# hai·ku

(plural hai·ku)

n

short Japanese poem: a form of Japanese poetry with 17 syllables in three unrhymed lines of five, seven, and five syllables, often describing nature or a season. Also called hokku

[Late 19th century. From Japanese , shortening of haikai no ku , literally "not serious verse."]

# tan-ka

(plural tan kas or tan ka)

n

- Japanese verse form: a five-line Japanese verse form in which the first and third lines have five syllables each and the other lines have seven syllables each. See also haiku
- 2. Japanese poem: a poem with a tanka verse structure

[Late 19th century. From Japanese, from tan "short" + ka "song."]

# po·em

(plural po ems)

n

- poetry piece written in verse: a complete and self-contained piece of writing in verse that is set out in lines of a particular length and uses rhythm, imagery, and often rhyme to achieve its effect
- 2. writing with poetic effect: a piece of writing that is not in verse but that has the imaginative, rhythmic, or metaphorical qualities and the intensity usually associated with a poem
- 3. beautiful or delightful thing: something particularly lovely, beautiful, or delightful

[15th century. Via French poème from, ultimately, Greek poiëma, literally "making," from poiein "to make."]

#### ha-kim

(plural ha-kims) or ha-keem (plural ha-keems)

n

Muslim doctor: a Muslim doctor who uses traditional remedies

[From Arabic akīm "wise man"]

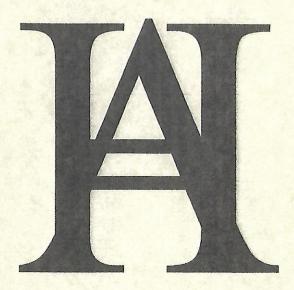
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# SERENA WEARS BLACK

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HAKEEM ALEXANDER

Serena Wears Black....

I have lost something And I was dreaming of you When I cried last night

So full was the dark As if the sun was dying Near the place I rest

> Now you know it's true For here is my first haiku Written just for you

Three years of blood stored A thirst not to be ignored Now I want some more

As the warm wind blows
The scent of rose rides a breeze
Above the cold sea

Beneath a black veil Blood red lips part for a smile As the casket shuts

Hello there my friend Asleep hiding from the sun Rising in the night

Like a ghost spider Crawling on the web unseen Beauty fills eight eyes

> Dark yet very soft Her mood, her clothes, and her hair Just like a shadow

After the rain fell
A light mist hung in the air
Fading into dusk

Language will be lost Genocide and unity Have made quite sure.

> No one is afraid Until the blood starts spilling On white winter snow

Strong winds thin the clouds And leaves scatter through the air Art is such a breeze

SERENA WEARS BLACK

1

The winter calls me Like a beast with an iced heart I embrace the cold.

> A bed of roses I dream of as I'm weeping Standing in the rain.

Silver and gold stars Sparkle in a frozen place Until they explode

> Streams of crimson glow Like rubies in the sunlight Falling from my eyes

> > Lovely is the tomb Beauty rests in morbid gloom Zero guards the room

Hands are bleeding raw Ripped apart by Zero's paw White razor sharp claws

If you were a ghost
I would love to be haunted
Until Hades called

With a fantasy I am seducing myself Each time I see you

No one believes me But one day I will be gone Dissolved by my pains

> To the contrary Inside the cemetery 'Tis not so scary

So full is the moon And it will forever be Shinning down on me

Like silvery lace
The moon shines upon your face
Lovely shadows' grace

Wicked angel fire Burns within ignites desire Sings this demon choir

Webs of silver shine Traps of mirrors lace the vines Hearts shall intertwine

SERENA WEARS BLACK

2

HAKEEM ALEXANDER

If the Black Widow Gives the gift of poison wine Why should I deny?

Good night butterfly
As one wilted rose decays
I sleep in my cave

I took a long walk And though I tried to forget I'm haunted by you

This place is a maze Or am I just always lost In this false ascent?

