

**BACK & FORTH**

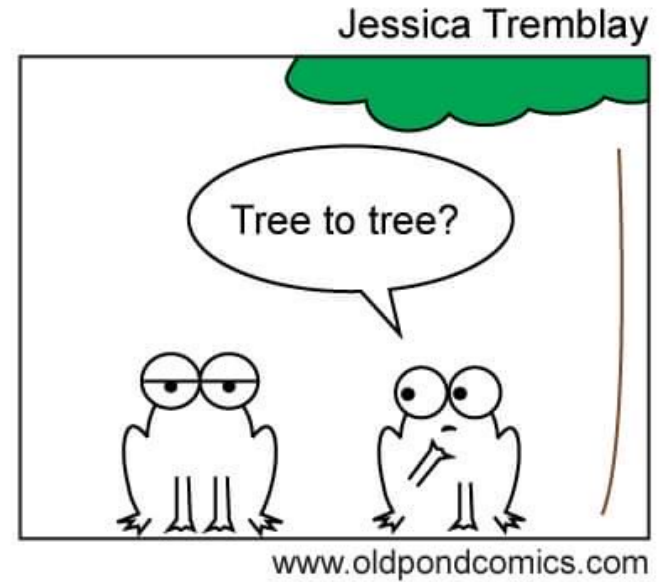
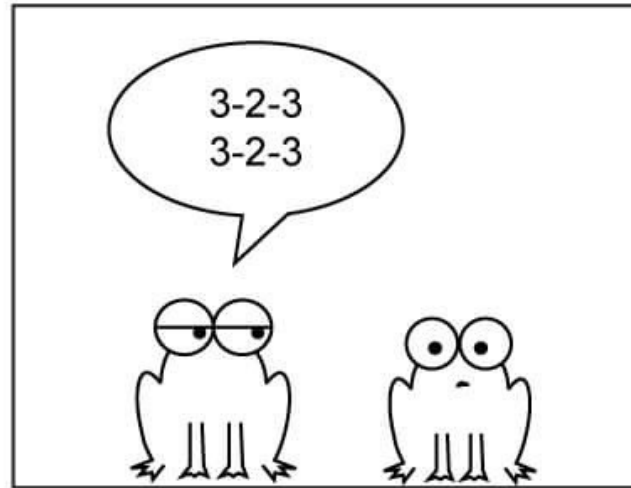
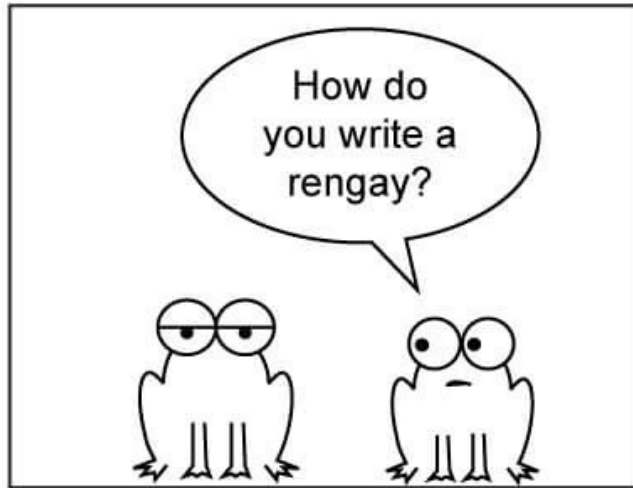
**THE RENGAY REVOLUTION**

Sherry Grant (New Zealand)



# RENGAY 101

Old Pond Comics





# RENGAY — A HISTORY

- Garry Gay (USA) invented the rengay form in 1992
- Renga/renku vs. rengay
- First rengay 'Deep Winter' (Aug 1992)
- First published rengay – 'Between Storms' (published in Albatross, volume II, number 2 in 1993)
- Wikipedia? YouTube?

[www.artsinfinitypress.com/rengay](http://www.artsinfinitypress.com/rengay)

## Troubled Water

a 3-person rengay

By John Thompson (USA),

Sherry Grant (NZ)

and Garry Gay (USA)

(Op.2087) 2021-05-29

willow catkins  
fill the river and my canoe  
with caterpillars (JT)

memories carried away  
by troubled water (SG)

cloudy weather  
crack in the dam  
only a small trickle (GG)

one drop of rain--  
for the echeverian pup  
it's almost too much (JT)

cow skull  
in a dry lake bed (GG)

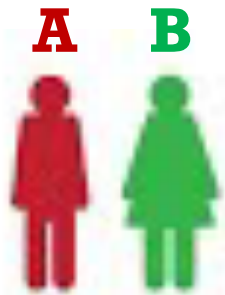
blistering heat  
a thunderstorm darkens  
my afternoon dream (SG)

# MY FIRST 3-PERSON RENGAY WITH GARRY GAY & JOHN THOMPSON

So how do we write a rengay?

