



The Haiku Handbook: How to Write, Share, and Teach Haiku

By William J. Higginson

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The Haiku Handbook is the first book to give the reader everything needed to begin writing or teaching haiku. It presents haiku poets writing in English, Spanish, French, German, and five other languages on an equal footing with Japanese poets. Not only are the four great Japanese masters of the haiku represented (Basho, Buson, Issa, and Shiki) but also several major Western authors not commonly known to have written haiku.

The book presents a concise history of the Japanese haiku, including the dynamic changes throughout the twentieth century as the haiku has been adapted to suburban and industrial settings. Full chapters are offered on form, the seasons in haiku, and haiku craft, plus background on the Japanese poetic tradition, and the effect of translation on our understanding of haiku.

Other unique features are the lesson plans for both elementary and secondary school use; and lists of haiku publishers and magazines (in several languages). The Handbook concludes with a full reference section of haiku-related terms, bibliography, and a comprehensive season-word list to aid in understanding and appreciating Japanese haiku.

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The Haiku Handbook: How to Write, Share, and Teach Haiku By William J. Higginson Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #298892 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Kodansha USA
- Published on: 1992-03-15
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 4.40" h x 1.10" w x 7.10" l,
- Binding: Paperback
- 331 pages



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