



**Michael Dylan Welch** has been investigating haiku since 1976. His haiku, tanka, and longer poems have appeared in hundreds of journals and anthologies in at least 20 languages, and he has published dozens of poetry books, including translations from the Japanese. Michael was keynote speaker for the 2013 Haiku International Association conference in Tokyo, and in 2012 one of his translations appeared on the back of 150 million U.S. postage stamps. He is cofounder of the biennial Haiku North America conference (1991) and the American Haiku Archives at the California State Library in Sacramento (1996). Michael is also founder of the Seabeck Haiku Getaway (2008) and National Haiku Writing Month (2010), the latter held every February ([www.nahaiwrimo.com](http://www.nahaiwrimo.com), with an active Facebook page at NaHaiWriMo). He currently works as a cultural lecturer for an NFT company, and has previously worked on Minecraft and Xbox games, as well as the Haiku Journey computer game (and has also worked for Microsoft, Amazon, and Boeing). Michael lives with his wife and two teenagers in Sammamish, Washington. His personal website, devoted mostly to haiku, is [www.graceguts.com](http://www.graceguts.com).

### Haiku by Michael Dylan Welch

after the quake  
the weathervane  
pointing to earth

first rose—  
my toddler's breath  
parting the petals

still water—  
the blue heron  
steps in the moon

spring lightning—  
a flower's shadow  
against the fortress wall



**Joint Poets & Patrons  
& Illinois State Poetry Society Zoom  
Workshop  
Led by Michael Dylan Welch  
Saturday, May 14, 2022  
1:00-3:00 p.m.**

### Haiku Checklist Critique Workshop

Poets are invited to submit two haiku (or senryu) for critique by Michael and by the group between **April 20 and May 6**. For this workshop, we are accepting only haiku or senryu. At least one poem by each participant will be discussed during the workshop. If time permits, the additional haiku/senryu will also be discussed. Your submission, with **HAIKU WORKSHOP** in the subject line, should be emailed to [isps.submissions@gmail.com](mailto:isps.submissions@gmail.com). If you do not get a reply to an e-mailed poem, call Wilda at 630/739-2983 to be sure your poem was received. You can sign up at that same email address to get the link if you wish to attend without submitting a poem.

**Fee:** This workshop is free.

**If you have not attended a workshop with Michael Dylan Welch, we recommend that you prepare by reading Michael's "Haiku Checklist," at <https://www.graceguts.com/essays/haiku-checklist> before submitting your poems.**

**Check out our websites:**

<http://illinoispoets.org/>

and

<https://www.poetsandpatrons.net/>.