



RENGA



RENGA

- Genre of Japanese-linked verse poetry in which two or more poets supplied alternating sections of a poem.
- Begun 700 years ago in Japan.
- Began as the composition of a single *Tanka* (a traditional five-line poem) by two people and was a popular pastime from ancient times, even in remote rural areas.
- PURPOSE: To encourage collaborative composition of poems.
- THEMES: Nature, Seasons, Love



RENGA


- One Poem: 36 (or 48) verses
- Unifying theme or idea
- Move through seasons or some other organizing structure
- Moon, flower and love should occur once each.

Structure of a simple Renga

1st stanza: Written in Haiku (5-7-5)

2nd stanza: written by another person; has two lines of 7 syllables each.

Following stanzas: repeat the first two stanzas until the poem is completed.



Haiku – 3 Lines

- 5 syllables
- 7 syllables
- 5 syllables

Couplet – 2 Lines

- 7 syllables
- 7 syllables



The last leaf

*The final leaf falls
The tree branches are so bare
Autumn has arrived*

*Remember Summer's warm kiss
So gentle, it will be missed*



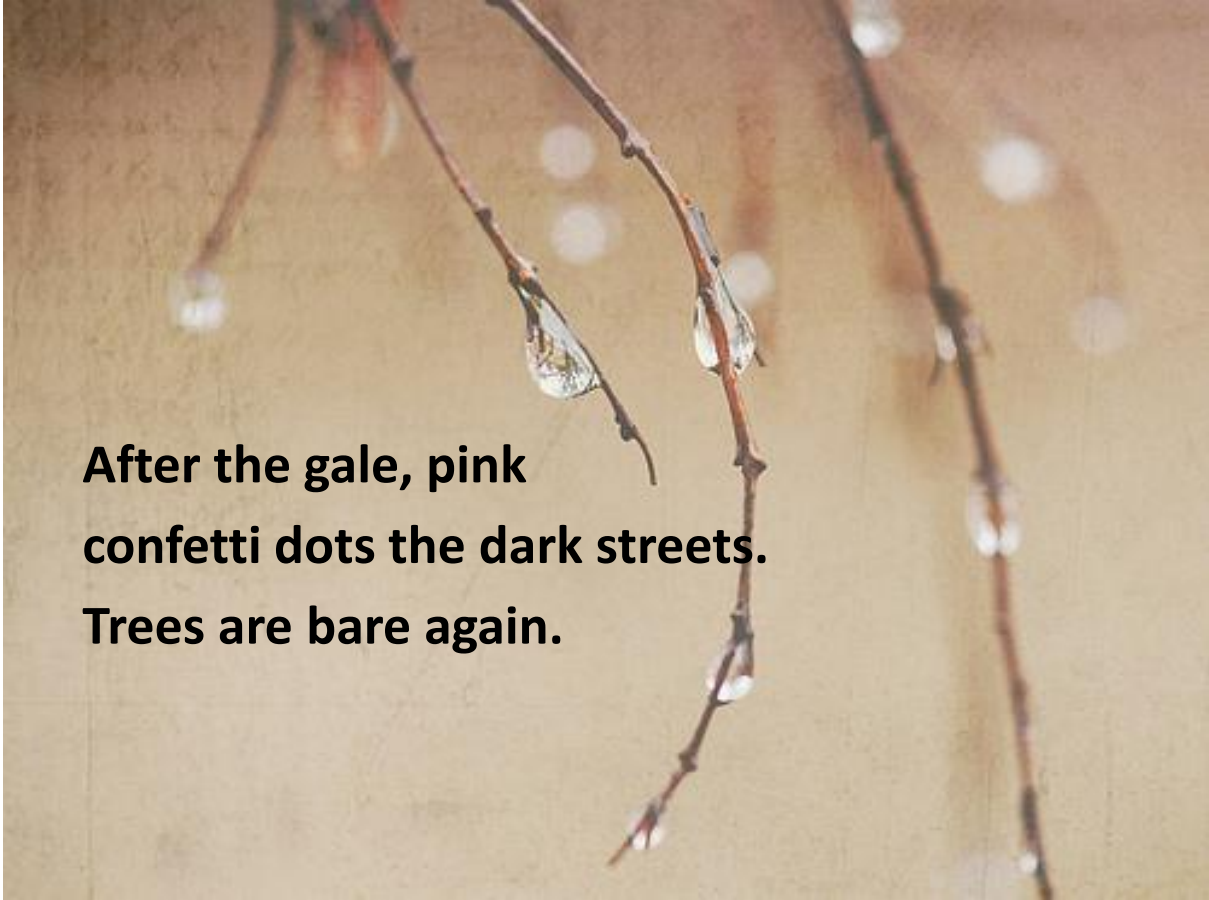
Renga

- Alternating haiku and couplets
- Couplet: two lines, 7 syllables each




Link and shift

- Connect to stanza before
- Shift to something different
- Link **ONLY** to verse above
- Avoid repeating same noun or verb
(in whole poem)



**After the gale, pink
confetti dots the dark streets.
Trees are bare again.**

A monochromatic, misty photograph of a body of water. In the foreground, a wooden post stands vertically in the water, with its reflection visible. To the right, a horizontal wooden beam or pier extends across the water. In the distance, a small, dark structure is visible on the horizon. The overall atmosphere is quiet and solitary.

**After the gale, pink
confetti dots the dark streets.
Trees are bare again.**

**Lost in thought, solitary,
a stranger wanders through mist.**



**Lost in thought, solitary,
a stranger wanders through mist.**

**Worm turns the earth and
dusting of frost shines. The grave
moon greets the morning.**