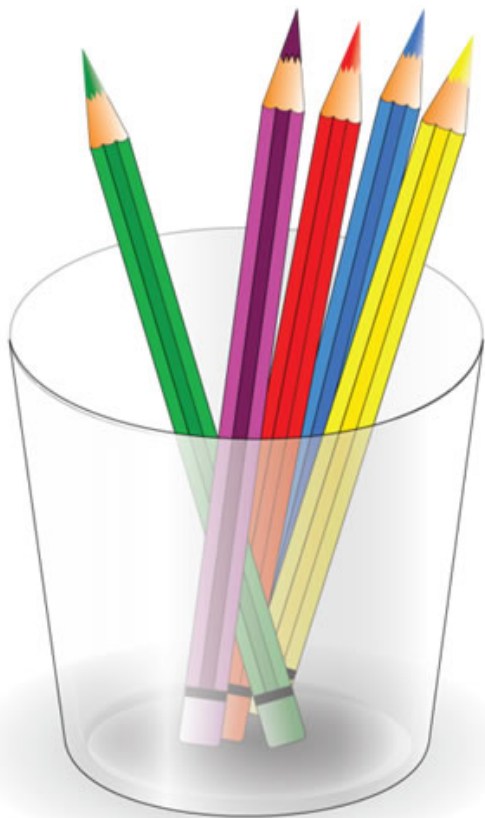


A Thousands Pictures speak a Million Words

fuche_bu



Presented by

My poetic Side 

Dedication

to all my millions and millions of fans around the world (sic)

About the author

would be poet and raconteur that doesn't know
when to quit.

summary

A TANKA FOR BEN

CHERRY STREET HAIKU

DANCING BEAR CAP AND GERMAN BEER

ABANDONED DISC

WAITING FOR SEPTA

HUMAN ODDITIES (TANKA)

BATHROOM GRAFFITI

GOLDEN ARCHES

THE PROCESS

TRESTLEWIDE

38TH & LUDLOW

WALK AND CHEW GUM

PASSID HAFUDID!

DOCK STREET ELEGY

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MARKINGS

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FAT ORANGE CAT

GAME PLAN

COFFEE ABSINTHE

TROUT FISHING

CANS TO GO

TRIUMPH

SNOW FLURRIES DROPPING

A TANKA FOR BEN

Did he imagine
a bridge of this magnitude
adorned with his name

while he was flying kites
and stashing away pennies

CHERRY STREET HAIKU

Cherry Street Tavern--
no playground for dieties;
a working class bar.

DANCING BEAR CAP AND GERMAN BEER

I place my Grateful Dead
Dancing bears camouflage baseball cap
down on the bar
next to my half liter of Paulaner Munich Lager.

It makes for a lovely presentation
that fairly summarizes
a good portion of my life.

No remorse felt
and only a few fleeting regrets.
The bear kept dancing
just as the beer kept flowing

and most of all
the pen kept scratching words
onto all those spiral notebooks.

ABANDONED DISC

abandoned CD

unceremoniously

ditched at train station

WAITING FOR SEPTA

waiting for Septa
on a too warm summer day
little breeze to cool

HUMAN ODDITIES (TANKA)

Human oddities
Seems redundant to me
Is it a joke?

I don't see any laughter
From the all too somber crowd.

BATHROOM GRAFFITI

Having to stop
& photograph graffiti
cuz it's a quote
from St George Carlin.

So we have found art
on the wall
of a brewpub bathroom

but truth be known
it's a complete sham.

I'm the guilty culprit
who put the quote there
in the first place.

GOLDEN ARCHES

I left Philly Distilling
heading back to the EL
Girard ST stop

I saw the McDonald's
golden arches near the stop
but I walked the other way.

I ended up making
a significant out of the way detour
due to my decision.

The moral of the story:
When seeking the Girard EI stop
head toward the golden arches.

It's a lesson learned
but hopefully
it'll be the last time
in my life
heading toward the golden arches
is the answer to the problem.

THE PROCESS

**lurking behind trees
the process is in full swing--
NBA beware!**

TRESTLEWIDE

There's increasing excuses
to walk by Trestle Inn
& you have to stop in
For a Trestlewide.

It's the law!

I've been challenged
on that assertion
but I'm pretty sure it is a law.

Besides why risk it?

One time, I even went
for two Trestlewides
in a single sitting.

It seemed like the right thing to do.

After all, if you had a hungry family
at home
& you stole a loaf of bread
to feed them--
Would that be so wrong?

And what if? instead of a loaf of bread
you went to Trestle Inn
and had two Trestlewides
in a single sitting?
Would that be a crime?

I think not!

Two Trestlewidess in a single sitting?

I know I've grown in statute

in several people's eyes.

Sadly, it's not likely

these are the ones I most need to impress.

38TH & LUDLOW

Grabbing a buffet dinner
at Sitar India in West Philly
and it hits me?

it hits me hard?
exactly where I am.

