

# failed ~~haiku~~

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**mike rehling**

*'Failed' Editor*

[www.failedhaiku.com](http://www.failedhaiku.com)

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*Haiga by Debbie Strange*

*The*  
*'Back from the Dead'*  
*issue*

# Cast List

*In order of appearance*  
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**Ivan Klarić**  
**Sterling Warner**  
**Mac Miller**  
**Hifsa Ashraf**  
**Maria Concetta Conti**  
**Charlie Knowlton**  
**Paul Beech**  
**Michael Henry Lee**  
**Bryan Rickert**  
**Tracy Davidson**  
**Gautam Nadkarni**  
**Bart Greene**  
**Helen Buckingham**  
**Réka Nyitrai**  
**Don Krieger**  
**Jackie Maugh Robinson**  
**Vincenzo Adamo**  
**Edward J. Rielly**  
**Debbie Strange**  
**William Scott Galasso**  
**Tia Haynes**

**Małgorzata Fabrycy**  
**Ivan Gaćina**  
**Roberta Beary**  
**Guliz Mutlu**  
**Jeffrey L. Taylor**  
**Tiffany Shaw-Diaz**  
**Capotă Daniela Lăcrămioara**  
**Munia Khan**  
**Praniti**  
**Randy Brooks**  
**Robert Ronnow**  
**Bob Lucky**  
**Kristen Lindquist**  
**Chen-ou Liu**  
**Roberta Beach Jacobson**  
**Muskaan Ahuja**  
**Rehn Kovacic**  
**Salil Chaturvedi**  
**Rick Jackofsky**  
**Eva Joan**  
**Srinivas S**  
**Michael Baeyens**  
**Devin Harrison**  
**Mike Gallagher**  
**Teiichi Suzuki**  
**Jo Balistreri**

**Robert Witmer**  
**Louise Hopewell**  
**Marta Chocilowska**  
**Agus Maulana Sunjaya**  
**Joanna Ashwell**  
**Olivier Schopfer**  
**Nika**  
**Franjo Ordanić**  
**Vandana Parashar**  
**Robert B McNeill**  
**Ben Gaa**  
**Dan Burt**  
**John Hawkhead**  
**Oscar Luparia**  
**David He**  
**Carmela Marino**  
**Susan Farner**  
**Manoj Sharma**  
**Daniela Misso**  
**Bruce Jewett**  
**Adrian Bouter**  
**Maxianne Berger**  
**Srinivasa Rao Sambangi**  
**Cynthia Rowe**  
**Sanela Pliško**  
**Ana Drobot**

**Pris Campbell**  
**Eufemia Griffo**  
**Rp Verlaine**  
**Valentina Ranaldi-Adams**  
**Veronika Zora Novak**  
**Bruce England**  
**Madhuri Pillai**  
**Ezio Infantino**  
**Tim Gardiner**  
**Lori A. Minor**  
**Julie Bloss Kelsey**  
**Willie R. Bongcaron**  
**Pitt Buerken**  
**Daniel Shank Cruz**  
**Lew Watts**  
**John J. Dunphy**  
**Lorraine A. Padden**  
**Taofeek Ayeyemi**  
**Barbara Kaufmann**  
**Phil Openshaw - Shloka Shankar**  
**Ingrid Baluchi**  
**Natalia Kuznetsova**  
**Susan Burch**  
**Terrie Jacks**  
**Jay Friedenber**  
**Christine Wenk-Harrison**

**Clifford Rames**  
**Carol Raisfeld**  
**Bruce H. Feingold**  
**Radka Mindova - Daniela Targova**  
**Marilyn Ward**  
**David Oates**  
**Adelaide B. Shaw**  
**Jibril Dauda Muhammad**  
**Lucia Cardillo**  
**Kerstin Park**  
**S.Radhamani**  
**Mark Teaford**  
**Michael Feil**  
**Mark Gilbert**  
**Adjei Agyei-Baah**  
**Tsanka Shishkova**  
**Johnnie Johnson Haferník**  
**Claire Vogel Camargo**  
**John J. Han**  
**Gary Colombo De Piazzi**  
**Michael Mann**  
**Ingrid Bruck**  
**Hansha Teki**  
**Irina Guliaeva**  
**Lauren McBride**  
**Marilyn Ashbaugh**

