Haiku of the Heavens

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Like many poets, I have written my share of haiku about skyward objects: clouds, sunrises and sunsets, stars, and, of course, the moon in all its glory. The heavens, though, are not limited to these common subjects. Humanity has been stargazing for millennia, tracing the movements of planets, comets, meteors, and more. What does the haiku poet have to say about such objects?

Working with Charles Trumbull, who conducted searches on my behalf using his haiku database, I sought out haiku about the planets of the Solar System. Given the Western world's considerable advances in astronomy since the Enlightenment—and in the last half century, NASA's pioneering work with space probes and advanced telescopes—I focused on English-language haiku specifically. I discovered that while haiku about the planets are indeed prevalent, the emphasis each planet gets is unbalanced, with some planets receiving far more attention than others.

In this essay, I will examine haiku about Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto to uncover how poets treat these fascinating subjects. While Pluto was demoted to dwarf planet status in 2006, the body still appeals to the public, especially following the *New Horizons* space probe that flew by Pluto in 2015.

A caveat, though, about this project: the searches that we conducted focused mostly on the planets as named in English, with a few poetic names thrown in, as will be discussed. Haiku poets are creative and have devised numerous ways of referring to the planets. This study, then, doesn't capture every possible way of referring to the planets. I suspect, though, that haiku poets prefer to use the planets' proper names for two reasons. First, most names are two-syllables, making them easy to incorporate into haiku. It's much more economical to write "Saturn" than "the ringed planet" and "Jupiter" than "the king of planets." Relatedly, the adjective forms may be more cumbersome to use than the names themselves. While "Martian" gets some use, being only two syllables, other adjectives

like "Neptunian" can be unwieldy. Second, as I will discuss throughout, the planets' English names are inherently poetic, given their associations with Roman and Greek gods, so referring to them by their proper names provides an efficient shorthand for deeper metaphorical meanings.

When I conceptualized this project, I predicted that the number of haiku about Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn would be roughly equal, given that all five planets are visible with the naked eye and are relatively easy to find in the night sky (even easier with the advent of star-gazing apps on smartphones). Uranus is technically visible as well, first detected in 128 BC by Hipparchus, though it's so faint it was identified as a star until William Herschel observed it more definitively in 1781 (though he initially thought it was a comet).[1] I suspected that Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto would have fewer haiku associated with them, given that they can only be seen through telescope or experienced vicariously through space agencies like NASA.

While there are indeed many haiku about Venus, Mars, and Jupiter, significantly fewer haiku have been written about Mercury and Saturn (excepting, again, other ways haiku poets may be referring to these planets). Rather than proceeding through the planets by prominence and frequency, I'll discuss them in order from the sun, starting with the first.

The closest planet to the sun, Mercury is named after the Roman god of commerce and communication and is known as the "messenger of the gods." Perhaps given this association with travel, haiku about the planet often trace its movement across the sky:

Mercury
hopscotching across the sky
sunspot to sunspot
Bernard Gieske [2]

Mercury's transit
stringing black pearls
across the face of the sun
Robin Mayhall [3]

While each planet might appear similarly in the night sky (points of light, which to the untrained eye, are indistinguishable from stars), the specific conditions and features of each planet can add nuance and depth to a haiku. In the following example, the particulars of Mercury's rotation and orbit are compared to a lost love:

Mercury sunset
these 3 days without you
feel like 2 years
Deborah P Kolodji [4]

Because of Mercury's highly eccentric orbit (oval shaped, but also very close to the sun at one end of the oval and very far at the other end), a solar day (the time it takes for the sun to make one revolution in the sky, returning to the same place it started at) is not the same as its rotational day. Thus, one Mercury solar day is actually three Mercury rotational days. One solar day is also two Mercury years, or revolutions around the sun. The haikuist, then, uses this confusing perception of time to express how mixed up one can be when they've lost somebody important to them.

Venus is named after the Roman counterpart to Aphrodite, the Greek goddess of love, sex, beauty, and pleasure. Venus is, by far, the most popular planet for haikuists: for this project, we found more haiku about Venus than all other planets combined. Partly, this is because Venus is easy to identify in the morning sky, evening sky, and night sky. Other planets like Mars and Jupiter are also easy to identify, but as we will see, far fewer haiku have been written about them.

