PRESS RELEASE

The Walt Whitman International Poetry Center presents one of America's finest poets Nick Virgilio on February 4th at 12 noon in the Poetry Center at 2nd and Cooper Streets, Camden, New Jersey. The Camden-born poet will read from his prize-winning poetry published by Doubleday in the Haiku Anthology edited by Cor van den heuvel. The Anthology is one of the few collections of poems that is a best-seller.

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Virgilio graduated from Camden High School and attended the College of South Jersey. He graduated from Temple University in 1952. Virgilio spent several years as a professional radio announcer before his second career of poet and lecturer. The public is invited to hear the Camden poet. Admission free. The Walt Whitman International Poetry Center is located in Johnson Park at 2nd and Cooper Streets, Camden, New Jersey. For further information, write to Frederick Missimer, Coordinator, Camden Bicentennial Advisory Board, Bureau of Intergovernmental Relations, 22 Haddon Avenue, Camden, New Jersey 08103. Telephone 757-7345 Area Code 609.
Old rabbi
unrolling Torah scroll:
bitter cold.

Sycamore Street:
a series of cicadas
increases the heat.

where the battlefield
narrows to cattle paths
the dew on the grass.

beneath the cracked bell
still echoing from rafters:
black children's laughter.

monastery ruins:
a string of staggered flagstones
stops at the mirrored moon.

winter wind
turning back a blanket of pine boughs
uncovers the grave

father and son
sitting at opposite poles
cross lines in the creek

a distant bell buoy,
and the fog horn beyond:
the cry of a gull.

a sailing horsefly
tyi ng its trail into knots
plots the hot wind's course.

Thanksgiving alone
ordering scrambled eggs and toast
in an undertone.

Now the days are long
through the blazing heat and haze:
sp r a y s of sparrow song.

Tenement child
talks to himself, smiles, draws
an elf with chalk.

from the small coffin
dripping all summer night long:
the song of the ice.

atop the town flagpole,
a gob of bubblegum
holds my dead brother's dime

(revised) Moonlight on the dump
adding a new name:
cousins at the wake
the pallbearer's glove
the old mission bell
winter wind
turning back a blanket of pine boughs
un covers the grave

father and son
sitting at opposite poles
cross lines in the creek

a distant bell buoy,
and the fog horn beyond:
the cry of a gull.

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tyi ng its trail into knots
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Modern Haiku

\( \text{treetop cardinal stops} \)
\( \text{How the days are long} \)
\( \text{darkening bay} \)
\( \text{the stagnant stream starts} \)
\( \text{the wind-swept yard} \)
\( \text{the muskrat hunter's hound} \)
\( \text{in the darkened theatre} \)
\( \text{on the littered beach} \)

\( \text{flag-covered coffin} \)
\( \text{morning twilight...dandelion} \)
\( \text{hospital quiet} \)
\( \text{fading maple shading} \)

\[ \text{Dragonfly} \]

\( \text{the proch chimes tinkle} \)
\( \text{How the wind has ceased} \)
\( \text{unfolding the tale...darning needle} \)
\( \text{Autumn nightfall unveiling small coffin} \)
\( \text{the duckling's feet} \)
\( \text{faucet-drip} \)
\( \text{my shirt sticks to me} \)
\( \text{mother and daughter criticize} \)
\( \text{an autumn evening...black boy} \)
\( \text{gold before the storm} \)
\( \text{summer wind strumming vine} \)
\( \text{autumn morning...mock funeral} \)
\( \text{Souls in midnight fog} \)
\( \text{The Aztec ruins} \)
\( \text{Now the woods is mute} \)
\( \text{tiny fist} \)
\( \text{a lone song sparrow} \)
\( \text{factory silhouette} \)
\( \text{empty phone booth} \)
\( \text{mating cardinals} \)
\( \text{up the winding path} \)
\( \text{bronze vases} \)
\( \text{Confederate graveyard} \)
\( \text{the town atheist} \)
\( \text{the temple bell tolls} \)
\( \text{stops to mop his brow} \)
\( \text{the empty hotel} \)
\( \text{Feuding farmers} \)
\( \text{a flock of fireflies} \)
\( \text{the first butterfly} \)
\( \text{the March snowstorm} \)

\[ \text{PRIMER} \]

\[ \text{the Windless Orchard} \]

