

# HAIKU OF AFRICA

Selected by Adjei Agyei-Baah



night  
in flames  
fireflies

—Celestine Nudanu (Ghana)

after the storm  
the homelessness  
of fallen leaves

—Turkson Adu Darkwa (Ghana)

full moon—  
cumulus clouds slowly  
form a wolf

—Patrick Wafula (Kenya)

Maasai village  
cattle bells awakening  
the dawn

—Mercy Ikuri (Kenya)

a committee  
gathers in celebration  
dying buffalo  
—Nshai Waluzimba (Zambia)

morning snail  
stuck on another  
stuck on a leaf  
—Fredua-Agyeman Nana (Ghana)

gunshot  
a flock of birds take cover  
in the open sky  
—Barnabas Ìkéolúwa Adélékè (Nigeria)

full sunshine . . .  
rainbow perishing into  
butterflies  
—Ali Znaidi (Tunisia)

winter cold—  
a swan shakes off  
the night  
—Emmanuel Jessie Kalusian (Nigeria)

harmattan fire outbreaks  
one surest way  
of communal gathering  
—Dominic Prempeh (Ghana)

Daddy, come quick and look:  
The sky is so full of  
God's foot prints.  
—Wilhelm Haupt (South Africa)

My grandson  
greet's the fridge first  
last night's chicken  
—Clifford W. Lindemann (South Africa)

African summer  
elephants trumpet  
in the dusty plains  
—Rakotomahefa Diamondra (Madagascar)

muddy trail of footprints  
I step inside the shoe  
of another  
—Kwaku Feni Adow (Ghana)

wavy sea—  
a lad and his boat  
seesaw  
—Ayinbire, Blessmond Alebna (Ghana)

harmattan winds  
the stiff permed pattern  
of dry grasses  
—Akwu Sunday Victor (Nigeria)

soft afternoon  
baby patting the stars  
from its cot  
—Jacob Kobina Ayiah Mensah (Ghana)

funeral speech  
i put down my sorrows  
in a haiku  
—Caleb Mutua (Kenya)

savannah encounter  
robins cheer on  
a gruesome combat  
—Nathaniel Apadu (Ghana)

weaver birds . . .  
the bombed market  
echoes back to life  
—Chibuihe-Light Obi (Nigeria)

year's end  
her skipping rope  
too short  
—Maria Steyn (South Africa)

cold harmattan morn  
a shot of gin keeps  
the cabman going  
—Theophilus Femi Alawonde (Nigeria)

harmattan wind  
clattering dry leaves  
count their days  
—Jamil Danbala Umar (Ghana)

black mamba  
coiled in sugar cane field  
scythe glistening  
—Raphael d'Abdon (South Africa)

I looked around me  
In the middle of the street  
Suddenly I am lost.  
—Jacob Nthoiwa (Botswana)

another lemon tree  
in another country  
my gazes are desires  
—Mohammed Bennis (Morocco)

song of the cicada  
between two roof, a gray cat  
leaps on the moon  
—Ndiaye Shadikh (Senegal)

roasting sun  
the egret's measured steps  
in buffalo shadow  
—Adjei Agyei-Baah (Ghana)