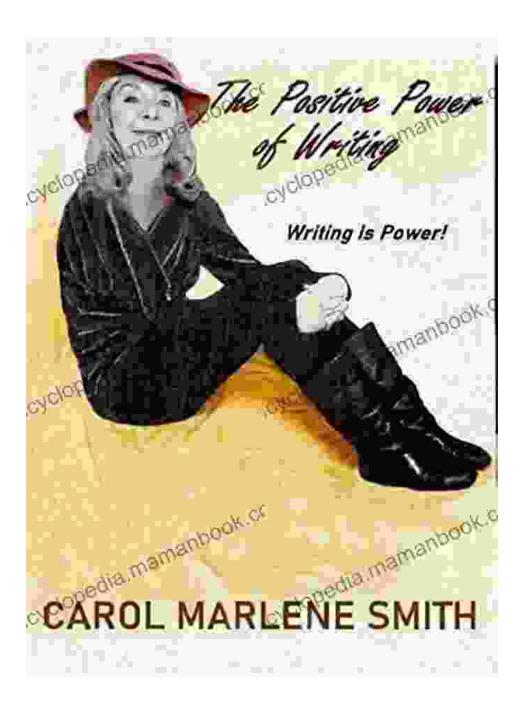
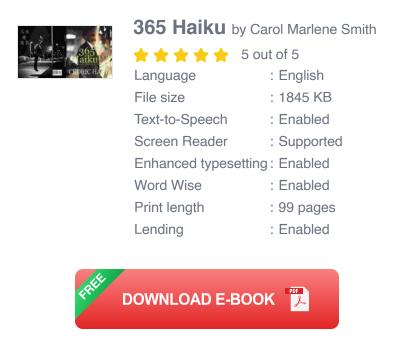
365 Haiku: A Poetic Journey Through the Year with Carol Marlene Smith



In the realm of poetry, few forms are as concise and evocative as the haiku. With its three unrhymed lines of five, seven, and five syllables, the haiku captures a fleeting moment in time, painting a vivid image with economy of words.



Carol Marlene Smith, a renowned poet and haiku master, has gifted us with a remarkable collection of 365 haiku in her book, aptly titled "365 Haiku: A Year in Poetry." This extraordinary work invites us on a poetic journey through the entire year, capturing the essence of each season and the myriad experiences that accompany it.

A Year in Haiku

Smith's haiku are not merely observations of the natural world; they are profound meditations on life, love, loss, and the human condition. Each haiku is a miniature masterpiece, offering a glimpse into the poet's inner world and her keen eye for the extraordinary in the ordinary.

The collection is divided into twelve chapters, one for each month of the year. The chapters flow seamlessly from one to the next, creating a cohesive poetic narrative that mirrors the cyclical nature of time.

Spring's Awakening

Spring, a season of rebirth and renewal, opens the collection with a vibrant burst of color and energy. Smith's haiku capture the delicate blooms of wildflowers, the songs of returning birds, and the warm embrace of the sun after a long winter.

One haiku that encapsulates the essence of spring is:



A field of poppies,

Like a rainbow after rain,

Spring's vibrant rebirth.

"

Summer's Embrace

As we move into summer, the pace of the haiku slows down, reflecting the languid days filled with long hours of sunlight. Smith's poems evoke the lazy afternoons spent by the lake, the heady scent of blooming roses, and the fireflies dancing in the twilight.



A hummingmingbird,

Drinks nectar from a hibiscus,

Summer's sweet embrace.

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Autumn's Farewell

Autumn brings a sense of contemplation and nostalgia as the leaves change color and flutter to the ground. Smith's haiku capture the bittersweet beauty of the season, from the golden hues of trees to the crispness in the air.

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Crisp autumn leaves,

Scattered by the playful wind,

Nature's farewell dance.

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Winter's Slumber

Winter, a season of dormancy and reflection, closes the collection with a sense of peace and tranquility. Smith's haiku depict the stillness of snow-

covered landscapes, the magic of frost-laden trees, and the cozy warmth of a fireside.

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Snow glistens softly,

Covering the world in white,

Winter's silent dream.

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Beyond the Seasons

While "365 Haiku" is a testament to the beauty and diversity of the natural world, it is also a profound exploration of human emotions and experiences. Smith's haiku touch on themes of love, loss, hope, and gratitude.

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"

A mother's embrace,

Unconditional and warm,

Love's eternal bond.

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Tears fall silently,

A heart heavy with loss,

Grief's bittersweet path.

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The Power of Concentration

One of the most remarkable aspects of Smith's haiku is their ability to distill a complex idea into a few short lines. By focusing on a single moment or object, she invites the reader to slow down and fully appreciate its beauty and significance.

In an age of constant stimulation and distraction, "365 Haiku" offers a much-needed antidote. It encourages us to pause, observe, and find wonder in the ordinary.

A Timeless Gift

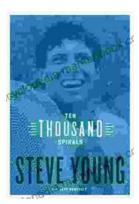
Carol Marlene Smith's "365 Haiku" is a timeless gift to poetry lovers and anyone seeking a deeper connection to the world around them. Its evocative language, profound insights, and stunning imagery will resonate with readers of all ages for generations to come. Whether you are a seasoned haiku enthusiast or a newcomer to the form, "365 Haiku" will captivate your heart and inspire your imagination. It is a book to be savored, cherished, and revisited time and time again.



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