> Please just stay away I can't take this anymore This bleeding inside

> > I dream of castles Sitting right next to the moon And I'll have them soon

Drain the pain from me I'll sit quietly dying If you'll just hold me

Singing nightingale Nesting on the tomb of me Celebrating life

> The waves of the sea Soak my face and my body Drowning my sorrow

I've fallen so hard That I've broken every bone But will shed no tears

Peel some oranges
Taste the fruit inside of them
And swallow the seeds

With a single kiss Bring your mind out of the dark And into my light

This broken sunlight Falls to pieces in my eyes From a screaming sky

SERENA WEARS BLACK

3

A lonely stranger Within a weeping valley Cries himself to sleep

> I will lay silent Welcoming eternity At the end of time

In an unmarked grave The beautiful autumn leaves Dancing above me

> A naked Vampire / Princess Dances on a frozen lake Covered in my blood

> > I found a dead crow And buried it in moist soil On my way back home

A dying forest In desperate need of rain Smiles upon a storm

Is this a river?
Or have I waited too long
To cover my wounds?

My breath and my steps Silent as a calm night's breeze Walking on the shore

The cold bitter wind Brings such comfort to my skin While the Winter sings

There will come a time When walking away from me Will cause much crying

These dreams of freedom Are more than just fantasy And will soon arrive

The warm summer rain Like the tears of an angel Wash away my fears

> Just like wild flowers Growing freely in the rain I have lost control

SERENA WEARS BLACK

HAKEEM ALEXANDER

Look into my eyes
I hear your lovely screaming
Making midnight love

Intoxicating Your scent is Heaven's flower Breathing you inside

Breaking me apart My pieces fall like snowflakes Freezing as one soul

> Beauty makes me cry Like a weeping injured child Stop making me cry

Many things are known But none are as beautiful As your lovely grace

> I know of something No one cares about sorrow And death comes slowly

> > It's cold and so dark Inside my apartment I'm always alone

I've been led astray
I've completely lost my way
Up until this day

It's time to let go I won't submit to your charms And I may kill you

Heed my warnings true
It seems I'm in love with you
The sky is not blue

Raping my lost soul Tearing out the evil world Giving me freedom

> All my hopes and dreams Impaled by disappointment I have grown stronger

> > Drinking from your kiss Tasting poison on your lips Draining your sweet bliss

# HAKEEM ALEXANDER

If you have great pains
You can bury them with me
I'll be dying soon

I've tamed my anger But still it's my enemy It lives inside me

> It would surely seem That a soul in pain should seek Shelter from the storm

I've fallen in love I'm only staying away Because I'm afraid

> My skin is burning And my shadow is dying In the bright sunlight

> > May I have a kiss? I don't celebrate Christmas But I'd like that gift

I can't stand my dreams Because they're beautiful I've seen a whole new world And it's unnatural

I feel a sinister rage When looking at you I'm being burned alive 'Cause I can't have you

Why don't you take it away? So I won't hurt anymore Sometimes I curl up in pain On my apartment floor

Tell me how to escape Because I don't know how If I'm already in love What am I feeling now?

In my old garden A rose-bush is decaying Leaving thorns behind

HAKEEM ALEXANDER

My dark Queen Angel Flowers wreathed around your head In my joyful dreams

> Even when I die I will walk this lonely earth Searching for my love

Open up my wounds Take away the pain inside While quenching your thirst

> With you holding me As I step into darkness I will have no fears

> > The storm is coming I hope it will rain all night / day Flooding my worn soul

Cry for me my dear I long to taste your sweet tears Kissed from your soft lips

Like a new-born star I am seeing forever When I look at you

> Such fatal beauty Sometimes my heart stops beating Waiting without hope

My song carries on Though I may never have you I pour out my soul

> My beautiful tears Just like shattering crystal Sparkle in the sun

> > Through a rainy sky
> > I watched a red sun setting
> > And my heart breaking

It hurts so badly But I will accept my fate And pass silently

Oh how beautiful I have made my first poem Bleeding on ashes Poison floods my brain Like a storm in the desert Sand turns into mud

Sorrow defeats me When I think of holding you Knowing you're not here

Is it good or bad?
That I can not sleep because
I'm thinking of you?

