



# Bones

Bones - journal for contemporary haiku  
no. 18  
November 15th 2019

morning message  
the lark tweets first

reggeli üzenet  
a pacsirta pittyen először

Morgennachricht  
die Lerche piept zuerst

clustering bottles squeezing a river  
to a line

Adjei Agyei-Baah

trucked out cattle calm as dawn

Adrian Bouter

cool with Christ uni verse

Adrian Bouter

sea the sky is everywhere sunbathing

Adrian Bouter

psilocybin  
a silo of self  
in a forest

Agnes Eva Savich

snail  
sssnnnaaiiilll  
snail

Agnes Eva Savich





## summaries

earth's raiment  
showing  
legs

if coquetry  
a verb  
dandelion fur

thigh-high mist  
the graveyard sea  
wind-lisps

vexed with what  
to wed  
air

brain murmur  
definitely  
scarred

denied  
the monkey  
tree's appeals

in a hyena's lock jaw all the why's

shattered ear possibly the gist of all paralysis

re-encounter -  
the sign of the elastic  
on the buttocks

Antonio Mangiameli

danglers a fix reply to every question

edge of time where your neck left the sun tilted

Beate Conrad

hototogisu inbetween the many paradoxa of remembering

Beate Conrad



flea throat groove to throat groove

Bill Cooper

by the authority vested in clay

Bill Cooper

Heidi's grandad  
I speak no dialect  
to deaf ears

Bisshie

the newly created dark planet of the exposed

Cherie Hunter Day

at base camp we label all the bones

Cherie Hunter Day

deflection orange the slippage the shrinkage

redwoods occupy this

Cherie Hunter Day





what of the disembodied  
do stones gather?

Cheryl Pfeil von der Heyde

slapping away the fly a clown takes the throne

Chris Dominiczak

autumn slowing to eat fire

Chris Dominiczak

in the average blue a rump of dead nettle

Chris Dominiczak

sleeping water on the grass its last

Chris Dominiczak

dead}  
plastic of the mammalian  
{oceans

Chris Dominiczak

a twang of guilt  
from three taps of the tongue—  
blackberries in full bloom

Clayton Beach

Achilles' fatal bromance:  
the patinated edge  
of a gladius under glass

Clayton Beach



cone of uncertainty  
the weight of the water  
we gather in case

Craig Kittner

red scarf needles twitch the guillotine

June wedding before lithium took her original face

Dan Schwerin

Black  
so I hold the door  
an original sin

Dan Schwerin

then—on top of  
everything—whiteness  
as a social construct

Dan Schwerin

a bomb. like he had. no idea.

just pretending. to be. mist on a stone.

Dave Read

too much, too quickly,  
I spit out a mouthful  
of saints

Dave Read





eating this double-edged dawn without crickets

David Boyer

one line to save them all too late the dump truck beep

and inflamed  
those few illusions  
what broken call home

David Boyer

what viscous dawn taught this monologue to crawl

David Boyer

the brave part of my teeth removed for a new highway

David Boyer

uterine dream coming back for my wings

David McKee

as  
it happens  
not to breed  
the demon air

Elmedin Kadric



a hoard of silence first warm sentiments

Elmedin Kadric

and still no snakeskin to surrender

Elmedin Kadric

one moonlit breath oceanic

Elmedin Kadric

post-war trauma  
a crow  
becomes a crow

Eva Limbach

ghosted by a chatbot— emoji moon

Eve Luckring

a twitterverse  
of memetic warfare  
...and yet

Eve Luckring

summer break  
a cool breeze starts  
a wildfire

*another hurricane  
where we left off  
past unimaginable*

out of nowhere  
the heatwave  
and a cold stare

*drowning thoughts  
onto paradise  
in this drought*

spring thaw  
in the midst  
of cleaning

*this lifetime  
about it all  
the mist*

in thin ice  
a sinking feeling  
while muddy

*now breaks  
of blossoms  
rivers through*





smaller than an ant the twin I never knew

Gary Hittmeyer

a tireless narcissist the sky from puddle to puddle

George Swede

## Seven Interpretations of Self - I

deep-sea dialogue  
    *my daughter*  
the interpenetration  
    *with art's mute perfection*  
of self and soul  
    *"This! This!"*

