

## POETRY

## COLOR HAIKU\*

JOHANNA SHAPIRO, Ph.D.

## WHITE HAIKU

White, white, white is the  
color of snow, sugar, swans  
this hospital bed

## BLUE HAIKU

The patient's eyes are  
deep pools in which the doctor  
can swim forever

## RED HAIKU

Blood rains from body  
Ripples in a crimson lake  
The doctor can't swim

## BLACK HAIKU

Death always arrives  
sometimes too soon, or too late  
but it does get there

The butterfly has  
its brief nibble of pleasure  
We taste just our death

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\*Haiku is a poetry form, Japanese in origin, consisting of 3 lines that contain respectively five, seven, and five syllables. Haiku see nature in a single bold image but do not comment (count 'em!).

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