

The Yuki Teikei Haiku Society was founded in 1974 by Mr. Kiyoshi and Mrs. Kiyoko Tokutomi to nourish and foster the practice of writing haiku in English using the traditional haiku guidelines developed in Japan.

The Kiyoshi Tokutomi Memorial Haiku Contest is for 5-7-5 haiku. This year's entries were to use one of the following *kigo*: New Year, new diary, first dream; April Fool's Day, grafting, swing (a child's,) warm(th) (the sun's,) willow; fly swatter, iced tea, drought, perfume, silverfish; woodpecker, pear, reeds, Thanksgiving, chill; withered tree, cough, owl, carrot, hibernation.

One function of the season-word in haiku is to ground a moment in a specific time so it may be understood by anyone who reads or hears that haiku. The *kigo* "withered tree," for instance, makes unnecessary the use of the word "winter" or "hibernation" or any other winter season-word. The use of "snow" and "plum blossoms" in a single haiku would be confusing; since they clearly belong to differing seasons, one's mind would zig-zag among seasons instead of resting in a brief moment.

The judge was Tadashi Kondo, presently judge of the English division of the annual Basho festival in Iga-Ueno, Japan. He was a charter member of the Haiku International Association and is co-founder and director of the Association for International Renku. The Society is extremely grateful for his assistance.



On the name Yuki Teikei:

In Japanese, *YU* means "have" or having", *KI* means "season," *TEI* means formal and *KEI* means "pattern" or "prototype." Thus, *yuki teikei* haiku have a season-word, or *kigo*, and follow the 5-7-5 syllable pattern.

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For information about the 1994 contest, please send the Society an SASE at the address above.

Haiku Awards 1993

Kiyoshi Tokutomi Memorial Haiku Contest

*Yuki Teikei
Haiku Society*

Scratching my elbow
the fingernail leaves a mark—
first chill of evening

First Prize
Clark Strand
New York City, USA

The sightless old man
tracing his initials . . . carved
on the withered tree

Second Prize
Helen Dalton
Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

long winter evening—
the sweetness of a carrot
comes out in the soup

Third Prize
Clark Strand

Honorable Mention
(in alphabetical order)

Her perfume wafting
before I spot my daughter
at the packed airport

Vi Mathieson
Aspley, Australia

a red-letter day—
grandma letting the toddler
pull up a carrot

H. F. Noyes
Politia, Attikis, Greece

A glimpse of satin
hiding behind the front door
my sister's perfume

Frances Roberts
Los Gatos, California, USA

under the warm sun
the merry-go-round and I
counterclockwise slow

Kohjin Sakamoto
Kyoto, Japan

ending the long drought
raindrops stuff the tiny holes
of the window screen

Helen J. Sherry
San Diego, California, USA

first day of the year . . .
my brother's eyes folding light
for the final time

Elizabeth St Jacques
Sault Ste. Marie, Canada

jumping from the swing
the little girl leaves some warm
dampness on the seat

Elizabeth St Jacques

the newly born babe
lying on her mother's breast
smiles through her first dream

Clarissa Stein
Upper Ferntree Gully, Australia

slicing a ripe pear
understandable at last
the sweetness of age

Clark Strand

Taking the short cut . . .
one red mitten hanging low
from the withered tree

Louise Somers Winder
Hartfield, Virginia, USA