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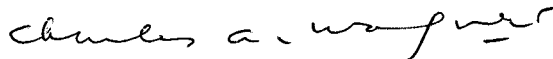
April 8, 1965

Mr. Nicholas Virgilio
1092 Niagara Road
Camden, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Virgilio:

We are sorry to report that you have failed to gain membership in The Poetry Society of America. However, membership in this Society has very often been achieved after many trials.

Yours truly,



Charles A. Wagner
Executive Secretary

CAW:sf

1092 Niagara Road
Camden, New Jersey
October 9, 1974

Dear Kay;

I do not mean to criticize you or judges concerning what poems win Eminent Mention etc. I am sure you are a fair and honest person; methods of selection likewise.

You have been good to me; and like my work. This is obvious; count the number of poems you have accepted over the years. This time you accepted 10 out of 27 submissions. Look through these; Do you think any of these are worthy of a prize other than Honorable Mention? I am sure you would have awarded at least one of my poems Eminent Mention if you were judge among submissions over the past 5 years. You like my work. There's the answer. I am writing the haiku-senryu type poem (that's what I mean by human-oriented). This type is obviously not to the liking of most judges. Helen Cheneweth has said the "sack of kittens" is "cruel" (forgetting that poetry is amoral). I believe my work is poetry; most haiku are not poetry. Many so-called haiku are "fine felicities of observation" not poetry. Many of my poems stem from ideas that I have been working on for years. For example:

Atop the town flagpole,
a gob of bubblegum
holds my dead brother's dime.

Not great poetry but publishable. This would never have a chance in a contest. How many published haiku are ^{the} result of years of trial and error?

November 19, 1984

Dear Nick,

Your envelopes arrived this afternoon, just an hour or so after I'd posted my missive to you. I'm ecstatic! Really, the manuscripts are even better than I expected. And seeing both of them has enabled me to make one firm decision: we'll go for a larger selection, a minimum of 80 haiku.

I like the idea of having the collection in two parts, denoted by section title pages just with a I and a II. The second part will have, it seems to me, somewhat more daring and ~~variety in style and technique than the first one, yet will~~ provide an interesting reflection of its content. As you'll see.

Some quick notes: The title, I feel, must be changed to SELECTED HAIKU, because that's exactly what this book is. This title has a rather majestic air to it, conveying the sense that we are dealing with someone who has been writing a long time and produced a lot of good work, and that the very best of that work is being presented. That's how it is. Any other title would be a bowing out. This is a major collection, an event in the world of haiku, and the title should say so, or at least admit it.

Cor's Introduction is excellent, and will be a pleasure to typeset. One change I insist on: "haiku," not "Haiku." Nobody anywhere capitalizes it these days, a matter of style.

The dedication is fine, but the thanks-piece will have to be seriously trimmed. To no more than 10 or a dozen lines. Every author in the world has had to thank those "too numerous to mention, but warmly remembered." Seriously, I know how you feel, but I can't typeset all that--and it would weigh down the front end of the book. I'll be able to suggest an edited version, subject to your approval. I would advise thanking editors and fellow poets, "naming a few, and thanking other friends," limiting the names to very few indeed, concluding with the all-inclusive given above. One has to be hard-headed to make a book.

I will draw a biographical note from what you've provided in your leaflet, and submit it to you for approval.

Omit the "Author's Foreword." Superfluous.

Omitting the half-title, we get (1) full title page; (2) data page (copyright etc.); (3) + (4) Introduction; (5) dedication; (6) thanks and acknowledgments; (7) section sub: I; (8) blank..... i.e., a minimum of 8 pages before hitting the first poem. That's



State of New Jersey
GLASSBORO STATE COLLEGE
GLASSBORO, NEW JERSEY 08028

October 2, 1985

Mr. Nick Virgilio
Center for Arts & Humanities
2nd & Cooper
Camden, NJ 08105

Dear Nick:

I have selected October 24, 1985 as the date for your visit to the Advanced Poetry Writing Class. We meet at 11 o'clock in Bunce Hall, Room 206.

One of my students, Joe Falco, has offered to pick you up and drive you to and from the College. After class, I hope we can have lunch together.

We will be able to provide you with an honorarium of at least \$25.00. I hope that will be acceptable, and that this date and time will work and be convenient for you. If there is any problem, please let me know and we can rearrange matters.

I am looking forward to seeing you. Please do bring copies of your new book along.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Toni Libro".

Toni Libro,
Associate Professor
of Communications

TL/cn

1092 Niagara Road
Camden, New Jersey
October 11, 1969

Area Code 609 Emerson 5-0136

Dear Miss Tozaki:

Thank you very much for acknowledging my letter concerning an original English haiku poetry program, and discussion of the Japanese haiku. I am not a translator but a poet and lecturer. It is said that what I compose is real haiku. For example.....

Deep in rank grass,
through a bullet-riddled helmet;
an unknown flower.

(published Leatherneck Magazine)

I think you would enjoy my program. Please try to schedule it at the Asia House. I have spoken at several colleges: Cornell University, Rutgers University (Camden), University of Virginia, Villanova University and others. Temple University, Philadelphia has scheduled my program for October 14th; Villanova University, November 5th.

Please examine the enclosed poems, and compare them with the Japanese haiku.

Sincerely yours,

Nicholas A. Virgilio
Nicholas A. Virgilio

NAV/NAV

Walt Whitman International Poetry Center

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Camden, New Jersey 08102

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J. Robert O'Neill
Executive Director

Frederick W. Missimer
Assistant Director

Sept. 8, 1976

Nick,

Something here for your scrapbook.
Campbells took the photos. The close-up
of you is excellent, a very commanding
pose (that of the lawgiver and soothsayer).

Fred

