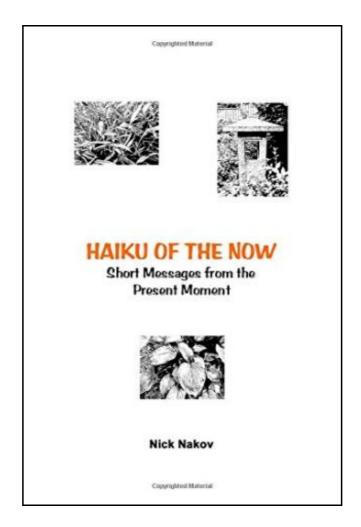
# Haiku of the Now



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(Gust Mayert V)

#### HAIKU OF THE NOW



Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 108 pages. If a picture is worth a thousand words, a haiku poem should be worth at least two or three hundred. Being able to express profound emotion and clear perception in no more than seventeen syllables, this traditionally Japanese short poetic form has for decades had its own place in the vast world of English literature. Haiku bear a great resemblance to photographs. Similarly, they can recreate an impromptu reflection of reality, of the world, seen through the eyes of the poet instead of having been recorded by a camera. In this sense, the poets own self becomes lost in this observation, in a way transforming him or her into just an instrument being used in the process. And exactly like photographs, haiku poems are totally unique. Just like there are no two identical photographs existing, its impossible, or, as this poet would prefer to put it, highly improbable, that one exactly same scene be observed by two different poets, and then described with the very same words. Conveying a reflection of the poets minds, or rather hearts, momentary observation, a haiku resembles very much a drop of rain, or a snowflake all the same at first glance, but then completely different after a closer examination. Haiku is about now the present moment in which we all actually exist, fascinatingly disregarding our memories of the past and our expectations for the future. Now is when everything really happens, when the world takes place. There exists a notion that haiku poems have to necessarily consist of seventeen syllables. This is absolutely true, as long as they are written in Japanese. In that language, however, syllables are counted differently than in English. Trying to write haiku in seventeen syllables in English would result in using more...



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