70th spring—  
                                  *long forgotten*  
this older self,  
if released,  
                                  *my child-like wonder*  
would break into  
blossom  
                                  *at decay*

seven decades  
                                  *my scourge*  
beading  
through mysteries  
                                  *the deepening scars*  
at my fingertips  
                                  *of the incomplete*

distinguishing darkness  
from the soul  
woodwinds  
in suspended animation

*the recycle plan*  
*of becoming the fossil fuel*  
*we exhaust*

ancient chants

*the artificer*

conjuring the limits  
of self

*gazing into nothing*

in my own tongue

*makes light of it*



vespers whispered  
with breath wisps of  
aspirations

*leafing through  
a well-worn breviary  
less than complete*

wordless beyond

*butterfly child*

all seven types

*I deconstruct your absence*

of ambiguity

*of language*

municipal bliss a dragonfly semi-mythic

Helen Buckingham

chewed papers back in the drawer confessional statement

out of nowhere

nowhere

Jennifer Hambrick

no, not obsessed just cicada

Jennifer Hambrick

summer dust the whirr of fan worship

John Hawkhead

broken pebble inside the cosmos

John Hawkhead



pest control  
the hiss of gas  
in reasonable words

John Hawkhead



a prayer that starts and stops fucking lizards

John McManus

way past blue music

John McManus

but to know scorpions dreaming as if clouds

John McManus

the outhouse slept-walked to in mists

Joseph Salvatore Aversano

black rooster cry proof of the internal sun

Joseph Salvatore Aversano

the croaking predawn twittering now

Joseph Salvatore Aversano



J TAYLOR ENGRAVING

twinkle twinkle till the sun

lit by the blinking blue dark

a star is the dark is a star

Joseph Salvatore Aversano

surrounding the unfrozen congregation of robins

Julie Warther

this floating world ... it is pinned at the heart of a coconut leaf

Ken Sawitri

with every step a cat on the roof wipes off the map of cosmic dark

Ken Sawitri

crawling up  
last year's sentences  
freezing rain

Lee Gurga

umbilicus. i repeat myself

Lee Gurga

koi  
crap  
carp

LeRoy Gorman

verse  
might as well be light years

LeRoy Gorman



ant  
ici  
pat  
shun

LeRoy Gorman



coin in a fountain family she can like wish

Lisa Espenmiller

Banana  
filling my mouth  
an old man begins to speak

Mark D. Bennion

red leaf a sky to dream on

Mark E. Brager

day-old dregs of coffee  
the long dead legs of a floating mosquito

Mark Gilbert

insomnia

undawn

Mark Gilbert

unable to sit still these children those little helicopter seeds

Matthew Moffett



just one me and this whole sky an orchestra of insect noise

Matthew Moffett

When our ancestor was drinking at the lake, scared

Matty Watts

the big trees  
in the standup bass  
hide the monsters

Michael Nickels-Wisdom

civil twilight one of the ingredients in a blueberry pie

Michael Nickels-Wisdom

pull myself up  
using the handholds  
in the night sky

Michael Nickels-Wisdom

milky dawn  
the metallic dreams  
of bombs

half asleep in  
the language of tanks

turning leaves  
i swallow the hollow-point  
of the morning news

fallout shelter  
the days begin  
to bleed together

painting the sun  
you scrape a knuckle

sticking out  
of the dead stag  
a handful of arrows

dormant orchid dream me androgynous

Michele Root-Bernstein

fireflies the evening news to my amygdala

Michele Root-Bernstein



passing as one stream and spent petals

Michele Root-Bernstein

his dog waiting tables

Nicky Gutierrez

Eight Hells of Beppu...  
Bloody Hell Pond the oldest  
hot springs burn my toes

inked with a crow's black quill my deathday

Eight Hells of Beppu...  
drinking in the White Pond Hell  
smells of steamed hot milk

