

# Buddha-Themed Haiku From Around the World: A Journey Through Enlightenment



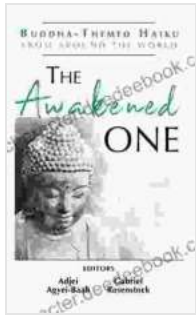
Haiku, a form of Japanese short-form poetry characterized by its brevity and profound insight, has been embraced by poets worldwide to express the essence of Buddha's teachings. This article embarks on a global journey through Buddha-themed haiku, exploring the diverse cultural perspectives and interpretations of enlightenment.

## **The Awakened One: Buddha-Themed Haiku from Around the World** by Gabriel Rosenstock

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 2517 KB



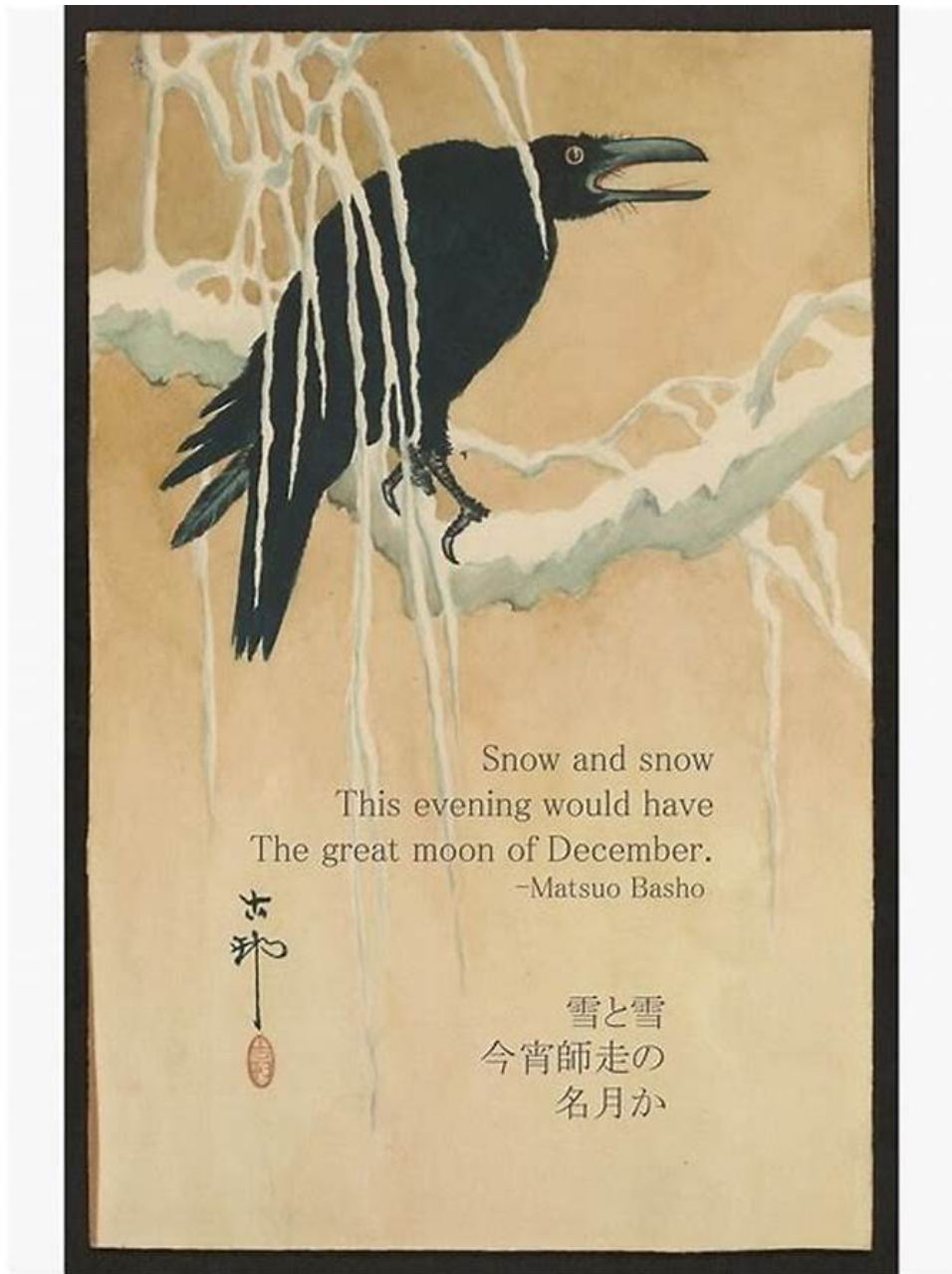
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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
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Lending : Enabled