**Gregory Longenecker**

**Nina Kovačić**

**Elaine Wilburt**

**Michael Kitchen**

**Eva Limbach**

**Antonio Mangiameli**

**Kath Abela Wilson**

**Suraja Roychowdhury**

**Bill Kenney**

**Anna Eklund-Cheong**

**Kat Lehmann**

**Sondra J. Byrnes**

**Kevin Valentine**

**Dorothy Burrows**

**Pat Geyer**

**Sanjukta asopa**

**Tomislav Sjekloća**

**Jill Lange**

**Maeve O'Sullivan**

**Robert Moyer**

**Priti Aisola**

**David Kāwika Eyre**

**Lakshmi Iyer**



harvest moon  
his iron soul cuts off  
the refugee s head

**Ivan Klarić**

## Virginia Valediction Revisited

*For David*

Tanbark trails stretch out like splintered, spiritual highways from DC/Dulles airfields to Virginian hills where ticks pepper arms and legs, digging in for corkscrew supper. These days seek measurement—refinement—amid structural chaos, a cosmos aligned through promise, scientific certainty seeking emotional purgation. The feral child within us all grasps for clues to clarify craft and lore, honoring heritage, suckling life span's variations.

Gazing across glassy chocolate colored waters, a pond where baritone bullfrogs set nature's metronome in motion. Buzzing June-bugs quicken the pace: clicking...clicking...clicking..., and the woods, the trees, the eastern seaboard's song cradle cries from lonesome memories healthy heartaches, anniversaries that might have been, yet remain empty fountains, fragile unexplored possibilities.

Championing ecology, resting on religion David quivered like an arrow through wind gusts, arching, piercing an emerald Charlottesville meadow. Exodus followed triumphant smiles, tortured tears, truncated, courageous fellowships, as his life's ripple splashed outwards, curled like circular embraces, moved every direction, clutched for land, merged with twilight's chorus, *adagio*, became one with the lofty landscape, till pastoral harmonies softly faded, leaving behind still water's wake.

motley colored leaves,  
nature's tattoos, awaken  
memories past

**Sterling Warner**

**Then,**

waiting for dad  
to die on his own bed  
alarm goes first

**Now**

I just took a telephone message from my elder brother across the world.

After the usual "how are things, he gently explains he is calling to say his goodbye".

After a moment of silence he states "he is on a medication that keeps him going"

and he "has decided to stop taking it" He has been advised that his ---

line goes dead  
always gets his own way  
another fight lost

**Mac Miller**

self-isolation  
I make peace  
with distant stars

**Hifsa Ashraf**

intensive care  
panoramic view  
of the lava

**Maria Concetta Conti**

check  
engine light  
i call its bluff

arctic blast  
not as fun  
as it sounds

**Charlie Knowlton**

a city window  
the rough-sleeper ponders  
her own face

**Paul Beech**

blue moon  
the strains of our song over  
satellite radio

drift fence  
the lengthening list  
of side effects

**Michael Henry Lee**



hoarder  
his life collecting  
dust

wheat from the chaff  
she lets me go  
to voicemail

downsizing  
a dumpster full  
of you

**Bryan Rickert**

school discipline  
how the nuns  
always found the funny bone

yin and yang  
still not in touch  
with your feminine side

**Tracy Davidson**

## **Pandora's Box**

When I was six Father brought me a box of crayons. In twelve brilliant shades. I was thrilled. I counted all the things I could do with them on my pinkies. Mother actually suggested that I use them for colouring pictures. Of course I found the idea droll. Then the mater told me to go to my room and stay out of mischief because some family friends were to visit us in the evening. Since I would be in my room for ages and ages I decided to do some drawing and colouring.

