

Poems in the form of Haiku by Paul Curry Steele

Whales first appeared some
Fifty million years ago
As land animals.

They had legs and hooves,
And were related to the
Hippopotamus.

They evolved as sea
Animals some 45
Million years ago.

In light of whales as
We know them, how tremendous
That evolution!

Sailors on a ship
At sea: Where and how and when
Do they masturbate?

To die in the dark
From sea water rushing in
Must have been the most. . . .

Poor Chinese women
Stitch quilts that American
Women can afford.

I masturbated
In the sanctuary of
A Catholic church.

They sent their daughter
To a fat farm. She returned
Slimmer but pregnant.

Diarrhea struck.
Hard. I didn't know I had
So much shit in me.

I love men, despite
Their faults. I love male beauty
And male genitals.

Poems in the form of Haiku by Paul Curry Steele (page 2)

A psychiatrist
Recently told me I have
Schizophrenia.

E. M. Forster thought
Mutual masturbation
To be his best sex.

At first the children
Thought it great fun to make them
Ketchup sandwiches.

David and John, good
Men I knew and respected,
Died in youth of AIDS.

Jackie Kennedy
Watched the film of Nureyev
In sex with young men.

I masturbated
An Irish Setter until
A white rod shot out.

Real country roads do
Not wind like those depicted
In popular art.

In gay magazines,
A model shows his asshole
For men who like that.

The large, firm thighs of
Strong men are beautiful, as
Are what they enclose.

The mother bat is
Devoted to her young, whom
She knows by their scent.

Sybil's first husband,
Bob, was a handsome blowhard,
Irresponsible.

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First menstruation:
Schoolgirl frantic, afraid that
She might bleed to death.

Brutes of men who kill
Weak women deserve to be
Castrated for it.

A gray-haired woman
On the psycho ward dotes on
Her Cabbage Patch Kid.

I love the way men
Stand with legs apart. I do
Not do so myself.

She acted cool. She
Said she didn't like sex. He
Gave her a hard time.

"Old Country Roses"
Has long been a popular
Pattern in china.

Absentmindedly
He leaves a commode unflushed,
Annoying others.

I remember with
Love of my mother's cooking:
Creamed new potatoes.

Magpies, of the crow
Family, will steal and hide
Loose shiny objects.

The young professor
Accidentally killed his
Brother in their youth.

I have heard and read
Of men "scratching their balls." I
Have never done it.

Poems in the form of Haiku by Paul Curry Steele (page 4)

Standing, he strokes the
Hair of a young man kneeling
And sucking his cock.

He worked long on his
Obituary. Ah, his
Surname was misspelled!

The production crew
Kids the young models who pose
In men's underwear.

Douglas B. Price, my
Psychoanalyst, asked what
A "daisy chain" was.

When I demurred, he
Persisted until he learned
At last what it was.

My parents never
Accepted my being gay:
It was a vile sin.

Despite birds feasting
On grass seed, enough was left
To green the brown lot.

Before Columbus,
None but lunatics doubted
That the world was flat.

Michael Jackson once
Had brown skin and the nose he
Acquired from nature.

Mother took Epsom
Salts early in the morning
To purge her bowels.

Many Mennonites
Now get drunk, use drugs, and drive
The roads like demons.

Poems in the form of Haiku by Paul Curry Steele (page 5)

In old movies, if
You couldn't pay the bill you
Had to wash dishes.

I learned that the voice
Of "Danny Boy" is sung by
Men as his father.

I remember with
Love of my mother's cooking:
Blackberry cobbler.

Clair de lune ("moonlight"):
Lovely name for a lovely
Glaze used on Chinese

Porcelain: very
Pale blue tinged with lavender.
It is exquisite.

Grandpa Curry had
A temper. He once beat his
Mule with a hammer.

Don't ask a woman
Whether she has children: it
May be sensitive.

I do not care for
Anal intercourse, whether
As top or bottom.

My inexpensive
But good wristwatch of stainless
Steel no thief would want.

I was mistaken.
My watch is gone. Some will steal
The bark off a tree.

The Gideons place
Their *New Testament with Psalms*
In every damned place.

Poems in the form of Haiku by Paul Curry Steele (page 6)

When Mrs. Blake held
“Dark sittings” at night, many
Spooky things occurred.

She lived in Bradrick,
A modest village on the
Ohio River.

Governor Wilson
Of West Virginia often
Came to Mrs. Blake.

She and her husband,
Zachariah (Zach) lived in
A white frame cottage.

Curved Victorian
Furniture: dark wood, padding
Covered in red plush.

She displayed costly
Gifts to her from Governor
Wilson and others.

Bradrick lay across
The river from Huntington,
In West Virginia.

Cats have a strong, strange
Homing instinct. One may come
Back from far away.

Dogs in general
Have poor homing instinct. Three
Breeds, however, stand

Above the average.
These: American foxhounds,
Collies, and beagles.

Good yogurt having
“Fruit on the bottom” is food
I find delicious.

Poems in the form of Haiku by Paul Curry Steele (page 7)

I watch the bodies
Of active young men with their
Tight little asses.

The woman above
Me hears me masturbating
And it drives her wild.

The only sports I
Care at all for are tennis
And figure skating.

The canned laughter heard
On TV comedy shows
Is despicable.

The new A & P
In town had powdered doughnuts,
Which I dearly loved.

The fox is cunning,
Has a powerful scent, and
If need be feigns death.

I shoved a sleeve of
My sweater up. The bottom
Was loose thereafter.

Blue is sometimes seen
As blue only when it is
Placed alongside black.

He hated his name,
David. Too Biblical. He
Would brook only *Dave*.

I should not feel sad,
As I do much of the time.
I am not yet frail.

A plague should fall on
High-school bands. Majorettes should
Be executed.

Poems in the form of Haiku by Paul Curry Steele (page 8)

Jay Kaplan's parents
Had us come to Worcester for
Thanksgiving dinner.

The parents must be
Dead by now, and whether Jay
Still lives I don't know.

A dead bat drops to
The floor of a cave and is
Devoured by beetles.

I remember when
Being a divorced person
Carried a stigma.

One candle-shaped light
Shines at night in the center
Of every window

That fronts the street, from
The first floor to the attic.
A fad in décor.

A wise suggestion:
"Be kind to unkind people—
They need it the most."

Organ transplants are
Not accepted from persons
Over seventy.

Some leave their Christmas
Decorations up too long:
Tinsel in July!

Plastic surgery
Can have disastrous results,
Not wanted beauty.

Magpies, black-and-white,
Chatter. Tame, they can be taught
To imitate speech.