\( \text{autumn nightfall wailing wall} \)
\( \text{gold before the storm} \)
\( \text{my shirt sticks to me} \)
\( \text{Confederate graveyard} \)
\( \text{factory silhouette} \)
\( \text{empty phone booth} \)
\( \text{mating cardinals} \)
\( \text{up the winding path} \)
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\( \text{stops to mop his brow} \)
\( \text{the empty hotel} \)
\( \text{Feuding farmers} \)
\( \text{a flock of fireflies} \)
\( \text{the first butterfly} \)
\( \text{the March snowstorm} \)

\( \text{the hearst rumble by} \)
\( \text{monastery gate} \)
\( \text{now the pond is still} \)
\( \text{the scum-coated pond} \)
\( \text{the first dragonfly} \)
\( \text{drifting on the lake} \)
\( \text{the shrouded moon} \)
\( \text{where the churchyard sign} \)
\( \text{among tall grass} \)
\( \text{how many springs since} \)
\( \text{wind on the withered lawn} \)
\( \text{where brave deeds rallied} \)
\( \text{the first mosquito...barrel} \)
\( \text{the dead bard's dooryard} \)
\( \text{the old folks home} \)
\( \text{bardine fishermen} \)
\( \text{Walt Whitman's Tomb} \)
\( \text{as morning mist lifts} \)
\( \text{Christmas morning} \)
\( \text{a chorus of stars} \)
\( \text{from the temple bell} \)
\( \text{autumn midnight...family circle} \)
\( \text{autumn midnight...raccoon mask} \)
\( \text{the first mosquito blesses birth record} \)
\( \text{now the bell is cracked} \)
\( \text{summer wind sweeping beach} \)
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The Moonlighter
Cold moonlight pierces lonely Suburbia
Frozen in ermine awaiting White Death
To open the door and sigh hello.

talent
coming out
of his ears
danced
sang
played
clarinet
talent
coming out
of his ears
comedy
mimicry
buzz saw
handsaw
electric drill
police whistle
siren
full-scale battle
silence

The bare maple sways,
and a tire on a wire cable
swings in the spring air.

Now the gang is still:
the monastery pond
mirrors the autumn moon.

An autumn evening...
leaving the convent for good:
the road through the woods

Incoming fog
is covering rocks and rusty hulls
with flocks of gulls.

A mangled mallard
floating on the cedar lake:
the wake of a speedboat.

A squawking marsh hawk
is sharpening the bite
of the March night wind.

plantation ruins:
rope dangling from a dead oak
hangs the autumn moon.

My dead brother...
hearing his laugh
in my laughter.

Walt Whitman Hotel
with all its windows knocked out:
cicada shell.

Kennedy cortège:
creeping caisson
crushes pebble.

Like the distant sail
lingering in spring mist:
the fingernail moon.

From the willow
it fell into the empty grave:
cicada shell.
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the quarter moon—

tonight a runaway dance

rides the white water.

under the closed coffin,

over the open grave:

the autumn wind.

Beyond the hillside pines

silhouetted by the sun:

the Yellow River.

creeping sunlight:

rows and rows of white crosses

shadow the beach below.

shore

mosquito columns:

a zigzagging dragonfly

skis down the slalom.

The old wooden bridge

beyond the reach of willows:

the bend in the creek.

Independence Day

between the firefly and I:

high barbed wire fence

standing in tall grass

talking in the autumn wind:

tongues of tombstones.

dead oak tree

half in sunlight

half in shadow

the flag's shadow

stretching to the crater

measures the moon

attacking sea gulls

have backed a hermit crab

into a conch shell

Easter alone

composing my epitaph:

the "lily" poem.
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March snowstorm
lying on the bedroom floor:
my father is born.

on the veranda
in the moonlight, an inchworm
measures the short night

the town church bell tolls
and the funeral procession
approaches the knoll.

the displaced farmer
has borrowed the scarecrow's arms
and sorrowful face.

the old broom salesman
sure he's all sold out:
Halloween moon

dancing together—
dancing apart—sensing the child:
her quickening heart.

city cemetery
and the condominium beyond:
the autumn wind.