I believe Venus is so popular, not just because of its ease of identification, but also because of the qualities the Greek/Roman goddess represents. While haiku is often rooted in concrete observations, without fancy metaphors and symbols, one cannot use the word "Venus" and not suggest its associations. Venus, then, becomes a shorthand for something more, adding allure to any haiku:

going to bed
naked in my window
Venus
Jane Reichhold [5]

A note, though, about Venus' names is warranted before continuing. Like other planets, haiku poets can refer to Venus without using its proper name directly. Two popular nicknames are "the morning star" and "the

evening star," as the planet often is one of the last "stars" visible in the morning, or one of the first "stars" visible in the evening due to its proximity to Earth.

Haiku that mention "the" evening star are likely about Venus. However, haiku that mention "an" evening star, or the "first" evening star, are more ambiguous:

after the rain —
quivering in a puddle
the evening star
Virginia Popescu [6]

First evening star
sound of a woodpecker
fading…
vincent tripi [7]

Additionally, dozens of haiku simply speak of "evening star" without "an" or "the": in fact, dozens use this exact phrase for an opening line, and less commonly, a closing line:

evening star
a bouquet of cherry blossom
on my front porch
Cynthia Rowe [8]

Haiku about "morning star" have the same ambiguity. However, this analysis wouldn't change significantly if haiku about the evening star and morning star were included, as the themes are largely the same. For this reason, I will only be examining haiku that use Venus' proper name.

Given that Venus is the goddess of love, beauty, desire, and eroticism, let's begin by examining haiku that invoke Venus in this way:

asleep
on the lawn
under venus
ai li [9]

Venus
watching you sleep
with me
Jane Reichhold [10]

At times, the image of human bodies is more direct:

pointing out Venus
your hand accidentally
brushes my breast
Jenniffer L. Lesh [11]

Given that clouds can appear thin, lacy, or translucent, their use in Venus haiku adds a touch of femininity:

In all that blue
One tiny pink cloud
Veiling Venus.
Marikay Brown [12]

spring frogs ...
watching Venus and the moon
hide and seek among the clouds
Jerry McGinley [13]

A significant number of haiku refer to the "transit" of Venus. Transits occur when one celestial object passes in front of another. In the case of these haiku, they likely refer to Venus crossing the sun. In these poems, Venus seems to be an omen or blessing, as if the goddess herself is looking favorably upon relationships on Earth:

transit of Venus ...
a hint of patchouli
in her perfume
Lorin Ford [14]

two teens sprawled
on a curved oak bough
transit of Venus
William E. Cooper [15]

Haiku poets are fond of viewing Venus through windows, especially the bedroom window, as if Venus is a lover peeking in:

she looks out
the bedroom window
outline of Venus
Steven Smolak [16]

evening window
Venus rising
out of the sea
Garry Eaton [17]

The most popular subgenre of Venus haiku features the moon. The moon was been one of the preeminent subjects in haiku writing for centuries. Haiku featuring both the moon and Venus, then, combine in dynamic ways the long, storied history of moon haiku with the potent symbolism

of the goddess of beauty. In most cases, the moon and Venus are symbolized as lovers.

The new moon, perhaps, reflects the early, shy stage of romantic relationships:

scattered clouds:
a New Moon and Venus
almost touching
Oino Sakai [18]

below Venus
and the newborn moon
sunset running red
Ayrs Kirkofield [19]

Venus and the moon sometimes appear to move closer to each other in the sky, especially when viewed on successive nights. Haiku poets imagine these heavenly bodies huddling together for warmth and comfort:

starry night —
Venus close to
the moon
Israel López Balan [20]

cold soup —
Venus moves closer
to the moon
Betty Kaplan [21]

The crescent moon is a natural pairing to the goddess of beauty:

crescent moon
sparkling Venus
before there were words
Muriel Ford [22]

Boomerang-like crescent
snatch winter moon
and return to me
Toshio Matsumoto [23]

Given that one of Venus' birth stories features her rising out of the sea in a clamshell, water features strongly in many haiku. The cool elegance of water, coupled with the moon, make for dense haiku with complex meanings:

into the sea
with the full moon
only Venus
Jane Reichhold [24]

indigo nights
over a moon silvered sea
Venus rising
Simon Hanson [25]

The moon, though, is not the only celestial object that appears prominently in Venus haiku: there's also a strong tradition of pairing Venus with other planets, particularly Mars and Jupiter.

