

The poet's joy and awe at matching her thumbprint with that of the ancient Southwestern potter precisely pinpoints this haiku on the vertical axis of time and the horizontal axis of culture. Yarrow's "inner canyon" should be viewed as her personal path in the same way that we understand Bashō's "Narrow Road to the Interior."

Speaking of Bashō, Cid Corman interprets him to have written "Moon & sun are passing figures of countless generations." The sun is a certainly a constant companion for Yarrow. In *Lit from Within*, fully ten percent of the haiku in this book use the word "sun" in one way or another, and "dawn," "light," and "the moon" appear several times as well. Yarrow's book is truly a collection of light and joy.

light	sun through fog:
up under the gull's wing	the turtle's neck unfolds
sunrise	her head
evening	moonlit ripples
our paddles drip	the distant quavering
into liquid sunset	of a loon

Lit from Within is a most welcome addition to the haiku literature. The publishing values by Red Moon Press are very fine, and—as if it needed any more luster—the book is illuminated by a number of the author's winsome brush-and-ink drawings, plus larger paintings used for chapter headings. I'm very happy I have a copy of this book. You will be delighted to have one too.

Highway of Sleeping Towns, Deborah P. Kolodji (Pasadena, Calif.: Shabda Press, 2016. 114 pages; 6" × 9". Glossy four-color card covers; perfectbound. ISBN 978-0-9915772-3-1. Price: \$16.00 from online booksellers

Reviewed by Marjorie Buettner

I see Deborah Kolodji register her travel locations on Facebook and marvel at the varied destinations. She seems to have journeyed every-

where in a short period of time. She is comfortable with travel and appears to thrive on it. The title of her new collection of haiku and senryu seems appropriate therefore: *Highway of Sleeping Towns*. This collection spans fifteen years of Kolodji's poetic life bearing witness to each hallmark event which she has experienced. However, what intrigues me about this collection is Kolodji's imaginative use of scientific and mathematical terms to express a deeply felt emotion or inexplicably complicated event in her life. Although this collection has many fine haiku without a scientific bent, Kolodji, with a degree in mathematics, is able to open up this scientific world for us by exploring the metaphorical connotations each mathematical image inspires.

Euler's number
your litany
of unrepeatable excuses

Euler's number, like Pi, cannot be written as a ratio or fraction. It is a famous irrational number which goes on forever. It is an apt symbol for a degenerating relationship.

morning physics
a paper airplane glides
out the window

This haiku expresses succinctly, with a telling visual image, the atmosphere in a high school classroom when all thoughts of spring do not include a hot, physics classroom.

as far
as the moon's dark side
his untouched pillow

This haiku is a beautifully rendered image denoting separation and distance in both an objective and subjective world. Another haiku expresses the separation and alienation which occur at divorce:

moon rock
 behind the glass
 summer divorce

The following imaginative haiku has an almost surrealistic setting:

the square root
 of negative one
 clouds

There is no real number with this property and it is considered an imaginary unit: it is an appropriate and surprising symbol for summer's shape-shifting clouds.

Fermat's Last Theorem
 a jar of buttons
 in a hoarder's garage

I do not pretend to know mathematical equations or terminologies, in fact, math has always been difficult for me, but the juxtaposition of this problematic theorem with the image of a hoarder's garage is uniquely satisfying.

Avogadro constant
 fifty pounds later
 still a "b" cup

Avogadro constant is a unit of measurement for a substance—it is an apt reference to the substance of weight which defines us all.

For those of you who are not too keen on a scientific or mathematical approach when reading haiku, there are as well many fine haiku which reflect Kolodji's sensitive and insightful perspective:

blue damsel fly	alone
on a blade of grass	after returning the ring
the quiet before leaving	cherry blossom rain

cottonwood rattle
the wordlessness
of his final days

In any case, Kolodji captures our attention by these unique haiku. She takes the subjective act of writing haiku and complements it with an enlivening, objective image. Each haiku wonderfully expresses Kolodji's universe in which she travels. She invites us to follow her and we are enriched because of it:

highway
of sleeping towns
the milky way

BRIEFLY NOTED

A Drop of Pond, by Brad Bennett (Winchester, Va.: Red Moon Press, 2016). 82 pages; 4¼" × 6½". Glossy four-color card covers; perfectbound. ISBN 978-1-936848-73-7. Price: \$15.00 from www.redmoonpress.com

We love the title of Bennett's first collection and how, through its nod to Basho's old pond, it situates Bennett's work in the English-language haiku tradition. We spotlighted his haiku in issue 47.1 so you know we are a fan. He creates strong haiku pairings, nothing feels forced or arbitrary, and the reader is left with a feeling of interconnectedness of all things; yet it is a world of motion, of change, so there is much wonder in his work. His love for the outdoors is obvious. Recommended. *bison wallow / where the full moon / used to be*