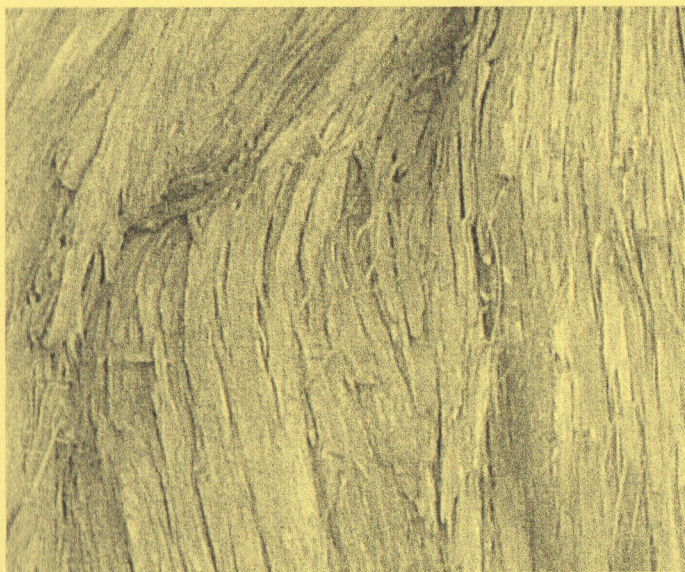


AGAINST the GRAIN



Haiku & Senryu
by Michael Henry Lee



AGAINST the GRAIN

Haiku and Senryu

By Michael Henry Lee

AGAINST the GRAIN
Haiku and Senryu
Copyright 2012

Eleventh Hour Press
Saint Augustine Fl.

Front Cover Photo by: Michael Henry Lee
Rear Cover Photo by: Chris Bodor

Dedicated to:

the Next Generation

of

Haiku Poets

THE
HANKS
FAMILY

DEDICATED TO

THE
HANKS
FAMILY

OF

HANKS
FAMILY

THE
HANKS
FAMILY

spring time
one extra hour
of loneliness

mayfly-
the amorous shine of
a new pair of wings

hazy moon
in a starry sky-
our conundrum

bat-
one shade darker
than the night

summer swelter
longing to leave on
the slightest breeze

callous moon-
still wrapped around
your little finger

global warming
too hot even to
think of it

night fall
in my dreams
there's still time

blossom time
honoring the ancestors
i never knew

morning after-
the world's population
minus one

high tide
no longer the center
of our own little world

parent teacher day
the class turtle
fends for himself

tattoo garden
the blush returns
to mother's rose

distant thunder
the last corner
of the last lap

longest day of the year
a snail's shadow
fills the afternoon

plumbago
exactly how long
is too long

dandelion wine
choosing to remember
only the good

silver alert
death's door
swings in the wind

gibbous moon
taking my dip net
deep in the pool

cloudy morning
an old friend's voice
from out of the blue

her privacy fence-
every now and again
daf fo dils

huckleberry season-
must all good things
end this way

river house
a heron sweeps between
two worlds

rigors of dawn
again in the net
of reap and sow

friday night
drinking in
the brewer's moon

blossom haze
even a plum tree knows
when to let go

the eve
of her mastectomy-
crescent moon

dried persimmons
my same lies told better
by someone else

Leonid shower
the sky continues to fall
one star at a time

blue moon
all the luxuries
of bread and water

foreclosed-
titmice vacate
an empty feeder

windows open now
my cat lies on the sill
in the hazy moon

small desert town
the moon between
two stop signs

senior's hayride
incurable romantics
grasping at straws

last day of summer
the pool no one uses
welcomes the moon

winter solstice
the peculiar voice
of each appliance

summer solstice
an aging star hangs
high in the sky

autumn deepening
so little time for
the time that's left

ground fog
three crows steal
a scene from Macbeth

winter moon
pink camellias until
it's time to go

winter solstice
another long night
where things left off

long winter's night
counting snowmobiles
till I fall asleep

winter morning-
light as a feather
in the falling snow

juniper berries
the after taste of
immortality

winter work day
filling the wheelbarrow
full of sunshine

white lies
a candidate's promise
to give us the moon

summer's end
the girl next door
moves away

Patriot Day
the snap of a flag
when you least expect it

bark beetle
a life well lived
against the grain

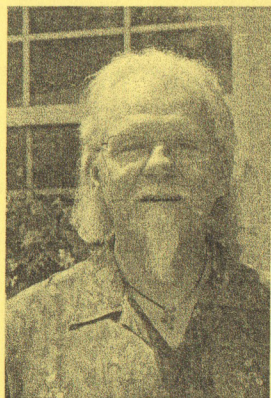
dark beetle
a life well lived
the snail's pace
when you least expect it

Acknowledgements:

Some of these poems first appeared in one form or another in; Berry Blue Haiku, Frogpond, GEPP0, Haiku News, Haiku Ramblings, Heron's Nest, Icebox, and Mainichi Daily News.

I would like to thank the extraordinary community of poets in the aforementioned publications and so many others for their unconscious support and inspiration.





About the Author

Michael lives with his wife Sarah of over thirty years, two cats, and numerous bonsai trees in the nation's oldest city. His work has appeared in *The Heron's Nest*, *Frogpond*, *Haiku News*, *Icebox*, *Berry Blue Haiku*, *One Hundred Gourds*, *Mainichi Daily News*, *Haiku Ramblings*, and the anthology, *Dreams Wander On: Contemporary Poems of Death Awareness* [edited by Robert Epstein] (Modern English Tanka Press, 2011).