In ancient Greek myth, Aphrodite/Venus had many lovers. As the goddess of beauty, there are numerous stories of her exploits, perhaps most famously of her affair with Ares, the god of war (which the Romans named Mars). Haiku poets who witness both Venus and Mars together cannot resist the romantic comparisons:

twilight chill
venus moves closer
to mars
Carol Raisfeld [26]

Because planets appear as little more than points of light, an invisible line can be drawn between them. A path between Venus and Mars, then, may represent a journey, the tying of a knot, or the bringing together of two bodies:

arc of aligned planets
Venus to Mars
skipping stones across the sky
Christine Wenk-Harrison [27]

night drive —
between Mars and Venus
a way home
Bryan Rickert [28]

While most haiku comparing Venus with another body can rightfully be called love poems, in a few rare cases, the love sours:

the front door slamming —
her book on Mars and Venus
offered bad advice
Paul Silvia [29]

In Greek mythology, Aphrodite has two different origin stories: in one, she was born from Uranus' severed genitals, thrown into the sea. In another, she's the daughter of Zeus and Dione. While I could not find

any haiku featuring Venus and Uranus (very little on Uranus, as will be seen later), Jupiter (the Roman name for Zeus) does appear in some Venus haiku:

In the nice spring sky
The light of shining Venus
Shadows Jupiter
Kornélia Kerschner [30]

quantum shift
venus positions herself
over jupiter
Jan Benson [31]

Often, the moon is included in these Venus-Jupiter haiku. As we've seen, the pairing of the moon and Venus already creates multilayered haiku. Adding Jupiter to the mix pushes the limits of haiku complexity:

a small quarrel
Venus and Jupiter
conjunct the moon
Miriam Sagan [32]

their engagement night —
venus jupiter and moon
in perfect alignment
Elizabeth St Jacques [33]

Given that Greek/Roman mythology is not one continuous story, with contradictions and inconsistencies as stories were told from place to place, the use of Jupiter in these haiku, then, would not imply parentage of Venus. Given the muscular, powerful images and statues of Jupiter/Zeus, and Jupiter's insatiable sexual desires, Jupiter and Venus haiku represent an erotic, forbidden form of love, given that Zeus and Aphrodite once had an affair:

lovers moon —
venus and jupiter tryst
at twilight
Darrell Byrd [34]

Mars has long fascinated humanity: from its distinct red color to its potential for harboring life, Mars has been explored in far greater detail than any other planet outside Earth, especially by robotic rovers. It's no

surprise, then, that these characteristics inspire the haikuist. Many poets refer to Mars simply as "the red planet."

pomegranate —
my first lesson about
the red planet
Ana Drobot [35]

red bead of Mars
through my window
evening primrose
Joshua Gage [36]

The red, barren, Martian landscape can be compared to similar places on Earth:

pink-white sky
above rust-red terrain
not arizona, but mars
Jeffrey Winke [37]

While it would be easy to use Mars as a stand-in for violence and war, the same way Venus is a stand-in for beauty, most haiku poets seemingly avoid overtly using Mars in this way:

Mars comes & goes
& we go back to wondering
why war
LeRoy Gorman [38]

Instead, Mars is compared most often to fire, which can be a symbol of both destruction and strong, passionate emotions, depending on the context:

fire season
the red planet
now ours
Angela Terry [39]

mars at midnight
after dowsing the fire
a last ember
Roland Packer [40]

Perhaps paradoxically, Mars is also used as a symbol of water. That's because scientists theorize that Mars was once covered by vast, liquid water oceans. Even today, the planet's poles contain considerable water ice, just as the Earth does:

watering tulips
I track the canals
of Mars
Alan J. Summers [41]

Martian lake
under the South Pole
what we hide
Deborah P Kolodji [42]

Once the haikuist has opened the door to Martian water, poems about life on Mars (or not) are possible:

Mars photo —
all those rocks
without moss
William M. Ramsey [43]

moonmist through the trees…
still not believing
there's life on Mars
Bill Pauly [44]

The possibility of life on Mars has propelled scientific interest in the planet for decades. To date, six rovers have successfully traversed the planet: *Sojourner* (1997), *Spirit* (2004–2010), *Opportunity* (2004–2018), *Curiosity* (2012–present), *Perseverance* (2021–present), and *Zhurong* (2021–2022). Space exploration has always been tied closely to poetics: a review of the names of the Martian rovers provides just one piece of evidence of this. Many people romanticize visiting other planets. While humans have yet to visit Mars, through the numerous rovers, experiments, and photos, speculation has become reality:

months of silence
from the rover
red planet dust
Deborah P Kolodji [45]

something different
in the wind
Martian rover
Joyce Clement [46]

Because we know much about Mars, haiku poets' imaginations run wild with speculative possibilities:

fetching the bones
of the first colonists —
Mars rover shifts
Susan Burch [47]

Mars landing —
a tendril of red dust
from a footfall
Alan J. Summers [48]

Mars, then, offers the haikuist numerous opportunities. Given what we know about Mars, and are still learning, this well has only begun to be plumbed.