Grandfather's clock tick-tocking
prime time violence

television silences

deepening snow
creeping down the pebbled path:
ebbing creek.

cemetery silence
with a downcast look
hands what the teacher demands
snake in a match box

with a downcast look
hands what the teacher demands:
snake in a match box.

old broom salesman
sure he's all sold out:
Halloween moon.

The bitter cold wind
bamboo
taking up the rusty rake
scatters leaves and litter
to
that last snowball
has knocked the old scarecrow
for a cocked hat.

the afternoon wind
is aiming the daft weather vane
at the feather moon.
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down the tracks meeting evening sun: butterfly

down the tracks in the evening sun: white butterfly

a string of bright lights
draping the rusty fire escape:
tenement Christmas.

leaving the farm,
taking the scarecrow along:
the road to the city.

a distant bell buoy
tolling in the morning mist:
the smell of mackerel.

city park
Chinese women gathering
fallen gingko fruit.

Windy city park:
Chinese women gathering
fallen gingko fruit.

the tidal creek ebbs
creeping down the pebbled edge:
deepening snow

the tidal creek ebbs
creeping down the pebbled edge:
freezing rain and sleet.

up the flagstone path
to monastery ruins:
zigzagging dragonfly.

street market glows
through sleet and snow flurries:
hurrying feet.

suburban scarecrow
wearing his Sunday suit
sends his shadow to church.

a bell buoy tolls
and a dragonfly perches
bamboo
on my fishing pole

deepening snow
creeping down the pebbled beach
tidal creek ebbs.

deepening snow
creeping down pebbled beach;
ebbing creek.

over the banana tree
crescent moon

the meadowlark's song
has drawn the lost child
to wild strawberries

a school of gold carp
streaking through
parting the darkened creek
the path of the sun.

my father tells me
of the larch snowstorm
the night he was born
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early autumn journal; entering observations centering on Walden

the first icy blast fastens blades of faded grass to the passing horse

on the city dump covered with frozen snow: the last television.

on the city dump silenced by the first snow:
saffron
Under the yellow moon over the sunflower field

Century plant blooming in the moonlight
desert New Year's.

the town misanthrope praying for a cold downpour
frowns on Christmas Day.

the wind-swept prairie; humble tumbleweed becomes
the eagle's aerie.

old rag-picker
shouldering a bag of bones;
bitter cold

an autumn evening... alone
leaving her aged mother:
cursing the nursing home.

the old Zen master

gazing at the hazy moon
empties the temple.

a band of gypsy moths garlands the barn lantern:
the harvest moon.

Easter alone
counting motes in sunbeams:
sins to atone.

dark autumn night
peeping through the keyhole: blinding light.

Tenement Christmas:
filling the holey stocking
with empty sentiment.

Tenement Christmas:
filling the empty stocking
with false sentiment.

spring planting
slushing through the rice paddy
pregnant peasant.
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wild blackberries
face
staining my and hands:
thorn-calligraphy.

autumn nightfall
starring
autumn nightfall
staring at the empty house
recalling the shrews.

the icy willow
bending low dyeing its hair
in afterglow.

down the trail from town,
boys shouldering bamboo poles
ignore the school bell.

Suburban scarecrow
wearing his Sunday suit
follows his shadow to church.

down the dusty trail
shouldering bamboo poles:
distant school bell.

down the lake trail
shouldering bamboo poles:
distant school bell.

down through the pines
shouldering bamboo poles:
distant school bell.

waiting at the border gate

Russian reporters
waiting at the border gate:
short night.

master artist
carves the harvest moon

ghetto youngster's face
against the cakestore window
awakens hunger.

ghetto youngster's face
against bakery showcase
awakens hunger.

the farmer's daughter
carting water in the heat
stops to cool her feet.

stars overhead,
dandelion underfoot:
fireflies.

after Thoreau's Journal

a rusty shopping cart
blocking straining the drainage ditch
contains a rotting carp.

maiden in the lake
wading among the lilies
one for each breast

under the new moon
over tenement roofs

under the new moon,
over the tenement roof:
runaway balloon.
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November morning:
counting the names of the dead
in the ballot box.

Easter morning mist
lifting from the distant hill
unveils the crucifix.

Easter morning mist
lifting from the distant dale
unveils the crucifix.

the town dog-catcher
the town dog-catcher
chasing a rare butterfly:
a netful of air.

young violinist
practicing in the attic
scatters the mice.

cathedral ruins:
a broken stained-glass window
frames the yellow moon.