I first drew an elephant. Coloured it pink. Did some mountains in psychedelic shades. The setting sun I coloured green. A stream running diagonally through seemed about right in a lurid shade of red. Orange clouds dotted the brown sky.

I stepped back to examine my handiwork. I added a few finishing touches and then I was through. I even signed my work with a flourish.

I imagined Dad and Mom going gaga over my painting and proudly declaring me an artist for the times. I almost felt sorry for Picasso and Salvador Dali. Stout fellows. Talented too. But they had met their match in me. I was still strutting about the room cockily when Mom opened the bedroom door and peered inside. I don't think I will ever understand mothers. Really.

Instead of admiring my artwork for the masterpiece it was she shrieked. Like a banshee who has had her toes trodden upon. With spiked shoes.

Then she was scrubbing the bedroom wall vigorously with sponge and soap trying to erase my modernistic landscape, cloud by cloud, stroke by stroke. All the while muttering what she would like to do to

Dad for being ass enough to arm me with a dangerous weapon like a box of crayons. I believe her plans for Father included boiling oil and a blunt skinning knife too.

art show opens...  
the critic's three-page-review  
on the samosas served

**Gautam Nadkarni**

demented mother  
has a single visitor  
someone new each day

**Bart Greene**  
**bartgreenepoetry@gmail.com**  
**<https://bartgreene.com>**

heart me and I'll keep ticking

prizewinning

hot dog

son of lab

**Helen Buckingham**

adultery—  
the thinning tail  
of a rope cloud

**Réka Nyitrai**

Jaguar XK  
no brakes  
beeline highway

**Don Krieger**



fatigue  
sixth sense setting fire  
to the other five

**Jackie Maugh Robinson**

isolated in the house  
the virus that threatens me  
it's boredom

pages of a book  
the fly puts the point  
where the talk ends

**Vincenzo Adamo**

at the farmers' market  
the old guitarist's  
can for coins

after the rain  
granddaughter and I examine  
a worm on my driveway

**Edward J. Rielly**



**Debbie Strange**

this sidewalk  
too small for both of us  
Covid-19

split pill  
feeling better  
by half

mud pies  
slung by children  
angling for votes

**William Scott Galasso**

second marriage  
mother leaves  
the seeds in

light beer  
grandpa says he's watching  
his figure

tracing  
a new skyline  
morning fog

**Tia Haynes**

**[@adaliahaiku](#)**

**[www.adaliahaiku.com](http://www.adaliahaiku.com)**

a lonely struggle  
with the whispers in my head  
it seems I'm losing

**Małgorzata Fabrycy**

first day of school . . .  
the pupils break through  
a dense forest

**Ivan Gaćina**



ragtop moon  
the static thread  
of conversation

first date  
she fillets the fish  
then me

first thaw  
she shaves her legs  
and more

**Roberta Beary**

**<https://twitter.com/shortpoemz>**

puzzle with  
a missing piece  
endless stars

**Guliz Mutlu**

Morning after the election.  
Eucalypts unmoved.  
Maples closer to winter.

Life, liberty, and the pursuit  
of one more birthday.  
Not outdriving our headlights.

**Jeffrey L. Taylor**

migraine  
it's all about  
warwarwar

dawn  
the pedophile  
straightens his tie

Father's Day  
I scrub my hands  
until they bleed

**Tiffany Shaw-Diaz**  
**[afterpinkhaiku.blogspot.com](http://afterpinkhaiku.blogspot.com)**

**Capotă Daniela Lăcrămioara**

**tenacity  
he succeeded  
to break my heart**



traveling to places  
I have never been -  
office window

Capotă Daniela Lăcrămioara



home alone –  
a nest of pigeons  
change my ordinary

27 Februarie

**Capotă Daniela Lăcrămioara**

**P**ăsările cântă. Peste câmpuri s-a lăsat ceața,  
iar cerul e albastru. Stai în pat,  
bucurându-te de aerul dimineții.  
Asta e fericirea!

