, 5079, and 5080—I decided I would like to write about these three: 5057, 5062, and 5079.

jb: My long list includes: 5011, 5012, 5013, 5014, 5015, 5029, 5052, 5055, 5057, 5079. From these I selected 5014, 5029, and 5052 as favorites.

5014 after the foal pitching horseshoes under a morning moon

jb: This is a rural haiku written in a rural setting. Having pitched horseshoes when I was young I understand the feeling of the sport. This is a lyric haiku with a narrative background. We have just assisted in the birth of a young animal, a horse probably. This has taken much of the night. Now that the day dawns there's not much point in going to sleep, but there is time from some relaxation—playing horseshoes. It's a good feeling of reward for a job well done. This is a moment worth preserving.

pjm: Spring typically has a feeling of lightness; the lightness of the physical world shimmering in the moist air is echoed in the lightness we feel as we free our bodies of heavy winter clothes and that lightness of spirit we feel as we see buds sprouting and animals and insects giving birth. The playful quality of this haiku comes with the game being played and, more subtly, in the language with the interplay between the words "horseshoes" and "foal." In fact, it is striking (pun intended) that an image using horseshoes can convey a feeling of lightness. Quite a challenge, I would say, aptly met by the poet.

5057 the moon a cradle my firstborn's fortieth death-day

pjm: As a mother who lost her firstborn, there is no way for me to be objective or analytical about this haiku. It touched me deeply. I would like to offer this small rewrite for the poet to consider.

the moon a cradle my firstborn would be forty today

Not knowing the actual circumstances behind this haiku, I had to take a few liberties in order to construct this example. I've changed the memorial day of the firstborn to his or her birthday because the phrase "death-day" seems to me to be very harsh in the feeling it conveys. Maybe this dire feeling is the feeling the poet wants, and I would respect that if that should be the case. Also because the poet uses the image of a cradle to describe the moon, I made the assumption that the firstborn died as a baby. This last assumption does not necessarily have to be true for the original haiku to be effective; I was only trying to explain why I chose to make the firstborn forty in the example I gave.

jb: I, also, am moved by this verse. It is clearly a strong emotional verse, and—in my opinion—well crafted. This is a lyrical verse with a narrative background. The poet provides the image and the reader brings the narrative. That the "moon is a cradle" is reminiscent of the time of birth of a child. The moon, of course, is transient as is all of life, even the life of a small child.

5029 winter sky girders for the hospital's new wing

jb: This is a *shasei* (nature sketch) haiku. It is an austere image in an urban setting. Clearly, there is some construction in the foreground, with the winter sky (kigo) as the background. This is classical haiku form. The fact that the girders are intended for a new hospital changes the character of the austerity. One can get an idea of this by imagining the various types of facilities that might be under construction: a nuclear plant, an arms' factory, a new school, a new version of the twin towers, etc. In this case, a "new hospital." The image says it all. It is nicely crafted. The language is direct, unsentimental, and economical. Well done.

pjm: A powerful modern image very effectively set against an old traditional kigo. As Jerry says this haiku is a *shasei* haiku; it states only what is seen and no more. And yet there is more than just the image. I'd like to focus on the writing if I may: notice how the three lines overlaid with two phrases are used to give us three images—three separate images that combine into one completely unified image. In the first line in the distance we see a winter sky, heavily overcast; the second line presents the girders in the foreground—we can see them bold with angular lines and the hardness of steel. And then comes the third line, "new wing," linked by phrase to the hospital of the second line, but set up for us to separately and distinctly perceive a wing—a bird wing, an angel wing—by the line break. The poet has given us an opening for our imaginations to come in and enhance the image with our own associations. This third image works because the associations that arise are subordinate to and compatible with the image of a hospital wing and so they add to the thoughtfulness and depth of the haiku.

5062 ringed turtle-dove you, like me, blown off course february storm

pjm: For me this haiku is interesting for what it does not say. Turtledoves are often symbols for lovers. These two, a turtledove and the speaker, have been "blown off course" by a storm in February, the month of Eros and Valentine's Day. So I read this as a love poem in which the vicissitudes of life have dealt a blow to the lovers individually and we can sense the loneliness one can feel at such times even in (or especially in?) a relationship.

jb: This is an "Issa style" haiku; one (apparently) directed to the turtle dove. Actually, it's directed as an aside to the reader who is allowed to overhear the brief conversation. As such we are informed that the poet is "blown off course." This is a metaphor indicating the life might not be going quite right. I agree with Patricia that this expresses the loneliness of the poet.

5052 through the window the day collected in a drop of rain

jb: This is not a shasei haiku, but rather a "shaped introspection" style (as indicated by Yatsuka Ishihara.) This is an image but not a factual image. It is rather an image of a mental state, and a positive one at that. It represents, for me, an expansive feeling, a possible epiphany. After viewing the raindrop closely, I now view the whole world differently.

pjm: I am intrigued by this image and drawn in ready to contemplate with the poet the day that has passed. But I am stopped by the lack of information about what kind of day it is—happy, sad, meditative, rushed—there are too many choices. Kiyoko Tokutomi used to say that the kigo provides a window through which the reader can look into the poet's world. This haiku is a very good example of how a kigo, spring day, winter day, autumn day, would give us the "window" we need to partake in the poet's vision.