Easter alone
in the radio station
at the microphone.

down the dusty trail,
from town shouldering bamboo poles
tale of the fishing hole
down the trail from town;
boys shouldering bamboo poles:
distant school bell tolls.

the bride's bustled gown
rustling in the sudden breeze:
the sound of young leaves.

suburban scarecrow
sending his shadow to church
wears his Sunday suit.

Suburban scarecrow
sending his shadow to church
wearing his Sunday suit.

town dog-catcher
chasing rare butterfly:
netful of air.

young violinist
practicing in the attic
scattering mice.

neighborhood kids
opening fire hydrants:
city heat wave.

kids in the street
opening fire hydrants:
city heat.

the bride's bustled gown
rustling in the sudden breeze.
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old battlefield
littered with skulls and bones;
bitter cold.

after chatting
with the children and young teacher:
how old I am.
drenching the ovens
drenching the ovens
of the concentration camp:
cold morning rain.

Visiting Auschwitz,
into the empty ovens:
cold morning rain.

Visiting Auschwitz
in the empty ovens
Visiting Auschwitz,
into the empty ovens:
autumn wind and rain.

over the schoolhouse,
scribbled on the slate-grey sky:
a verse of blackbirds.

over the schoolhouse,
scribbled on the slate sky:
a verse of blackbirds.

November morning...
November election:
dropping another dead name
in the ballot box.

Visiting Auschwitz
in the cold morning rain:
the empty ovens.

summer burial

high sky and heat wave:
a flag-covered coffin
over the open grave.

Visiting Auschwitz
in the cold morning rain;
the empty ovens,

high sky and heat wave
hovering over the grave:
flag-covered coffin.

high sky and heat wave
dragonfly hovering the grave
flag-covered coffin.

on the small coffin,
dew blends with holy water:
autumn nightfall.

on the small coffin,
dew blends with holy water
and cold morning rain.

flag-covered coffin,
dragonfly hovering the grave:
high sky and heat wave.

November morning:
dropping the name of the dead
in the ballot box.
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city cicada
solo in a sycamore:
the park guard snores.

intersecting paths
quarter the young rice paddy:
kasa seal.

street market glows
through sleet and snow flurries
hurrying feet.

street market flows
through sleet and snow flurries:
hurrying feet.

street market glows
through sleet and snow flurries:

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In the robin's nest
breaking out of the eggshell
the yellow moon.

the winnowing wind

winter lightning
lighting up the cemetery
frightens the flower thief.

crossing paths
quarter the rice paddy
kasa in the corner

mission bell tower
showered with pigeon droppings

rice paddy
quartered by crossing paths

intersecting paths
cut rice paddy into quarters:
cornered kasa.

intersecting paths
quarter the rice paddy:
cornered kasa

a distant drumbeat
through the summer morning mist:
the rising river.

under the saffron cloth,
under the deerskin cushion:
clump of summer grass.

the pallbearer's glove
fallen on the small coffin
holds the autumn wind.

street market beats
through sleet and snow flurries:
hurrying feet.

on a rose petal,
on the flag-covered coffin:
a firefly settles.

intersection paths
quarter the rice paddy:
cornered kasa.

empty park bench
carved with hearts and initials:
marble monuments.

flight after flight
passing over the fallow field
the scarecrow points south

flight after flight
over the fallow field:
scarecrow points south.

Easter morning Mass:
wearing the same hat and dress
staring at each other.
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my parents grow old,
and I contemplate marriage:
bitter cold.

In the convent garden,
a string of rosary beads:
the dew on the grass.

the convent garden
dripping with rosary beads:
the dew on the grass.

the autumn gale
parting the far willow
unveils the yellow moon.

beneath a human skull
bleaching in desert sun:
sleeping scorpion.

perching in the weeds,
a redheaded woodpecker
inspects a dead reed.

farmer's daughter
with water jar in her arms
the shout from the far field

After Labor Day,
the parade of cicadas
fades into haze.

the first mosquito
rising from the rain barrel:
leaves the evening moon.

an autumn evening...
leaving the empty ballroom:
facing the full moon.

alone unmasking
facing up to the full moon:
the empty ballroom.

alone unmasking
in the cold wind, facing up
to the autumn moon.

on a rose petal
lying on the little coffin:
a firefly settles.

on a rose petal
lying on the little coffin:
a firefly settles.

alone unmasking
facing up to the full moon
alone unmasking
facing up to the full moon
on the windy hill.

the street
the spinning wheel hums
through dust motes in a sunbeam:
a fly to and from.

grandfather's footprints
fading at the fork in the road:
deepening snow.
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New Year's Eve and more:
dropping another copper
in the top drawer.

