

*Late afternoon sun*

*Slants through the rabbit's pink ears*

*As he chews the grass*

*April 30, 2024*

*Hidden Creek*

*Four crows on the path*

*Scatter at my approach*

*Autumn leaves and sun*

*October 9, 2024*

*Sammy's Path*

*Following the frost*

*The kale leaves become violet*

*In the setting sun*

*November 20, 2024*

*Hidden Creek*

*First trace of winter*

*Snow greets my daughter's return*

*Heart's longing now stilled*

*December 20, 2024*

*Hidden Creek*

*Crows, high in the trees*

*Announce my presence to all*

*First snow of winter*

*December 20, 2024*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Nine deer look my way*

*As I walk the narrow path*

*New Year's afternoon*

*January 1, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Bluebirds' silhouette*

*Bare branches, grey clouds, white snow*

*Longing for spring green*

*January 16, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*'Setsubun' today*

*Brings sudden warmth and sunshine*

*Next day cold once more*

*February 3, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Setsubun 節分 is the traditional Japanese New Year, falling in early February.*

*Clouds and sky and wind  
Hurrying to the ballet  
Together with friends*

*March 8, 2025*

*Locust Street (when Batta-sensei  
challenged me to compose a haiku in the 50  
yards between Alice restaurant and the  
Academy of Music)*

*Paw print in sidewalk  
Unnoticed through the winter  
A fresh sign of spring*

*March 10, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Three cardinals fly  
Will they soar to a conclave?  
May the red one win!*

*March 12, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Old song on guitar  
Fragrance of orange blossoms  
Plaza San Andres*

*March 18, 2025*

*Plaza de San Andres, Sevilla*

*Sevilla, alone*

*Suddenly, new friend appears*

*Golden afternoon*

*March 19, 2025*

*Las Setas, Sevilla*

*Just how can this be?*

*My daily walk a circle*

*Wind always in face!*

*March 26, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Chalk on the sidewalk*

*Another sure sign of Spring*

*Robins on the path*

*April 30, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Stumbling on the path*

*A crow caws in derision*

*Head down eyes forward!*

*July 4, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*A brief memory*

*The small dog that once greeted us*

*Wherefore art thou now?*

*July 22, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Remembering 'Bridget'*

*Summer day on porch*

*Bamboo leaves quaking in breeze*

*Aspen memories*

*July 22, 2025*

*Creekview Drive*

*Time to cut the hay*

*No rain – low humidity*

*Baler roars all day*

*July 23, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Memories of Louie Sierzega  
roaring about local weatherman Phil Volker  
failing to forecast the downpours that occurred*

*Stroll across campus*

*Cicadas buzzing conjure*

*July memories*

*July 24, 2025*

*Ursinus College*

*Morning cicadas*

*No doubt a hot day ahead*

*August approaches*

*July 25, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

山の下

藤花 茶色です

今日は秋です

*July 25, 2025*

*Creekview Drive*

*Roughly translated, this states:*

*Below the mountain / Wisteria turning brown / First day of autumn*

*Interesting that both my rough translation and the original adhere to the 5-7-5 rule.*

*I'm pleased with my effort here because the word for 'wisteria' in Japanese is 'fuji'.  
So the mountain (山) in the first line might be Fuji, but does not have to be in the  
context of this haiku.*

*“Heat wave number five!”*

*Walks confined to mornings with  
My cicada choir!*

*July 30, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Another heat wave*

*Fireflies and cicada  
Echoes of childhood*

*July 30, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

むし あつい

風がそよぐです

も はちがつ

*August 3, 2025*

*Creekview Drive*

*Roughly translated, this states:*

*Still hot and muggy / Only a slight breeze wafts through / August lingers still*

*風がそよぐ (Kaze ga soyoku) means the wind is fluttering gently*

*Bachelor buttons*

*Appeared on the trail today*

*Sign of late summer*

*August 13, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Striding down the trail*

*Cricket keeping pace with me*

*Who will turn off first?*

*August 27, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*This actually happened to me today. As I walked down the sidewalk, I saw a cricket hopping along, staying one step ahead of my feet. Luckily, and before I could think of changing my course, he jumped off into the adjacent grass.*

*Dandelion seed*

*Tangled in a spider's web*

*Twisting in the wind.*

*August 27, 2025*

*On the deck*

蒲公英種

風が西から

海にまで？

*August 28, 2025*

*Down the shore*

*Roughly translated, this states:*

*Dandelion seed / Wind is from the west today / Destined for the sea?*

*Four deer in greenway*

*On Wednesday mid-afternoon*

*Critters rule the 'hood!*

*September 3, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

秋祭り

けん玉がたくさん

楽しかった

*September 13, 2025*

*Schauffele Plaza, Ardmore, PA*

*Roughly translated, this states:*

*Autumn Festival / Played at Kendama all day / It was fun indeed*

*A Kendama ('sword & ball') is a Japanese wooden skill toy*

秋分の日です

昼夜同

夜が長...