CLARE CAMERON (1896-1983)



**Capotă Daniela Lăcrămioara**

hepatitis B...  
now she dreams to be  
a sunflower

highway-wheelers -  
spinners of lifespan  
grandpa and dad

graveyard's narrow beds...  
only God knows  
how they rest

**Munia Khan**  
**[Books on Amazon](#)**



struggling to wash away  
the shape of his hug  
...morning laundry

evening bazaar...  
the weighing balance overflows  
with gossip

**Praniti**

moonflowers  
the rabbit decides  
to sleepover

passing Mt. Fuji  
in the bullet train restroom  
a moving experience

strawberry patch  
mother and daughter  
bottoms up

**Randy Brooks**

## **A Yellow Rose**

I am thinking of the day  
    I came to you  
        with a yellow rose

a passing businessman  
    said hello to you  
        you put it in your hair

today is like that day  
    the sun is hot  
        on a crowded city

we are discovering each other  
    anew  
        in the crowd

**Robert Ronnow**

traffic snarl  
the hooker  
checks her mirror

**Bob Lucky**

defensive driving  
a crow crosses  
the double lines

**Kristen Lindquist**

my reflection  
looks a little younger --  
gold-plated casket

hush-hush talk  
of dirty little secrets ...  
campaign trail

**Chen-ou Liu**

shaking her head evolutionary anthropologist

community -  
a gathering  
of porcelain heads

**Roberta Beach Jacobson**

**[@beach haiku](#)**

washing dishes...  
mother's lips  
rebuking someone

**Muskaan Ahuja**  
**[@happylyf04](#)**



red stilettos  
in the back of the closet  
just in case

**Rehn Kovacic**

receding tide. . .  
a plastic doll  
holds up its hand

**Salil Chaturvedi**

music in the air  
a pigeon drops a feather  
in the busker's hat

moonlight serenade  
a mockingbird courting  
our rusty gate

reflections  
in a broken window  
I see right through . . . myself

**Rick Jackofsky**  
[www.rickjackofsky.com](http://www.rickjackofsky.com)

neither time nor space -  
with closed eyes  
heart at heart dreaming

the moon floats slowly  
from east to west -  
night of father's death

**Eva Joan**

lunar eclipse  
the penumbra of reality  
checks on dreams

**Srinivas S**

long night  
i let the last log  
outlast me

**Michael Baeyens**

sweet alyssum  
the humming bees  
at her first prom

last chip  
placed on the roulette wheel  
whirlpool

**Devin Harrison**

my mouth  
to the mouth of the well  
a frog drops in

**Mike Gallagher**



self-isolation--  
rereading  
Camus' La Peste

**Teiichi Suzuki**

wheeling gramma...  
the big curve of her wave  
at city traffic

**Jo Balistreri**

back home  
how quickly she removes  
her smile

bedtime story  
I do what fathers do  
try to wake my wife

candlelight Chinese  
we open up  
our fortune cookies

**Robert Witmer**

empty guitar case  
a busker sings  
the blues

the boss asks  
for volunteers  
dead pot plant

**Louise Hopewell**

empty streets  
a jackdaw practices  
dumpster diving

**Marta Chocilowska**

gloomy Friday  
father's footprints  
filled with rain

**Agus Maulana Sunjaya**

splash-down  
my size fives  
within a rainbow

de-railed  
the empty carriage  
inside me

**Joanna Ashwell**

your voice softer twilight

rush hour

the elderly woman

with her walker

**Olivier Schopfer**



*rollercoaster ride  
the on again off again  
squeeze of her hand*

*- Nika*

**Nika**

black forest cake  
my low carb diet starts  
tomorrow

**Franjo Ordanić**

waves bring back  
the trash I throw in  
ah! the karma

