

Twenty-Three Haikus
for Virginia on the occasion of our twenty-third wedding anniversary

<p>1. You came to my room With sunlight and nectarines I followed you home</p> <p>3. Walking in the rain Water bouncing off the road Melting paper bags</p> <p>5. Concert in Amsterdam You fainted from the heat I carried you away</p> <p>7. Your whistle's too loud! The sound carries for miles I come when you call</p> <p>9. You ask me to wait While you tie your shoe laces And inspire a song</p> <p>11. Nurturing children Two sons bigger than both of us They shine with your light</p>	<p>2. Sointula boat house Ravaged by a cold-sore fever I kissed you anyway</p> <p>4. Handcuffs and bail bonds Justice of the peace perplexed No film in the camera</p> <p>6. Passports and visas We choose the same direction Traveling the world</p> <p>8. The curve of your neck As your skin reflects moonlight As seen from above</p> <p>10. The cat makes you sneeze You react like a lion A Leo times two</p> <p>12. Your hair on the pillow It catches the morning light Tinted with auburn</p>
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13.
Lingerie laid out
You untangle fishnet stockings
The snap of elastic

15.
Red Convertible
White sand and abstract palm trees
Together in Maui

17.
A toss of your head
Hair flying past my face
The smell of wild musk

19.
The smell of fresh bread
The sounds you make in the kitchen
Food for thought

21.
Dancing by my side
The music becomes louder
We dance through the night

14.
Subconscious imagery
Eyebrows furrowed in concentration
The smell of turpentine

16.
Midnight fireworks
You catch what I drop
A juggling duo

18.
One more time
Deep forest plays over and over
It never gets boring

20.
No need to explain
A comfortable silence
You know what I'm thinking

22.
Lying beside you
Your breathing slows and deepens
I am part of your dream

23.
Twenty-three haikus
Written for my valentine
It's easy to love you