
peony heads
held up by string –
dad's head on his chest

another funeral
despite it all, a bath
loofa me tender
loofa me true
loofa of mine

quiet reflections
the fan turns
in the stainless steel bowl

a leaf falls
missing your hair
my hand

blowing snow
my teacup warm
but empty

can
dle
light
can
de
light

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Credits: these haiku and tanka have
previously appeared in: *Gusts*,
Frogpond, *A Hundred Gourds*,
Holographic Haiku, *KaDo Annual*
Broadsheets, *Painting Sunlight*, *The Touch*
of a Moth, *Comparing Tattoos*, *In The*
Clear Dawn Sky, *Lifting the Sky* and
Haiku Canada Review.

phafours press, fall 2015.

Place-Keeping



tanka and haiku
by Pearl Pirie



she phoned
with bad news --
on the counter
the cut potatoes
turn black

heart institute
waiting room
wearing
my best shoes
to meet the doctor

stroking the hair
on the top
of your foot
how can I care
about any war

the fresh fig
meets the reflux
-- so I was right
never to have had
any children.

my teenaged pout
and dry straw scent
from feverfew tea
the heaviest bales
left for my mother

reading on the bus
death poems
as children giggle

my height
in an icicle
gone at noon

close lightning strike
behind the sound
something silent

small drops
welcomed by puddles
at least

at the grave
mother and daughter
share a shadow

the lines
of last night's snow
wrought iron fence

clouds part
reveal
another

the hawk
being eaten
by fog