**Vandana Parashar**

deep into  
the seed catalog ...  
fertility clinic

winter sun --  
too much pancake  
for the butter

**Robert B McNeill**

happy hour  
a gaggle of grannies  
splitting fries

dry spell  
we speak of thunder  
in bed

the long and short of it  
elevators fart

**Ben Gaa**

the pause  
at the top of a leap  
ballet dancer

**Dan Burt**  
[@danburt](#)

memory foam  
still holding its shape  
her side of the bed

**John Hawkhead**

indian summer  
taking pictures of the park  
in black and white

knitted gloves...  
grandma's hands  
for my hands

**Oscar Luparia**

**<https://issuu.com/oscarluparia>**



rustling grass  
a rabbit stares  
into its shadow

**David He**

Quarantine  
Grandma's advice  
return useful

Day of rebirth  
among the saints I make room  
for the buddha

**Carmela Marino**

after 70 years  
I learned to refold  
the road map

10 hour road trip  
the taste of stale  
water bottle water

**Susan Farner**

crowded sidewalk . . .  
losing control  
over my fart

**Manoj Sharma**  
**[@SharmaBkag](#)**

family warmth...  
speaking of expenses  
by the fireplace

**Daniela Misso**

snowflakes bigger  
than peony blossoms  
old japanese print

**Bruce Jewett**

**<http://brucejewett.wordpress.com>**

COVID-19

he smokes a cigar  
with his beer

co-ku she claims one third of it

**Adrian Bouter**

maple urn  
she and her mother  
back to gossiping

after hours  
the silhouettes  
of a mop and pail

peeling gilt  
the cherub  
twice naked

**Maxianne Berger**



khadi clothes  
the color of our leader  
goes with the season

**Srinivasa Rao Sambangi**

newborn  
the tumbleweed gathers  
another twig



**Cynthia Rowe**  
[www.cynthiarowe.com.au](http://www.cynthiarowe.com.au)

palm reader  
my love line  
has a typo

**Sanela Pliško**

opening  
an old love letter -  
tornado

desert storm -  
another attempt  
to redecorate

**Ana Drobot**

drive-in movie...  
us in our triple A's  
and Liz in a slip

Alzheimers  
I hold her lost memories  
safe in mine

**Pris Campbell**

prayer time  
the distant chant  
of birds

lockdown  
filling our silence  
new silence

quarantine time  
imagining the shape  
first leaves

**Eufemia Griffo**

**<https://ilfiumescorreancora.wordpress.com/>**

shooting star  
the thought of our shadows  
touching

**Rp Verlaine**

spring equinox  
seeking Libra  
in the night sky

estate sale -  
pieces of her  
scatter

**Valentina Ranaldi-Adams**



moonlit sakura  
he becomes each breath  
I breathe

its scent  
before I feel it  
plum rain

harsh winter  
the prostitute becomes  
a Buddha

**Veronika Zora Novak**

In a dream  
a spirit actor portrayed  
my father

Concert over –  
the people walking outside  
still vibrating

**Bruce England**

6 am gym  
even the instructor  
glum

to save trees  
or conserve water...  
paper plates

alteration  
she pins my waist  
into shape

**Madhuri Pillai**

always empty  
the barber's shop  
when he's tipsy

haircut  
my barber speaks with the mirror

**Ezio Infantino**

single cell  
our hopes multiply  
in a petri dish

lion's den whip crack echo

**Tim Gardiner**

## **Season Six, Episode Four**

They say that taste buds change as we get older, but isn't it much more than what pleases the tongue? What about what cleanses the soul?

almost thirty  
no longer able  
to hold my liquor

ROSES SHE STOPS TO SMELL THE SEXISM



LORI A MINOR

Lori A. Minor

[@femkupoetry](https://twitter.com/femkupoetry)

