

HAIKU: A CHAPBOOK BY DAN CAMPBELL

HAIKU, HAIGA AND MONOKU

Haiku

albino crow
strutting across
fresh snow

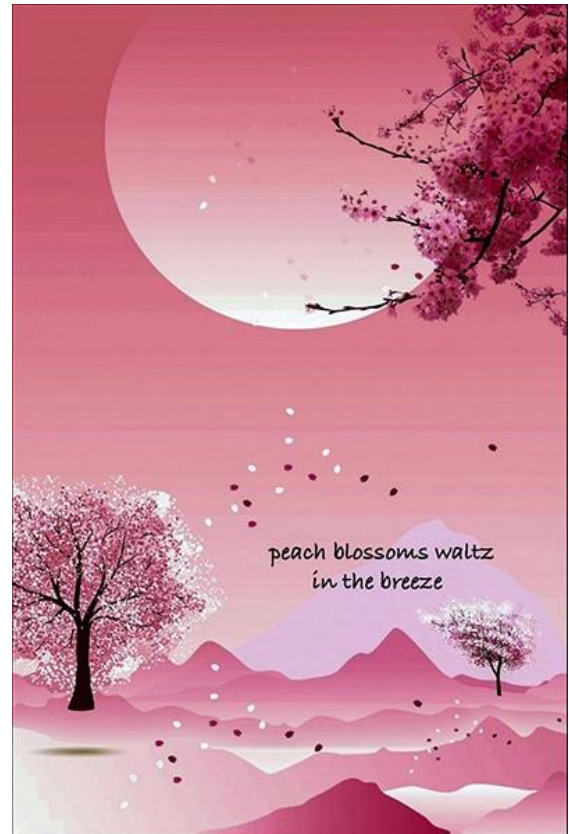
Ancestry.com
my wife's wildflower
DNA

canary blues -
my cage
is a stage

city concert -
jackhammer crescendo
at six a.m.

confused wolves -
those planets
with two moons

dancing together
in a parking lot—
two shadows



deserted,
rain-soaked battlefield—
park chessboard

icicles -
immigration
office window

ICU remedy for sleep
counting dripping IV drops
instead of sheep

family photo album –
three generations
of frowns

fireplaces –
flickers and sparks
of conversation

full moons -
porchlights for fallen
angels

liquor store—
a crooked Help Wanted sign
in the window

melting my
cold cold heart—
donkey smile

mourners -
slow to undo
their embrace

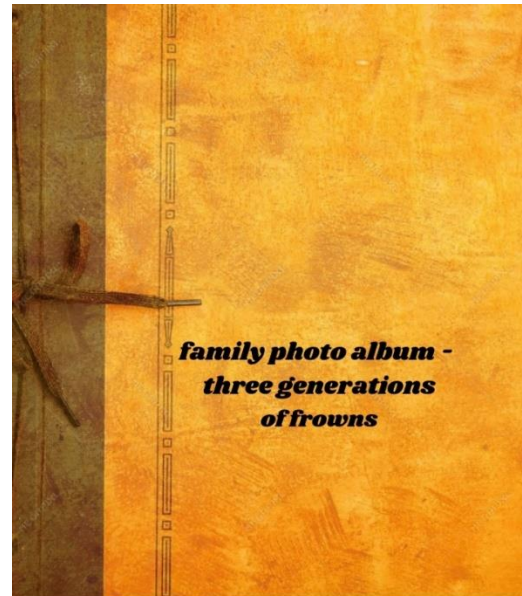
mwangaza wa mwezi
shines down on
baobab trees

my favorite chapel—
underneath
the redwoods

my kites—
nesting in trees
next to robins

night cruise -
moonbeams dripping
from the oars

no one
recorded humanity's
last heartbeat



on some planets –
there is no word
for war

pity planets
with sick moons
and wilted cornfields

row after row
of bent backs –
migrant laborers

serenade
under the wrong
window

skating across
the frying pan—
milkweed pods

slower now—
her dance moves
on the porch

snowman –
standing in a puddle
of tears

tadpoles—
childhood memories
of a prince

takeoffs and landings –
two different
emotions

tattered towel –
my boyhood
Superman cape

the beating heart
of the minnow -
moonlight on the hook

the best listeners -
scarecrows and
full moons

wildflowers—
blooming in
sidewalk cracks



Monoku (One-line haiku)

following the river's pilgrimage to the sea

mosquitoes know that my wife
has sweeter blood

digging my escape tunnel with a
teaspoon

fiction all those happy endings

zebras napping in a baobab
tree's shade

wind sculpting the cypress tree

counting ceiling tiles in the Emergency Room

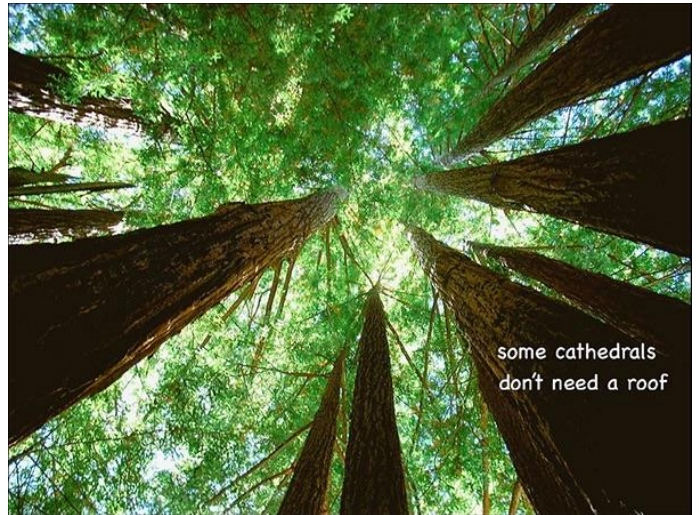
windy night - scarecrow waving at the harvest moon

pelicans gliding in formation above the waves

pigeons soar whenever I walk by

the moon and I have our dark sides

some bridges whisper and tell you to jump



cash-strapped nights work part time as shade

some languages have dictionaries just for heartbreak

I pity graves near that squeaking gate

hearing the river before seeing it

ox-carts also make you seasick

I pity extraterrestrials with two hearts

my pet peeve confetti on my tombstone

fog the magician makes mountains disappear

black hole sipping on a spiral galaxy

peach blossom waltz in the breeze

the sky seems bluer when viewed from a scaffold

awakened at dawn by an old rooster's cough

full moon riding an elephant's back

poor snowman never had a boyhood

life's essentials litter the landfills

biking through a snowfall of cherry blossoms

prayer flags chanting in the wind

Dan Campbell is a poet in Virginia and became interested in haiku about 3 years ago, thanks to the participatory haiku sessions by [The Haiku Foundation \(THF\)](#). Dan currently contributes to the haiku community by volunteering as the THF Digital Librarian and hosting the [Book of the Week](#) and [Librarian's Cache](#) features. Feel free to [email Dan](#) if you have any comments or suggestions about his haiku.

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