workmanlike pricking the skin his soul ever stained

chalk outline...  
fading memory  
of myself



fresh take over old clichés  
tripping stones too late by a foot  
fever blister losing face value  
to stop at nothing where we peel off  
after twilight a son down at the party  
stepping blindly a third eye keeps out  
minnie the moocher going going gong

aging  
the tang  
of language

Peter Newton

telephone pole bandages of what's missing

Peter Newton

## Ode to the Endling

ending  
the last of its kind  
before we know it

putting a name  
to the face  
ending

Roman Coliseum  
one beginning  
of the endling

ghostly broken  
the zoo's endling  
curled in a photo

a round coffin  
for her best hat  
closet endling

the museum  
ending  
climate-controlled

no more branches  
to its canopy  
future endling

ending  
as in ending  
an endearment



i watch the white roses  
not thinking  
red, red, red

Prad Aphachan

slaves in an apple store hybrid sleep

Ralf Bröker

114

a sugar skull tooth gap whistles the ancestors dance

Ray Caligiuri

115

tracing my lineage a water lily from the Jurassic

Réka Nyitrai

in autumn light bone lesions on a metaphor

Réka Nyitrai

117

curled up inside a pebble a mountain laughs

Réka Nyitrai

mother's book grown wide with a cricket's heartbeat

Réka Nyitrai

119

mending a dream grass blade in the darning needle

Réka Nyitrai

120



the half life of plastic moons waxing red

Renée Owen

121

the locomotion of moss uprooting doubt

Renée Owen

nothing left but snakeskin country

the dried grasshopper's delicate way of holding