[loriaminor.wixsite.com/poet](http://loriaminor.wixsite.com/poet)

how American culture  
shapes my daughter—  
training bra

**Julie Bloss Kelsey**

**[@MamaJoules](#) on Twitter**

**[@JulieBlossKelsey](#) on Instagram**



covid lockdown --  
here we all are, prisoners  
of sanity

kitchen tricks...  
she never stops  
to amaze me

**Willie R. Bongcaron**

spring again  
the nightingale this year  
with a new chartbuster

under the streetlamp  
the drunk is covering  
his shadow

**Pitt Buerken**

moonlight  
he dreams  
of the wrong woman

espresso martini  
the scar  
on her lip

**Daniel Shank Cruz**  
**Twitter: [@shankcruz](https://twitter.com/shankcruz)**

3<sup>rd</sup> birthday  
she says the name Granddad  
is taken

foreplay at dawn  
on the tip of my tongue  
her name

**Lew Watts**

still in the toilet  
after my flush  
moonlight

reunion  
I toast the class bully  
among the deceased members' photos

**John J. Dunphy**

tiny purple hearts  
flowers  
on the soldier's casket

absolute zero  
her divorce settlement  
finalized

**Lorraine A. Padden**

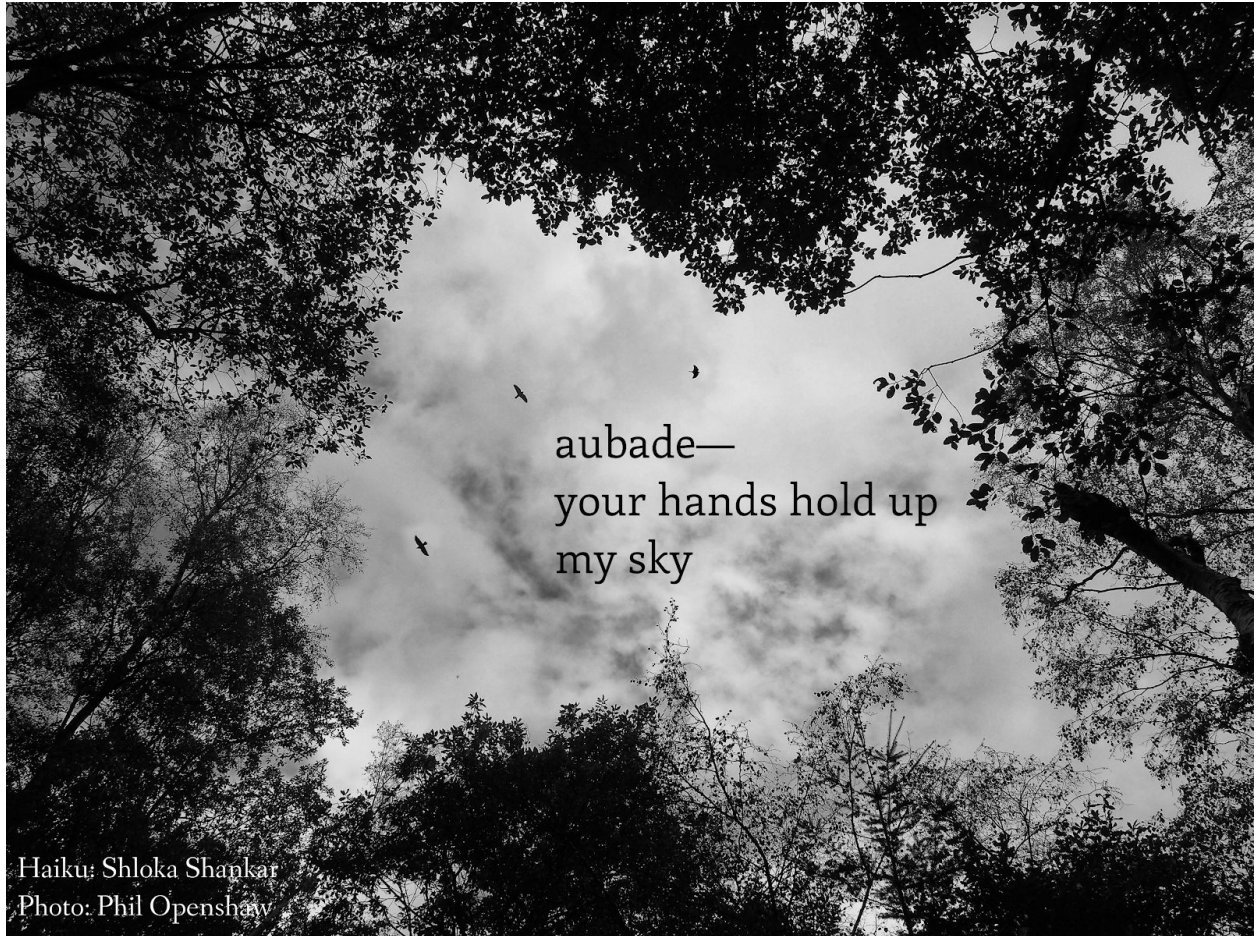
bridal shower  
her besties unwrap  
her secrets