*September 21, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Roughly translated, this states:*

*Autumn equinox /Day is now equal to night / From now nights grow long...*

*Four breaths in, four out*

*Haiku is 5 - 7 - 5*

*Feels like Dave Brubeck!*

*September 24, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*When I walk, I always fall into breathing in for four steps and breathing out for four steps. Musically speaking, 4/4 time signature. I also attempt to compose haiku on my walks. But the 5 - 7 - 5 syllable requirements for haiku seem to clash with the 4/4 timing of my breathing. This can only be resolved by thinking of the Dave Brubeck Quartet and their 1959 classic, 'Take Five', which was written in 5/4 time!*

*Black walnuts on the trail*

*Blue jays challenge my passage*

*Autumn has arrived*

*September 25, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

今日秋雨

道濡れ落ち葉

今涼しい

*September 25, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Roughly translated, this states:*

*Autumn rain today / Many wet leaves on the trail / Days now seem cooler*

*The phrase 'nure ochiba' (濡れ落ち葉) literally means 'wet leaf'.  
But along with that, Japanese wives often use it to describe retired  
husbands who get underfoot at home. If you've ever tried to sweep  
a wet leaf off a wet sidewalk, you'll understand the imagery. And  
so, I write haiku simply to avoid being labeled a 濡れ落ち葉 !!*

*In dappled sunlight*

*On the gently curving path*

*This autumn morning*

*September 26, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

月見間に

松風荘で

風がそよぐです

October 3, 2025

Shofuso Japanese House

*Shofuso (松風荘) is the Japanese house and garden in Fairmount Park, Philadelphia. During last night's Moon Viewing celebration (お月見), there was gentle breeze moving through the pines 風がそよぐ (Kaze ga soyoku).*

*Focused on trip prep*

*Not even aware of trail*

*Sudden rain on face*

October 13, 2025

Hidden Creek Trail

*This was me today. I was totally immersed in planning my trip home to Japan and embarked on a walk still dominated by those thoughts. Only after fifteen minutes did I wake up and fully realize where I was.*

*Day Two jet lag blues...*

*Thank God big meeting Day One*

*Just survive today*

*October 29, 2025*

*Kumagaya*

*Ducks glimpsed through bamboo*

*Resting in the pavilion*

*And a crane takes flight!*

*October 29, 2025*

*Seikeian Garden, Kumagaya*

*Coos of mourning doves*

*Aromas from street vendors*

*In Nanjing back streets*

*October 31, 2025*

*Nanjing*

*Shaded street, Nanjing*

*Sycamores and some maples*

*Do ghosts seek the sun?*

*October 31, 2025*

*Nanjing*

*After visiting the Memorial Hall and realizing that it was All Hallows' Eve.*

*Above Narita*

*Hachiman Temple presides*

*Ruling below clouds*

*November 1, 2025*

*Narita, Japan*

*November sunlight*

*Filters through the dry oak leaves*

*In late afternoon*

*November 6, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Indian Summer*

今,こはるびより

*Both homelands sense this*

*November 7, 2025*

*Hidden Creek*

*こはるびより(Koharu nibori)is the Japanese expression for the warm and sunny days that appear between late autumn and early winter.*

*Solitary walk*

*Tomorrow to say goodbye*

*To family dog*

*November 9, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Farwell to Telsa*

*E'en with all the unfetched balls*

*We loved you truly...*

*November 10, 2025*

*Hidden Creek*

*First snow in the air*

*Accompanied by fierce wind*

*Turn, wheel of seasons*

*November 11, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*For sixteen years now*

*Walking the pup morn and night*

*Leash now lies at rest*

*November 12, 2025*

*Hidden Creek*

*I look to her spot*

*Half expecting a raised head*

*But she has left us*

*November 12, 2025*

*Hidden Creek*

*First walk in the park*

*Without the family dog*

*Echoes of past trails*

*November 13, 2025*

*Heckler Plains Homestead*

*The charcoal ignites*

*Today at Robiraki*

*Final tea this year*

*November 15, 2025*

*松風荘 Shofuso Japanese House*

*Since Shofuso is essentially an outdoor venue, Robiraki is our last session for this year.*

