

to North American Haiku titled, *Naked Haiku*, Terry Ann Carter's informative article on, 'Female Pioneer Haiku Poets in Canada,' and several other articles as well. The largest section of the book is dedicated to haiku and senryu and with so many good haiku to choose from it's hard to pick, but to give you a bit of sense what is included I offer these examples:

evolution—
my son draws a dinosaur
for a girl
Julie Bloss Kelsey

north star
she says we'll find
a way
Joe McKeon

the door
locks behind me...
autumn chill
Dave Read

midwinter
the tethered mare
paws the ground
Jennifer Sutherland



postmark by John Martone , Tufo, 2019, 4" x 6" , 117 pages , white cover with black type title and author.

Reviewed by Tom Clausen

John Martone is one of the most prolific writers of English language haiku and the author of a succession of unassuming chapbooks in which he presents indelible details and intimate portraits from his life. The poems in *postmark* appear in one, two and three lines with a variety of spacing and formats.

Italics are utilized throughout this collection to ‘offset’ or indicate some nuance and reflection within his poems.

a thousand pages
John of the Cross
suddenly weightless

the fullness of time
mother appears for a moment

like anyone else
I make a home where I don't belong

In reading *postmark*, there is a sense of being in the great labyrinth that a life of poetry is inevitably about. John Martone writes from his heart and out to the far edges of himself. To spend time with his poems is akin to sitting with the poet and hearing whispers from the depth works of his mind. Few if any relations are unnoticed or unworthy.

bottle
of pills
the table top's grain

Giacomo Gaglione
fifty years paralyzed
and I get up to make coffee

honeycomb
the gaps in
his journal

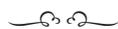
There are ten poems in Italian and the presence in many poems of Italian place/ names that arises from John's long-standing connection to Italy and Italian poetic literature.

This collection, and truly any of his collections, provides a communion with what he has found spiritual, meaningful and precious in his life. In reading these poems I felt a subtle yet sure sense of the world-my world slowing down. In some of his previous collections Martone has presented his poems in a vertical stretched out fashion where words would be 'broken' in pieces as you read down. The effect was a wonderful 'taking time' to savor each poem. Although *postmark* does not present poems in a vertical format the 'taking your time' is still in place! It is a gift to spend time with poems that so deftly convey the gentleness and refined wonder of John Martone.

I take off my glasses
in morning mist
it's perfect

life-vest
in a closet's depths

sits outside in his chair
remember him that way



Half in Light, Half in the Shade: Haiku and Senryu by Olivier Schopfer, 2019, \$15 , Cyberwit.net, ISBN: 978-93-89074-01-7

Reviewed by Tom Clausen

Swiss poet, Olivier Schopfer's third collection, *Half in Light, Half in the Shade: Haiku and Senryu*, is a polished and eclectic collection of poems that displays Schopfer's keen eye for detail and humility to how life is a mix of light and shade.

the doctor's
illegible prescription
winter rain