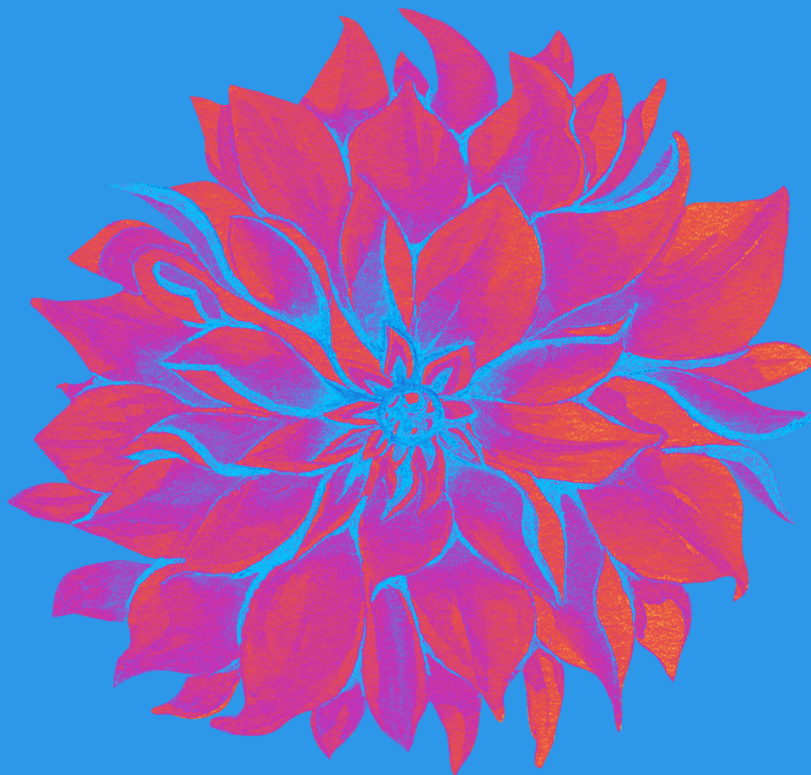


summer chrysanthemum

tan-renga / tanka



Christina Chin / M. R. Defibaugh

Book 3, December 2022

summer chrysanthemum

tan-renga / tanka



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Book 3, December 2022

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Tan-Renga / Tanka Chapbook Seies

Book 3, December 2022

ISSN 2833-7972

M. R. Defibaugh Haiku Poetry

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summer chrysanthemum

a puff
of dandelion clock
children make a wish
*to no longer be
children*

Christina Chin / *M. R. Defibaugh*

summer chrysanthemum

silence . . .
except for the wind
lily fields
flower after flower
feels like a dream

summer chrysanthemum

shuttling
the water's edge
a summer butterfly
glides through
the warm breeze

Christina Chin / *M. R. Defibaugh*

summer chrysanthemum

meditating
among the peonies
a stone Buddha
I pretend
to be

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summer chrysanthemum

orange stripes
a hoverfly in and out
of bright dahlias
at the roadside
flower stand

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summer chrysanthemum

grandma follows
the gardenia
her eyesight fading
she smacks a buzzing
mozzie

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summer chrysanthemum

sea wind . . .
a summer hat bobs
on the waves
after
wiping out

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summer chrysanthemum

lying
on the beach towels
sunburnt nudes
in a vintage
Playboy

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summer chrysanthemum

sweltering heat
the temptation
to strip
and dance
on the pole

Christina Chin / *M. R. Defibaugh*

summer chrysanthemum

*he fans her with
the wine menu
after a swim
and a cold shower
still feeling hot*

summer chrysanthemum

buzzing at my door
the cicada's
unending love song
doorbell brings
a Father's Day gift

summer chrysanthemum

natives selling
under the shade of a tree
. . . indigenous crafts
their eyes glued on
a hand-stitched doll

summer chrysanthemum

sound asleep . . .
newborn baby smell
under the mosquito net
a gentle drizzle
dripping water sound

summer chrysanthemum

unlucky
the fisherman forces an eel
on the hook
off the lip
of a breaking wave

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summer chrysanthemum

no others on the beach
little boys skinny dip
in the sea
*they emerge already
making comparisons*

summer chrysanthemum

sliced mango
straight from the fridge
evening coolness
a coconut drops
from the tree

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summer chrysanthemum

bitesize . . .

honeydew melon

drips down her chin

seeing his reaction

she tries not to laugh

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summer chrysanthemum

cactus flowers

pregnant with dragon fruits

summer grove

she stacks them in her stall

opens one with a machete

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summer chrysanthemum

morning cloudiness
the cuckoo singing on
somewhere
a surrogate
mom

Christina Chin / *M. R. Defibaugh*

summer chrysanthemum

the gift
in a jewelry box
lotus blossoms
opening up
to one another

Christina Chin / *M. R. Defibaugh*

summer chrysanthemum

green walnut
steeped in mead
inky stain
the calligraphy
of our correspondence

Christina Chin / *M. R. Defibaugh*

summer chrysanthemum

eggplant
in the simmering lentils
aromatic spices
he intoxicates her
with his cooking

Christina Chin / *M. R. Defibaugh*

summer chrysanthemum

cut flowers
by the grand fountain
sunflowers for sale
she waits for him
to buy her one

summer chrysanthemum

petal after petal
how impermanent
the summer chrysanthemum
flower girl now
tossing the bouquet

**Thanks to the editors who first featured some of
these poems in their publications!**

Culinary Saijiki

Failed Haiku

Haiku Dialogue

Lothlorien Poetry

Synchronized Chaos

Take 5ive

The Zen Space

Christina Chin is a painter and haiku poet from Malaysia. She is a four-time recipient of top 100 in the mDAC Summit Contests, exhibited at the Palo Alto Art Center, California. 1st prize winner of the 34th Annual Cherry Blossom Sakura Festival 2020 Haiku Contest. 1st prize winner in the 8th Setouchi Matsuyama 2019 Photohaiku Contest. She has been published in numerous journals, multilingual journals, and anthologies, including Japan's prestigious monthly *Haikukai Magazine*.

M. R. Defibaugh is a Virginia-based poet and haiku enthusiast. He has degrees in mathematical sciences (BA, University of Illinois at Springfield) and operations management (MS, University of Arkansas). His work has appeared in numerous journals, including *Frogpond*, *Modern Haiku*, *Failed Haiku*, *Stardust Haiku*, and *Trash Panda*.

summer chrysanthemum

"Japanese poetry should allow us, the readers, to taste what the poet is tasting, see what the poet is seeing, hear what the poet is hearing, smell what the poet is smelling, and feel what the poet is feeling. Summer chrysanthemum is nothing short of a sensory delight."

–Elizabeth Crocket, author of *Happy Haiku*, Touchstone
Distinguished Books Award 2019 Shortlist

"...the poems hold you by the hand and take you on a trippy shuttle where you can only experience silence, admire flowers, and feel the wind running on your skin."

–Uchechukwu Onyedikam, Nigerian artist

tan-renga / tanka