My blood is draining From the wounds on my heart And I am dying

So now I am smiling
And enjoying this great pain
At the daylight's end

Yes I hate myself And that is why I am dead Sleeping on the floor

All love is now lost I can not feel the sunlight Drowning my pity

Into the altar Preach your bloody painful life Upon the beggars

I see nothing great In the palace of riches And the night begins

These are original And can never be replaced By any mortal

My love never dies And I don't know jealousy At least not todny

Magnificent muse
Oh with your radiant grace
My dreams are haunted

Doing what is just Leaving her to fly away As he dies inside

8

HAKEEM ALEXANDER

The great stubborn King's Lack of communication Destroyed the palace

> Follow the river And you will surely find me Weeping in the dark

> > She doesn't love me It's just a game of comfort That she is playing

Last night, as I cried
Myself to sleep,
Tears glowing in the fire light
Of a scented candle,
I heard the wind howling
Outside my window like
A mourning mother weeping
For her dead babies.
Lost as I was,
I found a thought...
Of you,

Pieces of heaven
Have been falling down on me
Like warm crystal rain
Ever since I first met you.
When will the storm come again?

I feel like crying Every day of my life And moments of joy Never seem to remedy The sadness that I'm feeling

Such boring courtship Meaningless meant to impress A terrified guest Oh how amused she must be With his attempts to please her

It hurts to leave her
Even though she starts to cry
I really must go

My journey begins From silence into darkness Where all is nothing

Like a clock of doom
I can hear my heart beating
Count down to zero

My success is grand But not more than the sorrow That fights for my soul

> I can now move on Into a future of hope Without my burdens

I've lost the sunshine In my heart, everything has Turned from light to dark

I have lost someone
But I don't need anyone
All I need is me

I must learn silence Even though the pain is great Let the lost be lost

When you are falling I hope that a thought of me Will help you to rise

I'm calling the shots And they fire so rapidly Some come back to me

My acre of diamonds
That I've worked all this time for
Is dull without love

Darkness is rising And I am blinded by it But I can still see

In desert winters The frozen sands are like blades Help me find the shade

> It's like a shower The way that the rain falls down Drenching my gold crown

HAKEEM ALEXANDER

Looking into the night I have realized that I am powerful

Nothing holds me down Even when I fall because I am powerful

> I am rising fast Destroying opposition I am powerful

Don't you realize? Not even you can stop me I am powerful!

Words can be erased But the beauty of your face Can not be replaced

I would hold your hands But the shame of poverty Takes my will from me

Oh how can this be? You're so beautiful it hurts And I love your pain

I know you want me So what am I afraid of? In this seduction

> Please take me with you In your dreams I wish to be So desperately

Looking through your eyes Your beauty is so alive Underneath your skin

It is certain that I was a powerful man Until you arrived

What a flawless match I am a creature of the dark Lit by your bright flame

These are only words
But their source is your presence
Sinking into me

You have entranced me I know you did not wish to But still I am yours

> Why are you so dear? The reason you are perfect Is that you are not

> > My face is burning With tears of fire on my skin I'm dying within

Please forgive my hands But I am possessed of you And can't stop writing

> In time this will pass Just as everything must end So shall this dreaming

> > I held you once When we were saying good-bye And I almost cried

Lying in my bed I hear music in my head The songs of the dead

> The taste of her sweat When her skin was warm and wet I'll never forget

> > Elbow and knee strikes Aimed at my opponents head Never miss the mark

Twisted steel and flesh Decorate the asphalt streets After the party

This timely demise
I see through my blood-soaked eyes
Comes as no surprise

Staring at your grave I'm dying to remember Our summertime love

12

From my sad midnight I see the raining clouds fall Swallowing the sky

SERENA WEARS BLACK

HAKEEM ALEXANDER

Playing with sunlight Energy flows in circles And fills in my heart

> The Jiu-Jitsu man He tried to rip my wings off In our match that day

Your beauty is true But what is inside of you That I should pursue?

