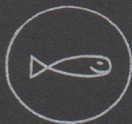


# FISH POND MOON



Johnny Baranski

FOR GJB  
WHOSE CATCH I AM

HANDSCRIPT BY THE AUTHOR.  
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P.O. Box 14205  
Portland, Oregon 97214

Dusky twilight -  
A FULL MOON BEGINS TO FILL  
THE EMPTY LANTERN

NOT THE FULL MOON  
RISING UP TO GRAB MY EYE:  
CAMPFIRE SMOKE!

A BULLFROG CROAKS  
THE FISHPOND IS ALL MINE—  
UNDER A FULL MOON

FROM A MOONLIT STUMP  
THE FROG IS OUTSPRUNG  
BY ITS SHADOW

THE FULL MOON  
A LIGHT SHOWER ON THE POND  
LEAPING RAINBOW TROUT

NIGHT CRAWLER  
ABOUT TO BAIT MY FISHHOOK  
MUCH ANXIETY

THEY'RE BITING TONIGHT  
WHEREVER I TRY THE FISHPOND  
MOSQUITOES

Mosquito!

hard to believe it, too,  
is my sister

OLD tire dredged up  
FROM the Fishpond - A SNAIL  
treading around it

FRESH MINNOW BAIT -  
OUT OF A MOONLIT PAIL  
I CHOOSE THE BRIGHTEST

CICADA SHRIEKS -  
WRIGGLING FROM MY FISHHOOK  
TO FREE MYSELF

JUST A FEW NIBBLES -  
ON THE MOTIONLESS FISHPOND  
ONLY HALF THE MOON

A FULL MOON  
ON THE MOTIONLESS FISHPOND;  
IT BEGINS TO HAIL



BULLFROGS -  
IN THE MOONLIT Fishpond  
NOTHING BUT EYES

Fishpond TURTLE -  
ON THE MOON-VIEWING bridge  
CATCHING FORTY WINKS

JUST ABOUT THE FULL MOON  
EMPTY-HANDED FISHERMAN  
TELLS HIS DEAF WIFE

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A full moon  
on the motionless fishpond;  
it begins to hail

sunburst matchbooks