- 2, 3 or even 6 poets take turns writing
- Rengay = a poetic conversation
- Structure: (A, B, C = Poets)
  - 2-person rengay: 3A-2B-3A-3B-2A-3B  
(number of lines per haiku, not syllables)
  - 3-person rengay: 3A-2B-3C-2A-3B-2C OR  
3A-2B-3C-3A-2C-3B OR 3A-2B-3C-3B-2A-3C
  - If writing with 3 or 6 people, initials needs to be shown at the end of each verse

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2 Poets:

3 lines (3A)

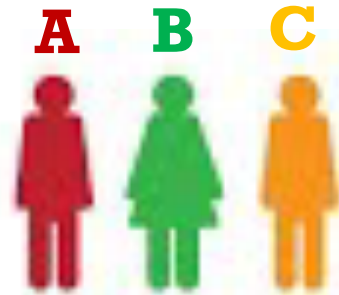
2 lines (2B)

3 lines (3A)

3 lines (3B)

2 lines (2A)

3 lines (3B)



3 Poets:

3 lines (3A)

2 lines (2B)

3 lines (3C)

2 lines (2A)

3 lines (3B)

2 lines (2C)

## RENGAY RULES (FOR EDITORS)

- 1. Theme
  - 2. Form
  - 3. Verse Integrity
  - 4. Freshness
  - 5. Bonuses
  - 6. Titles
  - 7. Verse Quality
- 
- Source:  
<http://www.graceguts.com/essays/seven-fundamentals-a-guide-to-rengay-for-editors>
  - Extra: avoid word repetition/closing verse should connect with verses 5 & 1/alternative rule for 3-people: 3-2-3-3-2-3 with **ABCACB** or **ABCBAC**



## Dessert Time

a rengay  
By Zoe Grant (NZ)  
and Sherry Grant (NZ)  
(Op.2071) 2021-05-22

hundreds  
and thousands of  
sprinkles dance

*giant marshmallows melt  
in hot chocolate bath*

wintery night  
gingerbread family  
returns home

*baby cries —  
countless fruits erupt  
from pavlova*

blueberry smiles  
flipping a pancake

*pretty unicorn  
visits by rainbow —  
my birthday cake*

## 點心時間

陳紫瑄 / 陳美如

成千上百的  
巧克力米  
在跳舞

大棉花糖融化  
在熱可可浴中

寒冬晚上  
這個薑餅家庭  
剛回到家

小嬰兒哭了 —  
無數的水果從  
帕芙洛娃蛋糕爆發

翻鬆餅時  
藍莓笑了

美麗獨角獸  
乘著彩虹來 —  
我的生日蛋糕



# SHERRY'S RENGAY WITH LITTLE ZOE

- Zoe Grant: co-author of 'Bat Girl'
- 7 years old
- A great way to get kids writing
- A perfect form for the family, friends or even strangers to collaborate — despite distance and language differences
- Potential to incorporate arts and music
- Sherry's rengay anthology to celebrate rengay's 30<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2022 (100 rengay with translation)

[www.artsinfinitypress.com/rengay](http://www.artsinfinitypress.com/rengay)





THE  
**QUEEN'S GAMBIT**  
A NETFLIX LIMITED SERIES

# SPEED RENGAY

- CHESS vs. rengay vs. dance
- Are you ready for the challenge?
- Send your finished rengay to:

**[sherrygrantpoetry@gmail.com](mailto:sherrygrantpoetry@gmail.com)**

(Please indicate in email whether you give permission to have your poems published online later.)

To see these slides and links go to:

[www.artsinfinitypress.com/rengay](http://www.artsinfinitypress.com/rengay)

# JOURNALS THAT PUBLISH RENGAY

- Hedgerow (vine)
- Prune Juice (senryu style)
- Bamboo Hut
- Tandem
- Fireflies' Light
- Presence
- Frogpond
- Failed Haiku
- Kokako
- The Quills Journal
- A Hundred Gourds
- Under the Bashō Linked Form (open again from March 2022)
- Colorado Boulevard Poets Salon (submit with photo/artwork)
- **Please let me know if you find more!**
- Competition: HSA Rengay Award (in honour of Garry Gay)
- Sam Francisco International Rengay Competition





# RESOURCES

- <http://www.graceguts.com/essays/rengay-an-introduction> (Michael Dylan Welch website)
- <https://youtu.be/G5AdtA0Ugu0> ('A Gentle Purr' rengay film — Ron Moss & Caroline Skanne)
- <https://www.haiku-heute.de/archiv/gay-wenzel-the-moment-of-awe/> (Interview with Garry Gay on rengay)
- <http://www.graceguts.com/rengay/deep-winter> (first ever rengay written by Garry Gay & Michael Dylan Welch in 1992, published in Frogpond Journal in 1994)
- <http://www.graceguts.com/rengay/between-storms> (first published rengay written by John Thompson & Garry Gay in 1993, Albatross Journal)
- <http://www.brooksbookshaiku.com/ggayweb/ggay54.html> (An example of 3-person rengay 3-2-3-2-3-2)
- <https://www.tandem-the-rengay-journal.net/> (Tandem, a journal for rengay only)
- <https://haikupedia.org/article-haikupedia/rengay/> (rengay on Haikupedia)
- <http://oldpondcomics.com/> (haiku comics by Jessica Tremblay)





# THANK YOU! 😊

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▪ [www.nonaku.org](http://www.nonaku.org)

▪ [www.artsinfinitypress.com/rengay](http://www.artsinfinitypress.com/rengay)