wild madder roots the days' daily news

the flower buzz of a thousand therapy hours

speaking the language of trees translucent wings

Renée Owen

the mortal coil she fangs in the moonlight

Rich Schilling

124

the path to get her wet with roses

Rich Schilling

125



living in the moment a dog is simple

Richa Sharma

127

a fallen flower  
the fragrance  
of being formless

Richa Sharma



days drop drop one at a time lab test

Robert Moyer

atoms from afar  
wanderlust

Roberta Beach Jacobson

## leaf pattern testing European treaties

Roberta Beach Jacobson

I distend my tongue to hear things I used to think

Robin Anna Smith

murmuration the mouth of the rapist

Roberta Beary

133

deep in my cavern the speculum's dream

Roberta Beary

red  
tide  
sun  
lingo  
neck  
gumbo  
burn  
set

night train  
in E-flat minor  
postmortem

Roland Packer





shoulders

the  
overarching  
burden

of  
nasal  
schadenfreude

Ron Scully

the car I stole whispered wildly my name

Rp Verlaine

angels dance upwards

between mindfulness and mantra I bounce off Betelgeuse

a child drops stones :: down the column of smoke

a black of rooks flashing :: strings attached in dark spaces

ordinary thunderstorms splitting off riffs :: the trunk of an old ash tree

low over the peaceful warriors :: raw state tin soldiers criss-cross long boughs

burying the hatchet I note the march of consonant holding their breath

Samar Ghose

peace train  
you change  
the locks  
nightly

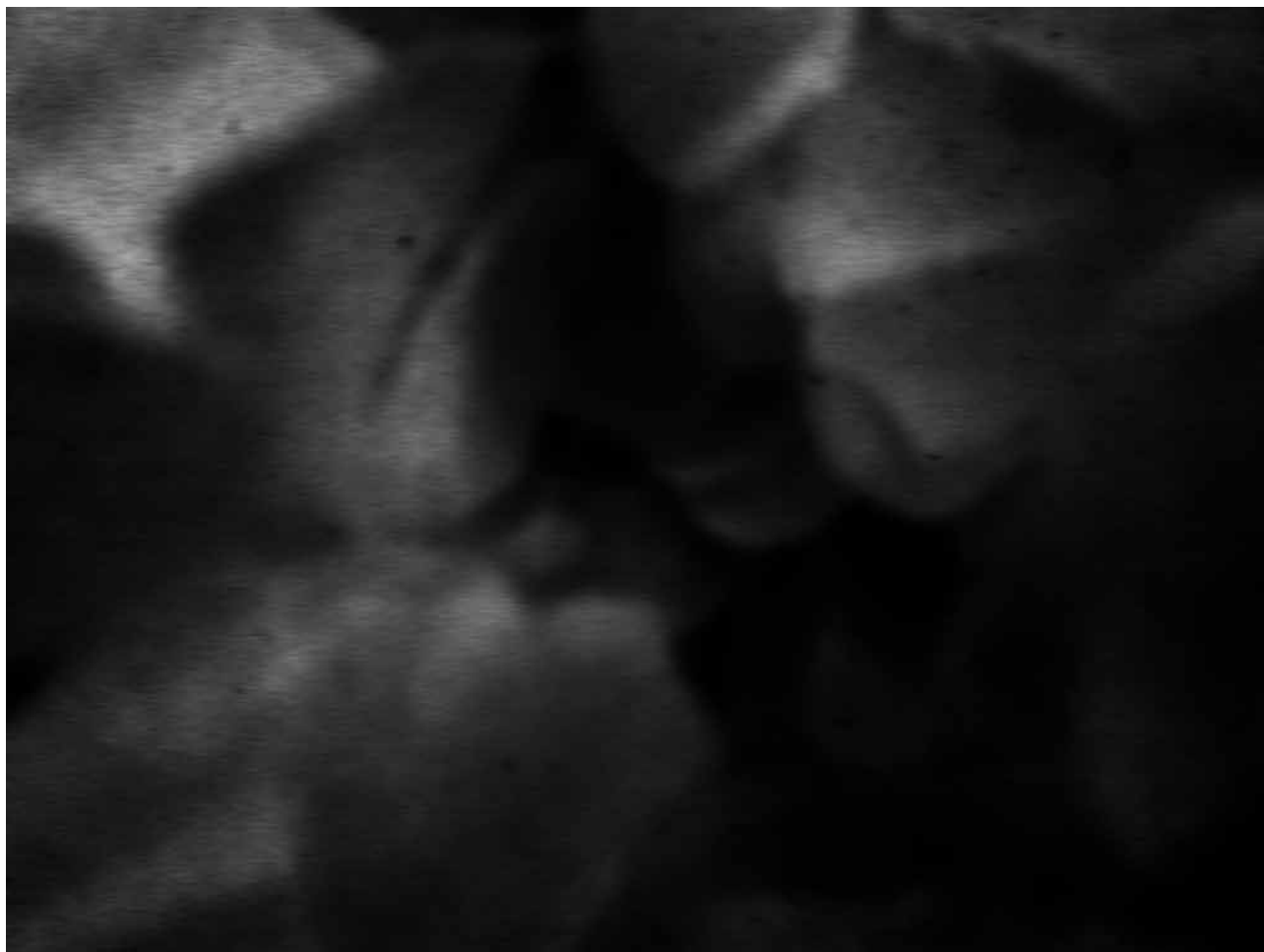
*like before peripatetic medieval diners*