New Year's Eve alone:
dropping another copper
in the top drawer.

hospital quiet
at twilight, a cicada
drops in the willow.

hospital zone
at twilight, a lone cicada
disturbs the quiet.

city heat wave
opening fire hydrants
kids in the street.

down lovers' lane
leading the

down lovers' lane
leading to the town graveyard:

autumn wind and rain.

on a rose petal
lying on the small coffin
a firefly settles...glows.

on a rose petal
lying on the little coffin:

a firefly settles...glows.

an autumn evening
leaving the slave quarters for

autumn evening...
leaving the slave quarters:

path to the graves.

the autumn wind
parting the far willow
unveils the yellow moon

after the ball,
unmasking facing up
to the full moon.

evening sleet
disappearing into the creek
the missing child's sleet.

first dandelion

down lovers' lane
leading to the graveyard:

cold wind and rain.

hospital quiet

hospital quiet
at twilight, a cicada
builds in the willow.

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tenement rat
lapping up spilt milk:
baseball bat.

tenement rat
lapping up spilt milk:
baseball bat.

distant campfire
dancing in the misty darkness
inspires gypsy airs

school of gold carp
parking the old pond:
path of the sun.

a distant siren
and the forest fire beyond:
the cry of a deer.

dew on the coffin
blending with holy water:
the autumn wind.

under thunderheads,
over the far river bridge:
crisscrossing sunbeams.

In the church garden,
a string of rosary beads:
the dew on the grass.

on the small coffin
dewdrops and holy water
on the small coffin
sprinkled with holy water:
dewdrops and spring rain.
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the empty cellar

farmer's daughter
with a water jar in her arms:
the road to the far field.

distant train whistle
echoing through rain and mist:
missing mourning dove.

the coffin lowers, and a firefly arises from a fallen rose.

distant campfire
dancing in the misty darkness:
band of gypsies.

beneath a cow skull
bleaching in the desert sun:
a scorpion sleeps.

beneath a sheep skull
bleaching in the desert sun:
a scorpion sleeps.

Tiny emcee
unrolling
Tiny emcee
beginning the schoolyard play
Tiny emcee

empty park bench
carved with hearts and initials;
the years of the war.

beneath a human skull
bleaching in desert sun:
a scorpion sleeps.

empty park bench
carved with hearts and initials:
the scars of war.

another flight
over the fallow field:
scarecrow points south.

autumn wind-blown
on the stone steps of the temple
crushed chrysanthemum.

today's newspaper
 tucked under my overcoat; bucking the cold wind.
parked by the dark lake
up to the hubcaps in mud:
the moon in a puddle.

the coffin lowers, and a firefly emerges from a fallen rose.

Holland in May.
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a speckled trout
spitting out the silver spoon
ripples the April moon.

a cloud of suds
scudding across the muddy creek
cold misty beach
echoes from a rusty shipwreck
and an empty shell

an autumn evening

as we leave the church
with the flag-covered coffin:

as the moon
in a vault in the hillsides;
Walt Whitman’s Tomb.

near the snowy edge
of the frozen creek, muskrats
gnaw the withered hedge.

timber rattler
coiling on pine needles:
cicada.

distant candlelight
dancing in misty darkness
sparks the starry night.

The funeral train
lighting up the midnight rain
contains Lincoln’s coffin.

mending the crack in the bell

a school of gold carp
dark
scattering in the lake shallows
rambles the yellow moon.

moonlight and biting wind:
an old muskrat trapper
treads the frozen meadow.

cold misty beach
echoes from a rusty shipwreck
and screeching gulls.

cold misty beach
echoes from a rusty hull
and screeching gulls.

the cold tidal creek
creeping up the bridle path
reaches the frightened colt.

distant campfire light
dancing in misty darkness
sparks the starry night.

a song sparrow
slipping off an icy reed
flops into deep snow.

tenement rat
lapping up the spilt milk
PRESS RELEASE

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human fetus
tossed in the garbage can
tropic heat.

human fetus
rots on the garbage heap:
tropic heat.

on the garbage heap
fuming in the tropic heat:
human fetus.

atop the garbage heap
fuming in tropic heat:
human fetus.

on the ferris wheel,
mustard and cotton candy:
clou

on the ferris wheel,
custard and cotton candy:
billowing clouds.

the first cicada
has caused the busy dentist
to pause and listen.

deep in the woods,
diminishing raindrops:
dry brook.

bitter cold wind
has blown the wreath and flowers
from mother's grave.

