

Vietnam
(a haiku sequence)
—for Gary Holcombe
Frank Higgins

letters from home
licking the flap
where her tongue had been

tank blast
the meadow bursts
with butterflies

on fire
the monk remains
in lotus position

as we torch the hut
word comes on the radio
we've walked on the moon

Christmas bombing
villagers thankful for water
from the craters

take ten
napping to Purple Haze
waking to a twig snap

the wounded vet sits
his nephews fight
to use his crutches

rainy night
for homeless vets the underpass
becomes the rally point

Frank Higgins is a playwright whose plays include *Black Pearl Sings!* and *Gunplay: A Play About America*. He teaches playwriting at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. He is a member of the Dramatists Guild, and the Haiku Society of America.