# AHS HAIKU STRING

# Summer Solstice 2021

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### AHS Haiku String: Summer Solstice 2021

These poems have been selected from submissions to the Australian Haiku Society Summer Solstice Haiku String 2021 by poets based in Australia and other countries. They were originally published on the Australian Haiku Society website.

### https://australianhaikusociety.org/

Editor: Lynette Arden

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### Theme of haiku string:

Much remains uncertain as we head into the holiday season, with a worldwide pandemic and increasing stress on the environment. Many will head towards the water to cool off in the southern hemisphere, while people will seek warmth or revel in the snow in the northern hemisphere.

This may also be a time of reflection. What can we control in our own lives and the world beyond? The relationship between humans and the rest of the natural world has never been more critical

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### Haiku Authors

Wanda Amos Ramesh Anand Maeve Archibald Lynette Arden Laurel Astle Gavin Austin Ingrid Baluchi Mona Bedi M. Shayne Bell Peggy Hale Bilbro Domagoj Brkić

Nathalie Buckland Paul Callus Pris Campbell Marion Clarke Alvin B. Cruz Stella Damarjati Garry Glover Florin Golban Susan Grant Simon Hanson

Bee Jay Myra King Richard Lawrance Michael J. Leach Lakshmi Lyer

Louise Hopewell

Angiola Inglese

Myron Lysenko Jenny Macaulay Margaret Mahony Tomislav Maretic Francoise Maurice Marietta McGregor

Mick Mezza Ron C. Moss Maurice Nevile Polona Oblak Kimberly Olmtak Madhuri Pillai

Zaidee Pisani-Lysenko Milan Rajkumar Lyn Reeves Carol Reynolds

Duncan Richardson Chittaluri Satyanarayana

Maureen Sexton Maxine Shapiro

Val Smith

Alan Summers Eduard Tara Clara Toma

Beki Reese Van Buren

Rose van Son Károly Váray

Kathleen Vasek Trocmet

Tony Williams Chen Xiaoou



Linocut: Lynette Arden.

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beach umbrella tying down the wind

Lynette Arden

the blue hour . . . does anyone have the time to watch this

long weekend so much is talked about the things we don't know

first day of the year . . . i wrap up the yesterdays to my tomorrow

Lakshmi Lyer

this life of a photographer blowflies

summer solstice the washer women wash their faces again

lake in summer the elongated net of a fisherman

Milan Rajkumar

Christmas break so much depending on a negative result

the promise of better things . . . winter solstice

third load of laundry at least the evenings are getting lighter

Marion Clarke, Warrenpoint, Northern Ireland

free fireflies the empty jar is filling again with darkness

Eduard Tara

a bird in flight under the high sun shadow on the ground

Domagoj Brkić

all those lily pads just one golden flower fills the lily pond

Rose van Son

summer solstice morning unfolds into day lilies

solstice warmth after The Ashes a chorus of crickets

Christmas comet close on the tail of our longings

Marietta McGregor

fall in Chicago vibrant and energetic oblivious to what's coming

trees rustling in the wind listen god's humming

Maxine Shapiro

summer solistice closer to the bright side of my life

solistice night more time to dream with open eyes

solistice time a cold hand and a warm one in the same prayer

Clara Toma

blue rowboat, blue daisies on the riverbank . . . blue blanket

Grandmother's orange peonies—to Mother . . . today, to me

red picnic blanket in wildflowers . . . he's back

M. Shayne Bell

smoke haze over the bay tangled seaweed

falling asleep to the sound of the ocean sea eagle

sand rubs inside my bathers 2021

Louise Hopewell

alone at Christmas reflections of sunset on the windows

summer solstice the longest day for missing you

summer heatwave the garden birds and I search for water

Maureen Sexton

after proposal waiting for her reply—summer solstice

solstice awaiting lizard's movement on the wall

summer solstice following the longest trail of ants

Chittaluri Satyanarayana

test station a huddle of ibis casual drop ins

dragonflies a drift of gauze river song

university grounds a flock of pigeons puffs of wisdom

Maeve Archibald

Boxing Day gift my daughter uses my new massage gun

Christmas Eve calls a brother's heart attack a new baby expected

a gift out of season his ugg boots

Laurel Astle

In the outback the blackbird's song I understand

heartbeats my morning jog wattle birds thrumming calls

noisy protest a splash of blood on white

Myra King

summer solstice the crowd awaits the sea splash

summer bath the many colors of beach suntan

summer solstice the garbage trolley overflows of ice-cream cups

Ramesh Anand (India)

