

HAIKU/SENRYU

still pond
a lotus blossom
blooms alone

houseplant
I set it outside
to worship the sun

the crabapple tree
bore small fruit
in your absence

on the calendar
my dead mother's birthday
circled in blue

garden hose
coiled in surprise
first frost

full tea mug
warms nine remaining fingers
gunpowder blend

the path diverges
I turn around
and go back

TANKA

years of buttons
in a glass Ball jar
the blue one on the top
so far from the blue one
on the bottom

all around the house
grey with white trim
to blend with neighbors
out in front spring flowers
roar like thunder

summer prairie grass
undulates
a million finger wave
makes me feel welcome over
and over and over again
my two children
show no fear
of what's in this life
or what happens in the next
they have no children

once upon a time
I gave you a poem
you still carry it
in your overstuffed wallet
next to an insurance card

AMERICAN SENTENCES

I open my eyes in dark and wait for the dark to become less dark.

New phone set to generic ringtones, I'm not really technical.

The young and beautiful things at the gym ignore my wrinkled old ass.

Subzero morning, breath fogs circular patterns on the cold windshield.

A snarl of wasps built a multi-story condo over my front door.

Roaming the huge Walmart parking lot, wondering where I left my car.

[Continue reading](#)