**Taofeek Ayeyemi**



**Barbara Kaufmann**





**Phil Openshaw - Photo**  
**Shloka Shankar - Senryu**

mid-summer  
flip-flops slapping past  
the shoeshine boy

**Ingrid Baluchi**

half-moon  
peeping into the parlor  
half-truths

**Natalia Kuznetsova**

at the front door  
of our therapist –  
a shouting match

finally meeting  
his mom –  
his funeral

**Susan Burch**

on the garden path  
the spirit of my dog  
checks his ashes

**Terrie Jacks**

family argument we drive past the scenic views

covering his tracks . . . the zen gardener

condom machine

we dispense

with the pleasantries

**Jay Friedenber**

star struck  
celebrity on Rodeo Drive  
Curiosity on Mars

night lightning  
science students investigate  
grandpa's still

**Christine Wenk-Harrison**

Hemingway's marlin  
her last kiss  
still on my lips

uncle's funeral  
reminiscing about the time  
he faked his death

**Clifford Rames**



painstakingly  
he writes a sonnet  
about Dracula

morning headache  
all this mumbling about  
the wrath of grapes

surprise -  
stepping out of the shower  
the dog's cold nose

**Carol Raisfeld**  
twitter: [@carol red](#)

the chef spins  
a pizza on a trident  
Trevi Fountain



**Bruce H. Feingold**



**Haiku Radka Mindova**  
**Photo Daniela Targova**

## **Covid ku**

Thursday evening  
my neighbour's applause  
in an empty street

Covid19  
the vuvuzelas praise  
from a healthy lung

online shopping  
a virtual cart's  
slow movement

a fall of petals  
the good neighbour  
sends condolences

dead leaves rustle  
our today has become  
yesterday's fiction

**Marilyn Ward**

after Dad's gone  
in the back of a drawer  
plastic vampire teeth

in an Athens bar  
the bathroom sign  
“Whichever”

**David Oates**

[@witnwords1](#)

[davidoatesathensga.com](#)

Christmas night  
too tired to feel  
any more joy

Battle of the Bulge  
nine days before Christmas  
a reminder

**Adelaide B. Shaw**

**<https://adelaide-whitepetals.blogspot.com>**

source code—  
a clone of grandmother's body  
my sister

**Jibril Dauda Muhammad**



dragonfly wings ...  
this light feeling  
of solitude

ali di libellula ... così lieve questo senso / di solitudine

**Lucia Cardillo**

petroglyphs -  
from my daughter  
a fresh selfie

the owl's repeating  
an eighth note  
insomnia

**Kerstin Park**

exam time-  
every ten minutes- mother's  
cardamom tea

**S.Radhamani**

still face to face  
a portrait and a child  
in chador

**Mark Teafor**

picking their noses  
making change, filling orders  
the drive-up's new help

**Michael Feil**

I thought I was safely self-isolating in my car when a tiny being  
shimmied down from somewhere on a silken lifeline and started to  
explore the contours of my sleeve.