The king of planets, Jupiter is named after the chief god of the Roman pantheon (Zeus in the Greek). With mesmerizing bands of clouds, raging storms greater than the size of Earth, dozens of moons, and even a faint ring system, Jupiter offers haiku poets a plethora of features worth commenting upon. In this study, Jupiter was the third most-often used planet, following closely after Mars.

While not nearly as prominent as Saturn's rings, the following poet nonetheless looked to Jupiter's rings for inspiration:

another friend
for her collection
Jupiter's rings
Isabel Caves [49]

Jupiter's Great Red Spot, a massive storm that's brewed for centuries, inspired two very different haiku:

a constant storm
between us
Jupiter's red spot
Deborah P Kolodji [50]

Colonoscopy
scanning my Jupiter
for the red spot
Tomasz Szymczak [51]

Jupiter's many moons provide much fodder for haiku poets. Here is only a sample of the poems uncovered:

midnight moth
the moons of Jupiter
mapped on her wings
Stuart Bartow [52]

the binoculars
shake in my hands…
Jupiter's moons
Barbara Strang [53]

As we've seen with Venus, Jupiter is frequently viewed next to our moon, offering numerous interpretations of these two celestial objects:

skylight raindrop
holding jupiter
and the moon
Hilary Tann [54]

Above the fog
Jupiter seen tonight
There—by the moon
Judith Clark [55]

While I uncovered Jupiter haiku written in all seasons, winter seems especially poignant for poets, perhaps because Jupiter is largely a cold planet, despite having some areas that are very warm:

cold night —
crescent moon cradles
Jupiter
Elsie Canfield [56]

Jupiter appears
—roof tiles rattle
in the winter wind
Wim Lofvers [57]

Jupiter haiku are also associated with water and light, sometimes at the same time:

following a path
of pale light across the lake
all the way to Jupiter
Michael Ketchek [58]

Just before dawn
a fisherman's boat follows
the setting Jupiter
Gabriel Sawicki [58]

This small sample of Jupiter haiku showcases the many possible uses of the planet in haiku. Because the planet has so many complex features, and is easy to identify in the night sky, haiku poets have only scratched the surface of what's possible when observing this planet:

summer stargazing
Jupiter and I
will never be closer
Mary Makofske [60]

For many people, Saturn is the most beautiful planet, owing to its unique rings and pale-yellow color. Saturn is easily visible to the naked eye, and yet, we found almost no haiku related to the planet, making it difficult to discern patterns:

Saturn
inside the ring
a name
Minal Sarosh [61]

watching Saturn
I remember that night
long long ago
Jeff Hanson [62]

This last haiku reminded me of my own experience observing Saturn. I was in rural North Dakota late one night with a friend, surrounded by corn fields and utter darkness. Using a halfway decent telescope and a smartphone app, we were able to easily locate Saturn. The image was blurry, not as crisp as the images from NASA, yet the rings were clearly identifiable, tilted toward us. Seeing that image with my own eyes was a sight I will never forget, even though the image wasn't as "good" as the images from passing spacecraft. While the above haiku works for me, I wonder how other readers take it. Does the specific reference to Saturn matter? If another planet was mentioned in the first line instead, would the haiku read substantially differently?

Saturn haiku are more prevalent when Saturn is compared to other planets easily visible to the naked eye:

cold night
the full moon warmed
by Mars & Saturn
Jane Reichhold [63]

rush-hour darkfall —
Jupiter pulling Saturn
from the horizon
Donna Claire Gallagher [64]

One haiku even playfully references the names of car brands, providing a double reading:

traffic stop
Mercury aligns
with Saturn
Carlos Colón [65]

I, myself, could not resist writing about Saturn in conjunction with other planets. One summer, I watched as Saturn and Jupiter slowly approached each other, night by night. I wrote the following haiku, with the space between the names meant to emphasize the apparent distance between them:

Jupiter Saturn
closer and closer
throughout the summer

Later, I wrote and published the following haiku: [66]

Saturn|Jupiter
now so close
they appear as one

Given the inherent beauty of Saturn and the complex symbolism of its rings, not to mention its numerous interesting moons, one would think haiku poets would write about the planet more frequently.