*{Having waited until ritto (the first day of winter by lunar calendar) at the beginning of November, there is kairo, the opening of the hearth which is also called 'robiraki'. From November, the ro (hearth) is used for chanoyu for half a year. In Sen no Rikyu's time it was said that the hearth should be opened when the color of the yuzu (citron) deepens}.*

*All the leaves are down*

*Except the oaks, who cling to*

*Theirs through the winter*

*November 17, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Wind rattles oak leaves*

*Who will cling to their branches*

*Through the long winter*

*November 23, 2025*

*Heckler Plains Homestead, evening*

*A flock of starlings*

*Swirl through the houses and trees*

*Landing in the yard*

*A Tippi Hedren moment!*

*December 22, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Harsh wind shoving clouds*

*From behind it propels me*

*From front it's a wall*

*December 30, 2025*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Encountering my*

*Neighbor each day on my walk*

*Brief nods in the cold*

*January 3, 2026*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Now wind has shifted*

*Is this January thaw?*

*One can only hope!*

*January 5, 2026*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*A cardinal flies*

*Then followed by a blue jay*

*Colors on grey day*

*January 11, 2026*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*A glimpse of blue jay*

*Diving in arbor vitae*

*Nesting or hiding?*

*January 13, 2026*

*On the deck*

*Five inches of snow*

*Saturday, with five more on*

*Sunday – and now sun!*

*January 13, 2026*

*On the deck*

*Ten inches of snow*

*Two inches of ice on top*

*Reflecting the sun*

*January 30, 2026*

*Hidden Creek*

*Deep snow present still*

*Four deer crouched by the creek bed*

*Where do they find food?*

*February 12, 2026*

*Hidden Creek*

*First day trail open*

*After three weeks of deep snow*

*Birdsong in the air*

*February 21, 2026*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Since I retired*

*Now aware of sun angle*

*As seasons progress*

*February 24, 2026*

*Hidden Creek*

*When writing haiku*

*Admit I sometimes miscount*

*The damn syllables!*

*February 24, 2026*

*Hidden Creek*

*Strange patches – brown and  
Faded green emerged today  
From beneath the snow!*

*February 26, 2026  
Hidden Creek Trail*

*'Mud luscious' is what  
e.e. called this time of year  
To me it's damn damp!*

*February 26, 2026  
Hidden Creek Trail*

*A warm day in March  
Stretching my legs on the trail  
Unaccustomed warmth*

*March 9, 2026  
Hidden Creek Trail*

*... or perhaps*

*A warm day in March  
Late spring day in late winter  
Unaccustomed warmth*

*March 9, 2026  
Hidden Creek Trail*

*Sudden warm spring day  
Followed many weeks of cold  
Perchance I journeyed?*

*March 10, 2026  
Hidden Creek*

*Shakespeare is made of  
Iambic pentameter  
By kilometer...*

*March 12, 2026  
Hidden Creek*

*Old school calendars  
Always showed a kite for March  
If no wind, then breeze...*

*March 18, 2026  
Hidden Creek Trail*

*My haiku journey  
Like a dog chasing its tail  
In dizzy circles*

*March 20, 2026  
Hidden Creek*

*Meandering stream*

*Greenery at its edges*

*All else brown in March*

*March 26, 2026*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Old 'TS' was right*

*April starts cruelly this year*

*The lion lingers*

*April 2, 2026*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Caught! Sudden shower*

*Spring leaves offer no shelter*

*Haiku in the rain*

*April 4, 2026*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Spring has arrived - all*

*Green except dandelions*

*Seasonal colors*

*April 20, 2026*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Today I can both*

*See the bird and hear his song*

*Cardinal on branch*

*April 28, 2026*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Shady side of street*

*Already more attractive*

*And it's only May!*

*May 4, 2026*

*Hidden Creek Trail*

*Light rain this morning*

*Plenty of trees for shelter*

*Beijing on Sunday*

*May 17, 2026*

*Beijing*

*Mist on flagstone path*

*Willows bend to touch the stream*

*Park blocks in Dongcheng*

*May 17, 2026*

*Beijing*

*After weekend rain*

*Old men sweep away puddles*

*With brooms of straw*

*May 18, 2026*

*Jiadaokou, Beijing*

*I left Beijing on*

*Plane ride so bumpy I cried*

*Not a masterpiece.*

*May 20, 2026*

*Enroute Beijing to Tokyo*

*(with all due apologies to The Band)*

*Yamanote Line*

*All passengers in their phones*

*Bound for Omaha*

*May 21, 2026*

*Hamamatsu-cho to Shimbashi*

*(with 'limited' apologies to Carl Sandburg)*

*Climate change means that*

*We are never quite certain*

*Which season we're in*

*May 26, 2026*

*Hidden Creek Trail*