coronavirus  
a money spider  
immune

**Mark Gilbert**

wedding procession  
the bridesmaid  
winks at me

cotton cloud  
grandfather's grey hair  
lost in the harvest

**Adjei Agyei-Baah**



**Tsanka Shishkova**



learning languages  
never my strength  
porpoise talk

**Johnnie Johnson Hafernik**

trusting him  
the different angles  
of falling rain

**Claire Vogel Camargo**

funeral over  
a man confides his crush  
to the widow

hard to feel sorry—  
he says his BMW  
is totaled

**John J. Han**

old lovers  
her hand weaves through peach petals  
falling

**Gary Colombo De Piazzi**

the dark storm  
in her eyes this time --  
tsunami

**Michael Mann**

the fog!  
the gloom!  
my dirty glasses

**Ingrid Bruck**

out of gods  
the tui settles into  
room for doubt

nectar-gorged  
the tui communes  
with itself

out of breath  
the tui waits out  
the moment

**Hansha Teki**

wasps  
above the peach  
dating site registration

**Irina Guliaeva**



stepping on the scales  
deciding my mood, my meals,  
my clothes for the day

charity donation  
bit by bit  
letting you go

**Lauren McBride**

fresh manure  
on the farm fields  
election results

**Marilyn Ashbaugh**

the first cry  
of his harmonica  
panhandler

flat skies she watches as I pack

changing the course  
of conversation  
butterfly wings

**Gregory Longenecker**

the small hours  
cockroaches have a party  
in a bathroom

a black eye...  
he insists on “stumbling  
down the steps”

**Nina Kovačić**

toddler  
stands on a table—  
grandpa's new rules

**Elaine Wilburt**

in the hotel  
sharing the king-sized mattress  
with acres of empty space

**Michael Kitchen**

**[www.dohaeng.com](http://www.dohaeng.com)**

wedding day –  
our vintage vehicle  
freshly polished

**Eva Limbach**

tattoo -  
another name  
over mine

**Antonio Mangiameli**



snowy evening  
letting the deer  
into the concert

driftwood beach  
all those discarded  
pencils and flutes

**Kath Abela Wilson**

Paris dinner  
jumping into the soup  
a french fly

family time  
all day spent talking  
of the neighbors

**Suraja Roychowdhury**

music in the park  
the teenager rocks  
her sleeping baby

**Bill Kenney**

dead flashlight and candle stubs ...  
not quite the boy scout  
he used to be

crack of dawn ...  
Crayola's biggest box  
not up to the task

yard sale--  
Eeyore and Chewbacca  
having tea

**Anna Eklund-Cheong**

cascading stream  
the inner place that is still  
stilled

**Kat Lehmann**

letter to an old love  
c/o memory care center—  
return to sender

checking often  
to see if i'm liked  
hating myself

**Sondra J. Byrnes**

hot and sour soup  
father demands to know  
my name

dad's 75th  
an old sailor's memory  
washes out to sea

**Kevin Valentine**

an old woman  
in my clothes  
steals my reflection

my own toys  
neatly arranged  
in the museum

**Dorothy Burrows**

**Twitter: [@rambling dot](https://twitter.com/rambling_dot)**



curving and curling...  
witch hazel you free spirit  
dowse me a spring

**Pat Geyer**

patches of snow  
missed appointment  
with the hair-colorist

thin ice  
I weigh  
each word

class reunion ...  
we take care to powder  
our scars

**Sanjuktaa asopa**

true love  
finishing each other's  
sen...ryu

break-up  
shoe box with memories  
monster under the bed

**Tomislav Sjekloća**

giraffe  
time-shifting  
to unicorn

into the wild white snow falling in love with dry wool socks

**Jill Lange**

Canaletto cityscape:  
the front of his patron's house  
touched up

**Maeve O'Sullivan**

**Twitter [@writefromwithin](https://twitter.com/writefromwithin)**

Xmas vacation  
we binge watch COLUMBO  
again

seeing the tops  
of everyone's heads  
Tokyo subway

**Robert Moyer**

silverfish  
in a book case ...  
new maps emerge

**Priti Aisola**

warm wind  
the tip of the cat's tail  
dreaming

her old hairbrush  
a mosquito alights  
on its bristles

**David Kāwika Eyre**





**Lakshmi Iyer**

Mike Rehling  
**'Failed'** Editor  
[editor@failedhaiku.com](mailto:editor@failedhaiku.com)

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