The seventh planet from the sun, Uranus is a faint bluish-white color and is known as an ice giant, composed of water, ammonia, and methane. Only one spacecraft has ever visited Uranus—*Voyager 2*, in 1986. Much of what we know about the planet comes from that mission, though the *Hubble Space Telescope* has imaged it as well. It's not surprising, then, that haiku about Uranus are rare. Uranus is the only English planet name based on the Greek, rather than Roman, god, using the Latinized version of Ouranos.

Our search only uncovered one haiku about Uranus specifically:

born under Uranus
in the Year of the Rat
much wind in my willows
Helen Buckingham [67]

In this case, the poet is using Uranus in an astrological sense, situating their birth within both the Western and Eastern zodiac cycles. The reader who knows something about the astrological meanings of both Uranus and the Year of the Rat will likely get the most out of this haiku.

Unfortunately, not much else can be said about this planet's use in haiku.

Neptune is the eighth planet from the sun and sometimes orbits farther from the sun than even Pluto, due to Pluto's eccentric orbit. Neptune was spotted by Galileo in 1612 but was jointly discovered in 1846 by Johann Galle, Urbain Le Verrier, and John Couch Adams. Named after the Roman god of the sea, Neptune is an ice giant similar in size, appearance, and composition to Uranus. Like Uranus, Neptune has only been visited by *Voyager 2* (in 1989) and has recently been imaged by the *James Webb Space Telescope*. Not surprisingly, then, Neptune is sparsely written about by haiku poets, with the focus often more on the planet's moons:

dancing
with the stars
moonlets of Neptune
Deborah P Kolodji [68]

Neptune's many moons
the times I moved
as a boy
Meik Blöttenberger [69]

As with other haiku I've reviewed, an incorporation of scientific information can lend a poetic air to Neptunian haiku:

drops of graphite
on Neptune
diamond rain
Voima Oy [70]

Because of the immense pressure on Neptune, carbon (the "drops of graphite" in the previous haiku) may be converted to diamonds. "Diamond rain" is thought to exist on Jupiter, Saturn, and Uranus as well. How delightful this idea of diamond rain, not just because of its poetic beauty, but also because of its realized existence. Such planetary phenomena are impossible for us to see or experience firsthand except through poetry. The brevity of haiku, then, allows us to create our own meaning behind such diamond rain.

Our review of planet haiku ends with Pluto, the first known object in the Kuiper belt. The body was discovered in 1930 by Clyde W. Tombaugh.

antique shop
astronomy book —
without pluto
Renee Londner [71]

While the above haiku is about antique astronomy books lacking information on Pluto, contemporary books on the planets may also leave Pluto out. In 2006, the International Astronomical Union redefined Pluto as a dwarf planet, causing considerable controversy; many people still refer to it as a planet today. Haiku poets remain drawn to Pluto, perhaps spurred by the successful *New Horizons* space probe, which visited Pluto in 2015:

pics of Pluto on the flyby he's only a friend
Clayton Beach [72]

Though few, our search uncovered more poems about Pluto than Mercury, Saturn, Uranus, or Neptune individually, even though Pluto is not visible to the naked eye. Haiku poets' fascination with the dwarf planet might be due to the multitude of meanings it encompasses. Pluto is named after the Roman god of the underworld (Hades in Greek), and its distance and isolation lends an air of sadness to the dwarf planet. The following haiku references the myth of the deceased paying the ferryman Charon[73] to cross the river Styx:

space probe circling pluto
a small coin
to the boatman
Robert Witmer [74]

The isolation of Pluto can engender similar feelings in the haikuist:

stargazing
I think about how lonely
Pluto must be
Kieren O'Connor [75]

Since Pluto cannot be seen with the naked eye, the poet must have been stargazing with a telescope. Perhaps they couldn't find Pluto easily, heightening the sense of abandonment.