In the sickroom
sitting up by the window:
the harvest moon.

where red-winged blackbirds
perched in cattail and wild rice:
The Church of St. Francis.

a capsized rowboat
rising on the icy bay:
the beat of the drumfish.

a capsized rowboat
on the bottom of the bay
the beat of the drumfish

rising and falling
beneath the capsized rowboat:
the beat of the drumfish

beneath the rowboat
drifting on the misty bay
the beat of the drumfish

rising and falling
beneath the empty rowboat:
the beat of the drumfish.

has brought the last cicada
to a grinding halt.
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Alone in the church

at nightfall, reaching the last
Station of the Cross

Alone in the church

Hidden from the moon
in a vault in the hillside
Walt Whitman’s Tomb

Where the autumn moon
surprised a band of vandals
Walt Whitman’s Tomb

Where the rising moon
surprised a band of vandals:
Walt Whitman’s Tomb

a cicada cries
out of the crack in the bell:
a buzzing horsefly.

now the moon is down
beyond the cemetery,
beyond the ghost town.

Great bronze Buddha
with verdigris and graffiti
lap filled with litter

Great bronze Buddha
engraved with grime and graffiti
lap filled with litter
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the tidal creek ebbs
creeping down the pebbled beach;
the deepening snow.

a crying killeen
circling the field of wild rye:
the sound of the scythe
wedge of wild geese
landing in the lagoon:
boomerang moon.

the village church bell
instills the trout fisherman
with feelings of guilt and doubt

the distant church bell
reaches the runaway boy
sunning on the beach.

the pine tree ahead
the evening sun behind me
summer's dead.

old battlefield
littered with bones in the moonlight:
bitter cold.

the street market
through sleet and snow flurries
hurrying feet

reflected snow flurries:
the river below.

feeding farmers
draw straws from the scarecrow
share the cornfield

where red-winged blackbirds
perched in cattail and wild rice
St. Francis Church.

red ants and heat waves
dancing on the mound of earth:
the town gossip's grave.

the distant church bell
reaches the runaway urchin
searching the beach.

a gliding sea gull
riding out the rain squall
collides with an eagle.

the stadium roar:
golden trumpets and tubas
mirror majorettes.

where valor rallied
the battle for the valley:
the rattle of rain.
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How strange two earthworms linking on the frosty lawn exchange sperm at dawn.

How soft the hard road to grave in the heat wave

How soft the highway to the grave in the heat wave:
tar sticking to my feet.

How soft the highway to the graveyard in the heat wave:
tar sticking to my feet.

How soft the highway to the grave in the heat wave:
tar sticking to my feet.

The growing city overflowing

The empty mailbox

How soft the highway to the graveyard in the heat wave:
how sticky the tar.
how tar sticks to my feet

How soft the highway to the graveyard in the heat wave:
how the tar sticks to my feet

How soft the highway to the graveyard in the heat wave:
sticky tar on my feet.
now sticky tar on my feet

at the grave site
lifting the flag from the coffin:
the shifting wind.

The autumn moon--
the zen apprentice empties the temple.

The autumn moon--
the old Zen master prunes chrysanthemums.

The autumn moon--
the Zen apprentice prunes chrysanthemums/

A swarm of snowflakes swirling around the gate lamp imitates
into the empty can plumbs the depths of hunger
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In the city park, a party of cicadas picnics after dark.

Little brother sings flinging feathers in the wind; fresh paint on the porch.

An autumn evening... convening over the woods; a caucus of crows.

Watering fawn looking up from the brook reflects the dawn.

Mission bell tower showered with pigeon droppings; smell of muscatel.

As the sun comes out and cold morning wind dies down; a distant bell tolls.

