

Tulips & Dandelions

Haiku by Dean Summers

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1

new tulip leaf
a pool of rain water
inside the curl

a teacup
to fit his hand, a teacup
to fit her hand

bare branches
a score of drab little birds
in the cherry tree

3

pickets to replace
too soon
the autumn rain

empty playground
down the slide
a maple leaf

autumn sunlight
beads of holy water arc
toward the casket

2

a glass of iced tea
the lawn mower silent
by the dandelions

round and round
the patterns of lace
the ladybug

song sparrow
again and again
no answer

4

night shift
the hands of the clock
the smell of coffee

before dawn
the Quaker Oats man
a little too cheerful

winter rain
tied to the gate
a yellow balloon

Each stanza first published as haiku: **1** *Voices and Echoes* (HSA, 2001) • *Sunlight through Rain* (HNW, 1996) • *to find the words* (HNW, 2000) **2** *Cherry Blossom Rain* (HNW, 1997) • *Unbroken Curve* (HNW, 1996) • *The Heron's Nest*, 2:2 (2000) **3** *bits of itself* (HSA, 2003) • *Brussels Sprout*, 12:3 (1995) • *The Heron's Nest*, 1:3 (1999) **4** *Sudden Shower* (HNW, 1995) • *Frogpond*, 26:2 (2003) • *The Heron's Nest*, 2:1 (2000).

Dean Summers, Publisher of Holly House Publications (hollybooks.com), lives in Seattle with his wife Jan. Dean has been writing haiku since 1969. His work has appeared in *Modern Haiku*, *Frogpond*, *The Heron's Nest*, *Cicada*, and *Brussels Sprout*. He is the editor and publisher of three works of haiku by Robert Gibson. With Ruth Yarrow, Dean served as a judge for the 2004 Haiku Society of America Merit Book Awards.