

New Year's Day—  
a team of seagulls  
on the wet infield

drifting cherry petals . . .  
a window goes up  
in the passing limousine

spring breeze—  
the pull of her hand  
as we near the pet store

garden supply store . . .  
each sundial  
tells a different time

late-night walk—  
a cone of rain  
under the streetlight

keeping them for a day—  
the broken pieces  
of the heirloom bowl

These poems have previously appeared in the following journals, books, and online publications: *Betty Drevniok Award 2006* (results flyer), *Flying White: 2006 Members' Anthology* (San Jose, California: Yuki Teikei Haiku Society, 2006), *Frogpond*, *Geppo*, *Global Haiku: Twenty-five Poets Worldwide* (Oakville, Ontario: Mosaic Press, 2000), *The Haiku Anthology* (New York: W. W. Norton, 1999), *Haiku Friends 2* (Osaka, Japan: Umeda, 2007), *Haiku: A Poet's Guide* (Lincoln, Illinois: Modern Haiku Press, 2003), *Hermitage* (Romania), *The Heron's Nest*, *IDG World Update*, *Illinois News*, *Mariposa*, *Mie Times* (Japan), *Modern Haiku*, *Open Window* (Brooks Books website, 2000), *Origin*, *Pebbles*, *Shiki Haikusphere* (Matsuyama, Japan: Prinart/Shiki Team, 2007), *Snapshots* (England), *South by Southeast*, *Tinywords* (online), *Tokutomi Memorial Haiku Contest 2006* (results flyer), *Vox Populi: 2007 Seattle Poetry Festival Anthology* (Seattle: Eleventh Hour Productions, 2007), *Waverley Writers: Celebrating 25 Years, 1981–2005* (Palo Alto, California: Waverley Writers, 2007), and *Woodnotes*. In addition, “keeping them for a day” won an honourable mention in the 2006 Drevniok Haiku Contest sponsored by Haiku Canada, and “mother’s pots and pans” won an honourable mention in the 2006 Tokutomi Memorial Haiku Contest sponsored by the Yuki Teikei Haiku Society. My thanks to each editor or judge who selected these poems.

# Sunbreak

*Michael Dylan Welch*

sunbreak—  
the dry spot  
on the shopping cart seat

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cotton flowers—  
the rise and fall of voices  
from the country church

sultry afternoon—  
I return again  
to the unsigned painting

mother's pots and pans  
forgotten in the sand box—  
a mid-summer rain

afternoon nap—  
the wind in the pine  
pulls at my hammock

rice chaff  
whitens the scoop—  
supper alone

ripples in the tidepool—  
a quieter ocean  
in my child's shell

deserted park      hail on the chessboard

Indian summer—  
the farmer's windmill  
turning backwards

falling leaves—  
an oar drawn  
out of an oarlock

foggy night—  
sparks from a tossed cigarette  
scatter on the freeway

morning stillness . . .  
first snow  
on the tree-bound kite

winter solstice—  
a few test papers  
still unmarked

first Christmas—  
our baby sleeps through  
the unwrapping of his gifts