I walk out to see
the street sign:
38th & Ludlow.

38th & Ludlow
Where once stood a legend
now a discount furniture store
or some such shit.

It made me feel ill
as I walked by the brick building
that once was the Chestnut Cabaret.

The memories flooding my head
were intense:

Buddy Guy strolling through the crowd
playing his guitar;
King Yellowman with his X-rated dub;
Burning one down with Cippolina;
A baker's dozen Radiators shows.

The memories did
outnumber the tears
welling up in my eyes.

Tis true,
You can't go home again
but the jarring sight of
"Everything 50% off"
on such a hallowed space.

It was like a kick in the nuts
that I certainly didn't need.

WALK AND CHEW GUM

Sorry,
no photos
from my poetry reading
at Fergie's Pub.

Hey, I know
all about multi-tasking.

I proudly inform you
that I can walk
& chew gum at the same time
with relative ease.

But like Dirty Harry advised,
"A man's got to know his limitations."

And much to my chagrin
I learned that
I can't do a poetry reading
and take a selfie at the same time.

Humble pie never tastes good
but the occasional slice
is good for the soul.

PASSID HAFUDID!

The sign provided fair warning:

Be careful

going down the steps.

It's a narrow passageway

& you might clunk your head.

Of course,

you're serving high octane beers

to hardcore drunks

& watching clueless folks

getting well lit.

I wonder how many fools

mind their step

but forget to mind their head.

If they have hidden cameras

they probably have

a really good bloopers video.

DOCK STREET ELEGY

Dock street elegy;

The beers are flowing freely
as the sun fades out

and darkness descends over
another West Philly night

SANCTUARY

Do
we need
to write it
down on every wall
we care about all people

the quest for human dignity
extends to the mightiest
as well as
the weakest
beings

MARKINGS

Glen Hollow sign marked
by Dachshund black Labrador mix
setting pathway home

VOLCANO

Thru the surreal haze
Spying Warren and Dave Grohl
Shredding for freedom.

DONOVAN PARTY

Donovan
must have
thrown a party
at the train station
but forgot to invite me.

NAÏVE LAD

It was misleading,
at least,
to a naïve lad
like myself.

You hope a brewery
named South Park will be
blasting Isaac Hayes
& worrying about
Canadian invasions.

It's disheartening
to have cartoon fantasies
shattered cruelly
by simple reality.

OEDIPAL COMPLEX

So I start thinking
that the dog
has an Oedipal Complex.

My God!
I'm so bored
I started
psychoanalyzing a dog.

The dog wisely
ignores me
whenever I start to speak.

DAREDEVIL SQUIRREL

I spy squirrel
air raiding the birdfeeder
deftly stealing food
upside down daredevil
effortless execution.

AGUILLUCHO SOY

I bought the baseball cap
to confuse the hell out of people
There's an Eagle on the cap
with the Steelers colors.

& Spanish writing
to the chagrin of orange people.

It's a baseball team
from the Winter League
in the Dominican Republic.

Then an added bonus:
Mi amigo en el trabajo
le gustan los tigres.

"Las Aguillas son campeonas.
Los Tigres son gatitos."
I mock him in reference
to Las Aguillas championship year.

A 5 dollar cap bought as a joke
but it's a gift to myself
that keeps on giving.

FAT ORANGE CAT

A fat orange cat
from Connecticut
recently informed me
that all cats
are gray in the dark

and I believed her
even without
confirming credentials.

GAME PLAN

It's after 1:00 AM
and I'm sitting on a wooden bench
outside the airport.

It's a rainy, drizzly night
but surprisingly not stifling;
an occasional pleasant, cool breeze

There's a stray cat roaming about
the departure and arrival area.
He's wet and makes
an unsuccessful bid to break it.

He meows at me for sympathy
but I have no response
and nothing to give.
I have 7 hours before flying.

It would appear
that neither one of us
put a lick of quality thought
into our game plan tonight.

COFFEE ABSINTHE

The fragrant coffee absinthe
purchased in Prague

continues to tantalize
my nostrils
as the residue
clings to the shot glass

TROUT FISHING

Glancing at the cover
of a Metro newspaper
and musing over the photo

It's all about baseball
but the title "Trout Fishing"
makes me think of Brautigan

St. Richard of Brautigan:
Truly a prophet;
a man ahead of his time.

He wrote "Trout Fishing in America."
decades before
a baseball legend was born.

The time for canonization
is upon us.

CANS TO GO

Cans to go
(with arrow pointing)
as if I didn't know

TRIUMPH

graffiti, litter

decorate the city street

vine growing on wall

but thru the brush emerges

stunning, beautiful vision

though many won't see

the human spirit triumphs

and rises above

triumphant in spite the odds

determined to find answers

SNOW FLURRIES DROPPING

Snow flurries dropping on the Autumn leaves
Naked tree branches shiver
as Fall turns to winter