Flight after flight passes over the fallow farm; the scarecrow points south.

The muddy creek clears, and a mirror carp appears: the crescent moon.

get cemetery

My little brother carrying an empty jar no fireflies tonite mosquitoes and gire have dampened brother's desire

The town dump at dawn covered with screaming sea gulls beyond the scarecrow shadowing the fallow farm: the harvest moon.

town dump at dawn covered with screaming gulls

Early March morning... along the shore of the lake: first forked fishing-stake.

Early March morning... shadowing the lake shallows: first forked fishing-stake.

Beneath the rowboat drifting on the misty bay: the beat of the drumfish.

A cloud of blackbirds shadowing the plantation eclipses the sun.

A cloud of blackbirds eclipsing the morning sun shadows the plantation.
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young grass and old snow
covering the soldier's tomb
the shadow of the cross

young grass and old snow
covering the soldier's tomb
the gold cross's shadow

young grass and old snow
covering the soldier's grave
the shadow of the cross

the soldier's grave
covered with young grass and old snow
the shadow of the cross

the museum steps
littered with old newspaper
swept by the cold wind.

museum steps
littered with newspapers
swept by cold wind.

the raw morning warms,
and two earthworms exchange sperm
on the withered lawn
linking on the frozen lawn

The raw morning warms
and
on the frozen lawn
at dawn, a pair of earthworms
link and exchange sperm.

on the front lawn at dawn,
a pair of pink earthworms
link and exchange sperm.

A pair of earthworms
linking on the thawing lawn
exchange sperm at dawn

A pair of earthworms
linking on the frosty lawn
exchange sperm at dawn.

the museum steps
strewn with old newspapers
museum steps
strewn with old newspapers
swept by cold wind.

museum steps
strewn with old newspaper:
the autumn moon.

museum steps
strewn with old newspaper:
autumn moon.
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In that white shoe box
perforated with an ice pick
lives a cheeping chick.

he cow in the barn
kicking over the lantern:
short night.

the tidal creek ebbs,
and a sliding sheet of ice
hides the pebbled edge.

tenant ruins;
urine on the marble stoop
mirrors the yellow moon.

cold
the tidal creek
creeping up the bridle path
reaches the colt's feet.

depth
deep in the still creek
surrounded by weeping willows

stranded on a sand bar

beneath the rowboat
capsized on the icy bay:
the beat of the drumfish.

clouds of blackbirds
shrouding the blinding sun
shadow the plantation.

In the crowded church,
the crowned Virgin and Christ child
shed the purple shroud.

where the blindman stood
peddling pencils and shoe strings:
broken bricks and wood.

on the rubber tip
of the haikuist's pointer:

white butterfly sits.

the tidal creek
creeping up the bridal path
touches the colt's feet
deep in the still creek
crowned with weeping willows

billowing cloud peaks.

now the town dump grows
clumps of bowing sunflowers

surround the hobo.

a capsized rowboat
rising on the icy bay:
the rumble of drumfish.
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empty rowboat

empty rowboat
drifts on the misty bay;
drumfish beat beneath.

an empty rowboat
drifts on the misty bay;
the beat of the drumfish.

beneath an empty rowboat
drifts on the misty bay;
the beat of the drumfish.

the evening still:
meeting a stream of people
leaving the cathedral.

all these stars so bright
shattered into thousands of pieces
the autumn night

leaving the monstrosity
the road to the city

Easter morning
lifting the purple mist
unveils crucifix

an evening sunbeam
streaming thru the cathedral
strikes the crucifix.

the tidal creek ebbs
and a sheet of sliding ice
hides the pebbled edge.

perching in the weeds

a cloud of blackbirds
shrouding the blinding sun
shadows the plantation.

cloud of blackbirds
shrouding the blinding sun
shadows plantation.

perching in the weeds,
a redheaded woodpecker
inspects a dead reed.

the brisk lakeshore breeze
has taken away the small boy's
toy trawler and more.

swollen mosquito
has stolen a plum
New Year's Morning
dropping another penny
in the piggy bank

somewhere a bell tolls
high above the city

the empty dooryard
at dusk, a rusty toy truck
stuck in frozen mud.

tenement ruins:
a pool of urine on the steps
reflects the yellow moon.

a tiny snail
snacking on wild blackberries
distracts the lost child.

In that white shoe box