The silence within

Must now manifest outside

And shroud my being

The more words I speak Senses numb and then grow weak So vague and oblique

Behind my power There lies much greater power Nothing more than me

> I speak way too much I'd rather live in silence Than to waste my words

Death is beautiful When a lover weeps in pain And loves once again

Her children have died And each morning is a grief I can not describe

> I am so weary Being awake is pure pain The same as my dreams

> > I need to create All I want to do is sing And write down these things

As I undressed you With my eyes I made a dream And you joined me there

My spirit crashes
Into the souls of the lost
As I journey home

I feel like flying Each time that I hear your voice Singing out my name

I still remember All the nights I cried alone Waiting for my love

> The scent of your skin Reminds me of the spring bloom Rising with the sun

> > The December breeze Whispers chilling memories Of the one I've lost

My soul dances To the rhythm of your heartbeat When you smile at me

> My tears have fallen To the center of the earth Resting with the flames

> > I followed my heart To the end of the rainbow And there I found you

Forgive my sorrow But my dreams are haunting me And I'm still sleeping

Walking in the rain I wonder why the Angels cry For this lonely earth

> On a summer night The warm sweat feels like thick blood Dripping from my face

Sadly I have found In this age of illusion Beauty means nothing

> Obliterating Responsibility Dissemination

> > There's anger in me There's so much anger in me Oh so much anger...

> > > 14

SERENA WEARS BLACK

HAKEEM ALEXANDER

I am so consumed Within my own hot passion Burning with fever

> Open up the pits Where unclaimed corpses now rest And dive to freedom

> > I make loud music Heavy metal is my brand Now I need a band

No God to worship No creator I pray to But I'm not faithless

I believe in me And not in some deity That I can not see

> This is for you my dear To cherish for many years Through your hopes and fears

It is December
And I think of you each day
To hold to my smiles

This rainy weather Will bring us close together My dear friend never

Lying next to you I listened to your poems Being read to me

Sleeping in my arms I feel your heart singing Long into the night

Lost inhibition Not thinking of tomorrow Only this moment

Connected souls flow Our bodies dance together Just like forever

When the card is closed Just guess what happens inside How interesting

SERENA WEARS BLACK

15

Not everyone wants To get right back up after They have just fallen

> The trees are golden And the moon shines as snow Where will I sleep now?

I sit in darkness Silent and so unafraid Why then do I weep?

I drew my sword first And though my foe retreated I still took his head

> Nothing will stop me I'll have everything I want Smiling until then

Power in my mind Manifests in my body Awaking my soul

Let it burn away Suffocating in your heart Kill the angry flame

> In the darkness stands A hollow and empty man With no escape plan

> > 16

If I break your face Will you keep the pace with me? Inside of the ring

> If I never left You would still be smiling now But instead you drown

> > Countless gold pieces
> > Lay drenched in the blood of men
> > Becoming "Red Coins"

There are two of them And they both are real crazy Who do I let go?

> As I look upwards The smog filled sky tells me why The rain is burning

SERENA WEARS BLACK

HAKEEM ALEXANDER

Some days when I rise I pull great words from my dreams Staining page after page

Red Coins they still are Though they have been cleansed of blood Have not men paid with life

They know not the rage That dwells inside this strong will Best that they do not

In the years to come I will be looking downward Upon those who lost

Greater I will be Should I neglect petty fools? And leave them to waste

Red Coins are funny These riches we have are just Blood covered money

> Think about success A mind burning with desire Always delivers

Fear can not exist Where the great obsession lives To have great success

Perish all the thoughts Of unworthiness and fear And the world is yours

> All of the treasure That I do very desire Is already mine

More than just great strength I hold great keys to power Which unlock the world

> Nothing but greatness Shall enter upon my mind To drive my actions

> > I am transforming And evolving everyday Stronger to succeed

HAKEEM ALEXANDER

Ultimate power Over my grand destiny Resides in my thoughts

True application
Of the knowledge to succeed
Is at my command

Fear, doubt, and worry Have now been conquered and slain Perished forever

I may be gentle But it may not be well known I always harm flies

> I seek great fortune And the wisdom to acquire The best from this life

> > Through dreams I do know In victory I shall see My enemies felled

The one that I love Is now smiling next to me Green eyed, brown haired girl

> Serena wears black Each day of her life in black Always wearing black

> > Too sad to notice Never knew that it was me Waiting to hold her

Took the easy way
Took the easy way out of
A life of all black

Could I bring her back? Should I bring her back to me? In my memories?

Too blind too notice Took the easy way out now Serena wears black

AMIT,

THE INSPIRATION AND GOOD CAUCHS

AND CONVERSATION CREAT YOU ARE ARTISTI

ALX NOR

SERENA WEARS BLACK