Pluto, though, is also a famous Disney character, leading to these two dog-themed haiku:

ghost of Laika —
will there be lampposts
beyond Pluto?
Johannes S. H. Bjerg [76,77]

is it a dog…
is it a planet…
postcard from Pluto
Helen Buckingham [78]

Finally, Pluto serves as the last trail marker into the unknown: as probes like *New Horizons*, *Voyager 1*, and *Voyager 2* leave the Solar System, haiku poets wonder what's beyond:

dark moon
the pull of a planet
beyond Pluto
Lorin Ford [79]

beyond Pluto smaller now
Linda McCarthy Schick [80]

Despite its small size and diminutive classification, haiku poets have many more interesting things to say about Pluto than some of the other planets.

For poets who believe that haiku should be concrete, not abstract or speculative, take heart: planets are part of the natural world, many of which are easily visible from Earth. The planets exist alongside other wonders of the night sky. Considering that many people advocate that a proper haiku must make a striking or surprising comparison between two objects or experiences, there is no limit to the number of earthly subjects that any one planet can be compared to. While we have seen some of these comparisons begin to take shape, such as the references to water with Venus and Mars, or to cold and light with Jupiter, haiku poets can do much more with the planets.

While this project specifically investigated the planets in the Solar System, consider numerous other celestial sights that could be incorporated into haiku: solar and lunar eclipses, the Milky Way, constellations, bright stars like Polaris, Sirius, Vega, and Arcturus, galaxies, comets, meteors, asteroids, dwarf planets like Ceres and Makemake, black holes, quasars, magnetars, supernovae, and exoplanets … to name only a few! Now, some of these objects cannot be witnessed without the aid of technology, such as backyard telescopes or more advanced scientific equipment, such as the *Hubble Space Telescope*. If one is open to viewing some of these sights vicariously, haiku is an excellent medium to capture the emotions and experiences that come when one witnesses objects of such vast size and age.

For me, some of the most poignant haiku have a melancholy spirit, humbling us humans in the face of nature, of things bigger than ourselves, of things more powerful than ourselves, of processes that continue whether we are part of the picture or not. Planet haiku have the potential to create exactly these feelings in both the poet and reader.

Notes

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[9] *brass bell* (December 2021)

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[11] *Woodnotes* 29

[12] *Dragonfly* 1:3

[13] *Frogpond* 12:2

[14] *Frogpond* 35:3

[15] *Ginyu* 56

[16] *Stardust Haiku* 12

[17] Shiki Internet Kukai (November 2015)

[18] Shiki Internet Kukai (June 2005)

[19] *Frogpond* 20:1

[20] Shiki Internet Kukai (December 2006)

[21] Shiki Internet Kukai (January 21, 2001)

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[25] Shirrel Rhoades, ed. The 2013 Robert Frost International Poetry & Haiku Contest (2013). "Selected Haiku Entries."

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[27] *Haiku Page* 9

[28] *Modern Haiku* 48:2

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[32] *Roadrunner* V1:4

[33] *Frogpond* 22:2

[34] Shiki Internet Kukai (December 2008)

[35] *brass bell* (May 2021)

[36] *breaths* (2008) vanZeno Press.

[37] *Third Coast Archives* 4

[38] *Modern Haiku* 35:1

[39] *tsuri-dōrō* 16

[40] *Kokako* 21

[41] *brass bell* (September 2017)

[42] *Mariposa* 39

[43] *Modern Haiku* 29:1

[44] *The Heron's Nest* 14:4

[45] *Mainichi Daily News*. "Daily Haiku Selection." (Feb. 12, 2011)

[46] *Modern Haiku* 47:3

[47] The Haiku Foundation. "Haiku of the Day." (January 2020)

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[51] Asahi Haikuist Network (Feb. 20, 2015)

[52] *Shamrock Haiku Journal* 36

[53] *Kokako* 20

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[55] *The Red Pagoda* 2:2

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[69] *Failed Haiku* 1:4

[70] *Shadow Pond Journal* 2

[71] *Modern Haiku* 38:3

[72] *is/let* (December 28, 2017)

[73] Charon is also the name of Pluto's largest moon, though the name was originally intended by discover James Christy to honor his wife Charlene

[74] *is/let*

[75] *The Heron's Nest* 21:4

[76] Laika was a Soviet dog who flew in space aboard Sputnik 2 in 1957.

[77] Shiki Internet Kukai (June 2011)

[78] *Failed Haiku* 1:2

[79] *Presence* 58

[80] *Bones* 9