

Retweets

an e-chapbook
by:

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& B.A. France

Retweets

First Published in 2021 by Yasuke Press, USA

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Preface

“Retweets” began life on the twitter feeds of Orrin PréJean (@XMCMLXXI_) and *B. A. France* (@b_a_france) as part of their daily poetry praxis. Admiring each other’s work, and having each recently published a chapbook with a small press, they decided to work together to produce a small, collaborative e-chapbook. Each selected poems from the other’s daily digital sharing and together they organized and edited this brief collection.

it's the usual banter
to prolong
telling me his truth

*oysters in a tin
pouring wine he pretends
to be gourmet*

in the beginning
the unforgivable
like sweet sweet custard

*highest moon ...
otherworldly creatures
of the mind*

finding different ways
to say the same thing—
tepid coffee

*collecting moonstone
looking
to the future*

a woman's cute smile my bartender's very deep voice

*mere daylight —
wants and dreams forever
in the sky*

in my blood now
all the confusion
of my father

eastern tiger
working the blossoms
— butterfly effect

afternoon train ride into his arms his scent

*changed
from who I used to be
... moonrise*

on pins and needles
fixing another cup
of instant coffee

faux jade
another look to
the east

amid our separation
still the chrysanthemums bloom

*fragrance
on the pillow case
quiet obsession*

tonight of all nights
long train ride
to nowhere

*fresh coffee
driving into the sun
so far so close*

letting
myself
sink
into
the
darkness
of
coffee

*stare at the stars
trying to understand
yourself*

stale taste of cigarettes his kiss on my chest

*solve for x ...
wishing life had such
simplicity*

fish hook moon
my only friend
a glass of whiskey

*river's path
meandering through
my childhood*

oftentimes naked
in the middle of the room
lost in thought

*dried papaya ...
rehydrating memories
of meeting her*

blues man's growl
not as dark
as this whiskey

*sound of ice
in the whiskey glass
— cold rain*

bit of a clear
breeze blows
through me

Orrin PreJean-Champs, from Port Arthur, Texas, came to EL Short Poetry around 2006. In 2013 he began writing tanka and has since published two collections of tanka. Orrin now focuses on the history and current practices of senryu and is a senryu poet with his first ebook collection of senryu titled *October's Kid*, published by Title IX Press.

B.A. France is a poet, writer, and mariner living in the Chesapeake Bay region of the United States. He began working in poetry in 2018, starting with haibun and tanka and beginning his study of haiku and senryu in 2020. His chapbook Season's End was published in 2021 by Alabaster Leaves, an imprint of Kelsay Books.

Visit the authors at their
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Praise for Retweets:

Innovative. Introspective. Impressive. Retweets is a finely crafted collection of Japanese short forms that keeps getting better and better as you turn each page. Remember the names Orrin PréJean and B.A. France. These talented haijin are at the top of their game!

- Roberta Beach Jacobson,
Editor, *Cold Moon Journal*
(@beach_haiku)