## Japan: The Birthplace of Haiku

In Japan, the birthplace of haiku, renowned poets such as Matsuo Bashō (1644-1694) and Yosa Buson (1716-1783) crafted haiku that captured the essence of Zen Buddhism.

### Matsuo Bashō



*Mountains, rivers, and the world itself  
All things are words of Buddha  
Whispering in your ear*

**Yosa Buson**



*The temple bell stops  
But the sound lingers on in my heart  
Like a distant lake*

### **China: Ancient Wisdom in Three Lines**

Chinese poets have long used haiku to convey Buddhist principles and reflect on the nature of existence.

**Li Bai (701-762)**



*A single lotus blooms  
In the vast, empty lake  
My mind is quiet*

**Du Fu (712-770)**

## *Full Moon*

*Above the tower -- a lone, twice-sized moon,  
On the cold river passing night-filled homes,  
It scatters restless gold across the waves,  
On mats, it shines richer than silken gauze.*

*Empty peaks, silence: among sparse stars,  
Not yet flawed, it drifts. Pine and cinnamon  
Spreading in my old garden . . . All light,  
All ten thousand miles at once in its light!*

*Du Fu*

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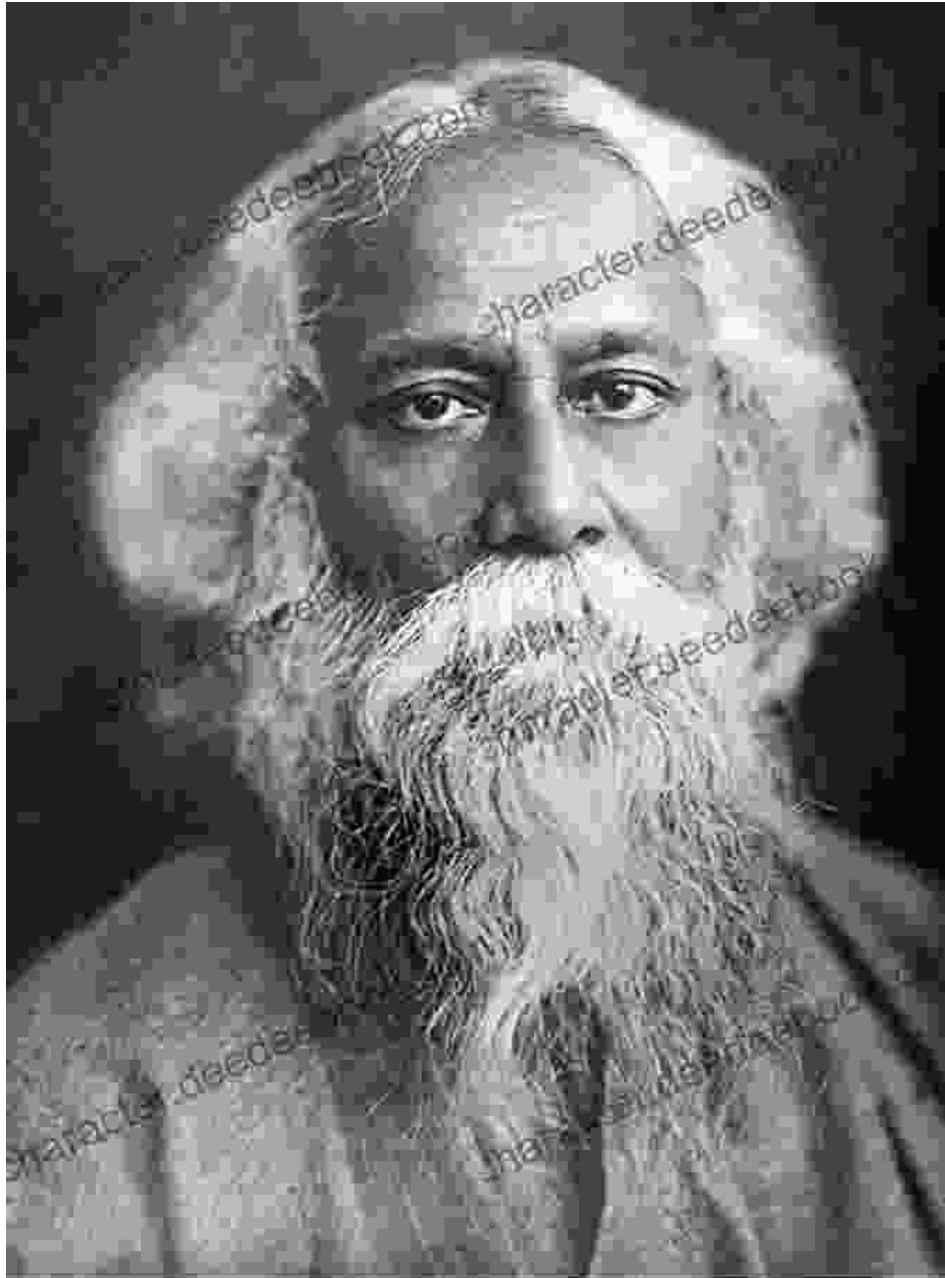
 InternetPoem.com