the full fat  
harvest moon

waters broke draping laundry over wild grasses

Samar Ghose

141



I wake up as a sardine and god is available to me

Scott Terrill

it's late for the goldfish to be up  
is an absurd thought  
in the night rain

Scott Terrill



cutting open a jellyfish  
in a room  
on Tuesday

Scott Terrill

a word for belief inside the wall of winter

Shloka Shankar

at-one-ment

Sondra Byrnes

nothing is enough

Sondra Byrnes

148

takes me where I do not own a rooster's call

Srinivasa Rao Sambangi

evening fog  
the holes in the subtext  
disappear

Stella Pierides

wilderness  
uncle asks  
what I cost

Tiffany Shaw-Diaz

if there are no other options fireworks

Tim Murphy



open plan falling through the fourth wall

Tim Murphy

153

nesting under the magic volcano inside a fan's whirr

Tim Murphy

154

contemplative an exodus of ants

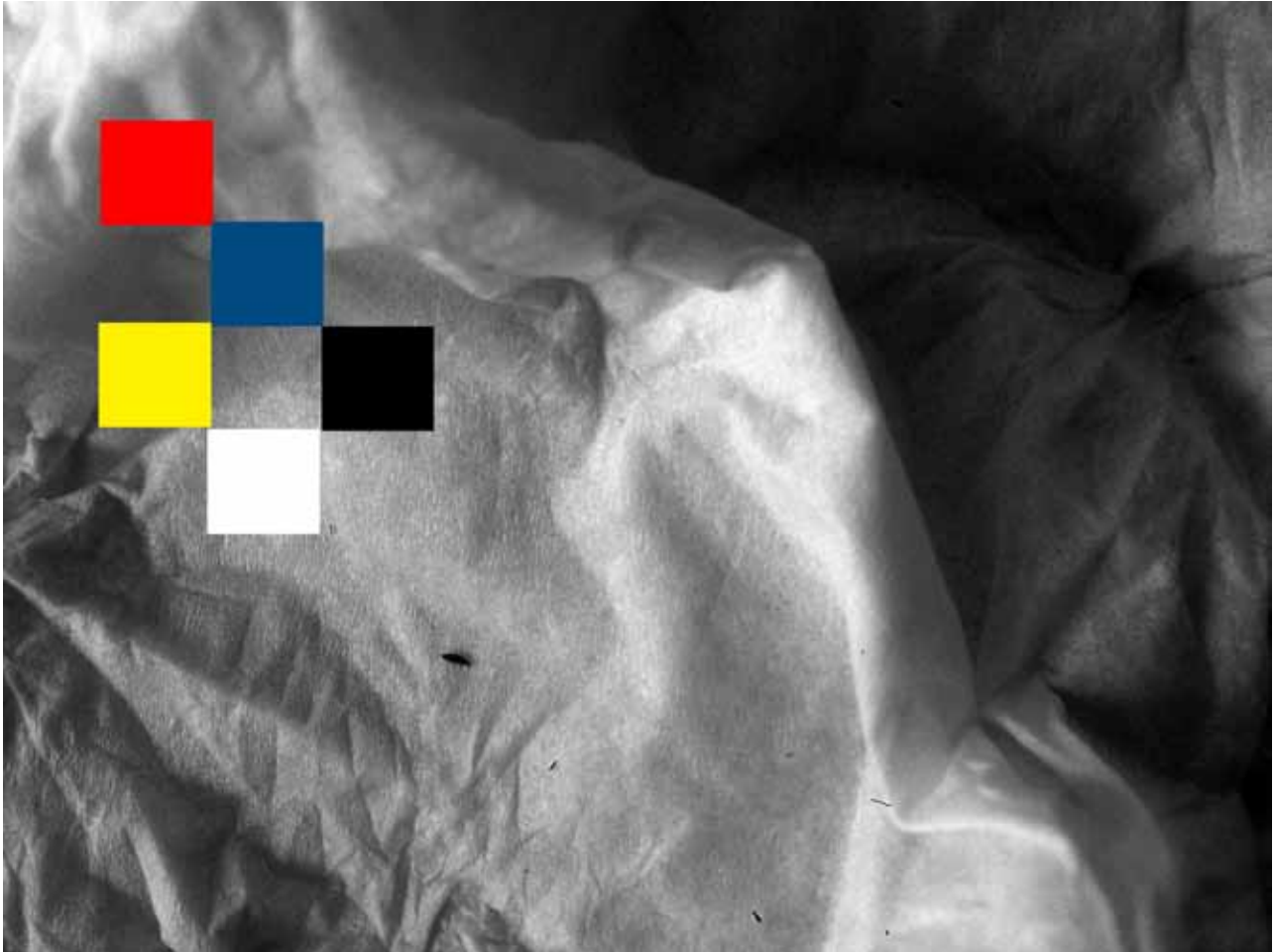
Veronika Zora Novak

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seasonal reflective disorder

Aaron Barry

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Editor:

Johannes S. H. Bjerg (who did the gfx too)

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