5079 high mountain trail a boot print emerging from melting snow

pim: If you have ever struggled to write about events over time in a haiku, study this one in which time has been condensed into one simple, clear image. The kigo, melting snow, tells us it is spring. We know immediately without being told that the boot print was left by some hiker sometime earlier (in the winter just past or, even possibly, more than one winter ago) and frozen there. Subsequent snows have covered up the tracks and now it is spring. Two seasons, winter and spring, have been collapsed into one and all that information about the mountain, hikers past and present, and snowstorms that have come and gone are packed into this fourteen-syllable image written in the present tense giving the reader the first-hand thrill of seeing a boot print emerge from the snow. As Robert Hass says, to write such an image is to have "lived twice." This is writing of the highest caliber.

jb: I agree with Patricia. This is a haiku recording an event: the emergence of a "boot print" in the melting snow. Immediately, we realize there must be a history. We are both alone and not alone at the top of a mountain.

Patricia and Jerry invite your comments at

of Jean Hale.

### Challenge Kigo by Fay Aoyagi

Blue Storm (Aoarashi) early summer

Ao arashi literally means "blue storm." It occurs when a strong wind rustles the fully-leafed-out trees. "Blue" is used here to express the special the best season to go hiking to admire the very fresh green in the mountain.

ao arashi fukinuke omoi kutsugaeru

the blue storm passing through my thought somersaults Shuson Kato\*

akanbo ni hajimete no kutsu ao arashi

the first shoes for the baby blue storm Kai Hasegawa\*\*

the balance beam in and out of the blue storm Fay Aoyagi

\*haiku from Saijiki for You Who Want to Start Writing Haiku Now, Kadokawa (Tokyo, 1997), translated by FA

\*\*haiku from Kajitsu (Fruits), Kai Hasegawa, Kashin-sha, translated by FA.

### A Literary Find for Your Haiku Library!

Twenty-five copies of Haiku Journal, Vol. 1 and Vol. 2, once thought to be out of print, were found among Kiyoko Tokutomi's possessions. Volumes 1 and 2 are keepsakes: Volume 1 contains early articles written by Kiyoshi Tokutomi on kigo and form as well as three of his haiku and a translation of the preface to ShugyoTakaha's famous book, The Pleasure of Haiku; Volume 2 includes more writing by Kiyoshi on the kigo and the value of a saijiki to the haiku poet, the results of Yuki Teikei's (then Yukuharu's) first haiku contest (Eric Amann was the winner), and haiku by Kiyoshi Tokutomi, Raymond Roseliep, Louise Sommers Winder, Ian Wolfe, Roberta Stewart, Ross Figgins, Dave Wright, Lorraine Ellis Haar, and Patricia Machmiller among others. Both of these volumes contain the Kiyoko Tokutomi's kigo lists, the first ever compiled in English. The Yuki Teikei Haiku Society is offering these for sale:

Haiku Journal, Vol. (1977)	\$10.00
Haiku Journal, Vol. 2 (1978)	\$10.00
Haiku Journal, Vol. 3 (1979)	
Haiku Journal, Vol. 4 (1980)	
Haiku Journal, Vol. 5 (1981-82)	\$ 5.00
Haiku Journal, Vol. 6 (1986)	
Haiku Journal, Vol. 3 through 6	
A complete set, Vol. 1 to 6	\$25.00

Also among the books were found copies of Season Words in English Haiku, Jun-ichi Sakuma, Yuki Teikei Haiku Society (1980). This work lists the results of a survey of all the haiku in English language literary journals to determine what kigo were being used in the United States, Canada, and Australia. It is available for \$5.00.

Please add \$1.00 for postage for each book ordered.

### Childrens' Corner

**Stephanie Richardson, Age 9**, offers the following haiku –

Breasted with scarlet Singing mightily with heart Oh, how gay a song!

> Butterfinger sits Watching Snickers in the shade They both squeak softly.

Plums are sweet purple Staining little hands, Uh-oh! Mothers are not pleased.

## Calendar

June 12	<b>1:30 -</b> Hakone Gardens, Route 9, Saratoga. Newcomers welcome. Garden walk and haiku writing. Meet at picnic tables at lower entrance
July 12	<b>600 PM -</b> Tanabata Celebration. Home of Anne Homan
	Newcomers welcome.
TBD	<b>6:00 PM -</b> Moonviewing celebration. Home of Patricia Machmiller, San Jose. Newcomers welcome.
Oct. 2-5	<b>Haiku Retreat</b> at Asilomar Conference Center, Pacific Grove, CA Newcomers Welcome.
Nov. 9	<b>1:30 PM –</b> Autumn Haiku Workshop at the Markham House, History Center, 1650 Senter Road, San Jose.
Dec. 13	Holiday Party. Newcomers welcome. Location TBD

### The British Haiku Society announces The James W. Hackett International Haiku Award 2003

ENTRY PROCEDURE: Up to five haiku per entrant (each poem on three separate 5 x 3 in. (125 x 75 mm) sheets, one only with name and address on the back to: Hackett Award, Newton House, Holt Road, North Elmham, Norfolk, NR20 5JQ, UK accompanied by the flat entry fee of £2.50 or US \$4.00. Please note that entries cannot be returned. (We regret that due to high currency and clearance charges, payment can only be accepted in Sterling by cheque drawn on a UK bank branch, or by British Postal Orders, or by International Money Order, or in Sterling/US cash. Cheques to be made payable to The British Haiku Society, not to Hackett Award, please).

For notification of winner(s), enclose a selfaddressed envelope with appropriate UK stamp or one IRC or US\$1.00 cash (so a US\$5.00 bill will cover entry fee and notification).

ADJUDICATION: The donor of the award, James W. Hackett, will himself choose the winner(s) (and possibly commended poems) from an anonymous shortlist presented to him by a BHS sub-committee (**All** committee members are debarred from entering.)

Direct further questions regarding this award to David Steele at the above Newton House address.

Moonlight with a breeze splendid shadows g bamboo dance for my eyes CHROLYN 介:費 路 弦 Carolyn Fitz