*In the dim twilight  
A Buddha statue sits  
Silently watching*

## **India: The Land of the Buddha**

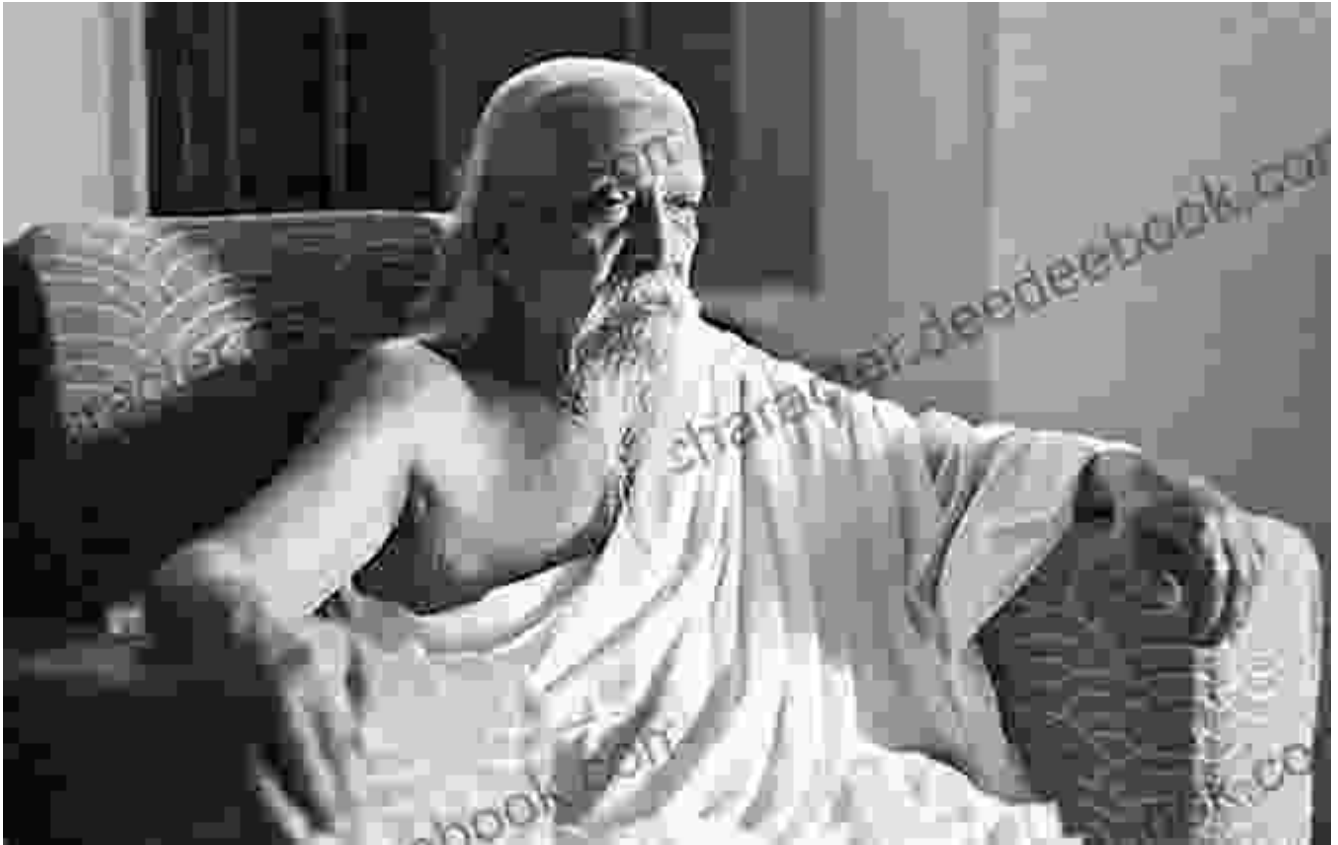
India, the birthplace of Buddhism, has a rich tradition of haiku influenced by the teachings of Buddha.

**Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941)**



*The world is a dream  
A shadow on the water  
Buddha awakens*

**Sri Aurobindo (1872-1950)**



*The lotus unfolds*

*In the heart of the world*

*Buddha's smile*

### **America: East Meets West**

American poets have drawn inspiration from both Eastern and Western traditions, creating unique haiku that explore Buddhist themes.

**Gary Snyder (born 1930)**





*The mountain is silent  
Only the wind whispers  
Dharma in nature*

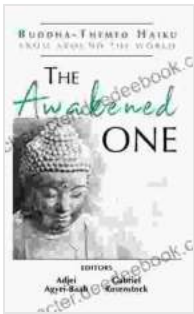
**Jane Hirshfield (born 1953)**



*The world is a book  
Open it, read it  
Buddha's message*

Buddha-themed haiku from around the world offer a profound and multifaceted glimpse into the essence of enlightenment. They transcend

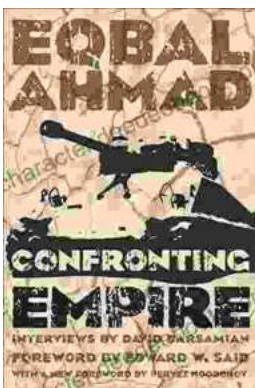
cultural boundaries, resonating with universal truths about our interconnectedness with nature, the impermanence of life, and the pursuit of inner peace. By delving into these beautiful and insightful verses, we embark on a journey of self-discovery, exploring the teachings of Buddha through the lens of haiku poetry.



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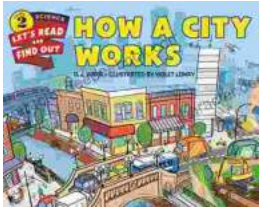
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