full moon at the bottom of my pocket an olive

a short day ends ~ the singing of the embers in the fireplace

Illuminations the white mistletoe announce Christmas

Francoise Maurice

drooping sunflower the moon and I dodge each other

a magpie's wrath . . . the flustered dog scoots in

purple swamphen keeping mum on her toes a gleeful toddler

Madhuri Pillai

surfing low down the lazy curl of a wave slakes the heat

humidity flattens me under the Christmas tree I elope with santa

ouzo cocktails at end of year celebrations sharing the love

Wanda Amos, NSW, Australia

summer kiting unleashing the dog on the beach

hope in a war zone children at play

Christmastime a few days void of talks about covid

Kimberly Olmtak

a shady spot book in hand time to reflect

Val Smith

a light breeze daisy just higher than the grass

Zaidee Pisani-Lysenko

coastal spear-grass heavy with seed given to the breeze

Simon Hanson

eucalypt leaves tattered and torn Christmas beetles

beneath the she-oak husks and a black feather

wet spell the magic of mushrooms

Carol Reynolds, Australia

in a window the old man wearing a coat

cicada songs at the day's edge door to door

Orion arm shoot around it the Milky way

Florin Golban (România)

sea swash all the crabholes popping

afternoon walk between me and the rain a band of sunshine

Lynette Arden, South Australia

Life's walk in the snow—leaving behind footsteps with care

Nature's wonders whatever the season there's always a positive

Ingrid Baluchi

summer breeze a swag of jasmine scents our street

Gavin Austin

summer sun the sticky drips of melting ice cream

Stella Damarjati

these beige walls cool to green and blue: a window

Michael J. Leach

our heads are already steaming boiling soon our feet are still snowy

dark edges of long nights the sun begins to carve Shortening

Károly Váray

curtailing the distance between us a silvery moon

summer solstice keeping a low profile shadows tarry

red-tailed cockatoo in the summer solstice sky another spark

Paul Callus (Malta)

Christmas Eve dinner standing up with mask

light rain the first winter without you

Angiola Inglese

bait ball intermittent glints of darting silver

Lyn Reeves

meteor bursts summer in the sky solstice

Susan Grant

Sunbathing . . . a pool emerges in my belly button

Polona Oblak

summer solstice we make gingerbread people

December day even the bees seek shade

almost Christmas unwelcome extra heat from the oven

Nathalie Buckland

mask on, mask off another Christmas like no other

staying home the longest day seeps into the mountain

still light at bedtime the stars come out in my dreams

Ron C. Moss

solstice two hemispheres of light on the teeter-totter

15h of daylight— I can't get some sleep under the parasol

solstice—
party on the beach
longer than night

Tomislav Maretic

a painter seeking the perfect blue shade spring mist

glorious sunrise spreads across the horizon bushfires

shopping mall Santa in shorts and flip-flops down-under Christmas

Peggy Hale Bilbro, Alabama USA

how my memory still holds a photo of you wish it would grow up

I sit inside the wind outside, carried away to another day

Richard Lawrance, Wyoming, NSW

from shadow to shadow . . . pandemic summer

cap...sunglasses...mask he recognises my dog

outdoor gym I lift much more than that guy

Maurice Nevile

my daughter an oystercatcher running from waves

summer sea the shells sucked clean

sunny day not a mood in the sky to change it

Tony Williams

longest night married among swaying palms, Vietnam on hold

solstice egrets warm themselves in Florida sunshine

relentless night the cats rush out early to stalk sleeping birds

Pris Campbell

Australia in September Japanese visitors pour in with sakura visas

a brilliant junk shining in darkness Salyut Seven

by Chen Xiaoou (China)

longest lockdown summer roses tapping at the window

birds sing we can't hear traffic lights

heavy clouds fall into the eucalypts omicron

Bee Jay

between christmas and new year silence for crows

wind in the she-oaks down this beach track —humming an old tune

dawn chorus refusing to count syllables

Duncan Richardson

a dragonfly circles a pond endless night

knowing the sea by what it can erase shifting sands

translating my poem in my mother tongue summer solstice

Alvin B. Cruz

scorpio and orion in sight a meteor

On a sunny day bird flys over gingko stereo vision

stake the tomatoes in garden the blue tongue licks its lips

Mick Mezza

different time zone 13th stroke of a clock for Santa

Alan Summers

gifts under the tree first light

Myron Lysenko

Christmas behind us a ribbon of cars flows home

Garry Glover

wildlife alert total fire ban floods down under

white butterfly sits on my lettuce leaf too long

melting wind summer sand and wisps of hair in her ice cream

Jenny Macaulay

seagulls rise on violin notes summer solstice

summer stars—
the wishes they grant
the wishes they don't

moonlight shivers down my skin your lingering kiss

Beki Reese Van Buren

summer zephyr the trees whisper secrets to one another

summer sun the shadow of a hair lock on your neck

cloud animals my childhood comes alive on the summer sky

Mona Bedi

greeting the homeless man Christmas week

praying mantis finds a home in my pot plant

the transience of a shifting sky summer solstice

Margaret Mahony

dropping the dumpster's lid . . . summer asphalt

heat waves engulf the roofers . . . ice clinks into my glass

summer sky . . . long-tailed kites upturned faces

by Kathleen Vasek Trocmet

## **Summer Solstice 2021**

beach umbrella tying down the wind

Lynette Arden



Australian Haiku Society