

# Sample Poems from *Metal & Rain: Selected Tanka*

By Jacob D. Salzer

darkness  
in the deep woods  
sleeping starlings . . .  
these old trees do not know  
our names

cracked pillars  
no longer stand  
between us . . .  
admitting all the times  
I've been wrong

avoiding the calm  
his restless thoughts  
never waiting . . .  
I glimpse the turbulent water  
beneath the bridge

a long pause  
in the conversation  
about grandma's death  
the sound of wind  
between mountains

hidden faces  
in the Makah totem pole  
drifting fog . . .  
in the palms of my hands  
the smell of salmon

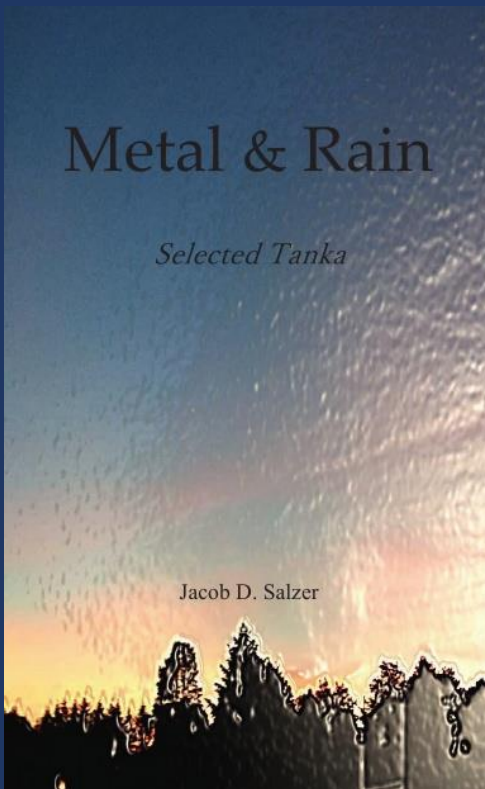
winter wind  
between passing clouds  
the warmth of stars  
I imagine  
you are still here

not wanting  
to break our silence  
evening fog . . .  
through cracks in ice  
the buds of yellow roses

*For Michelle Hyatt*

a time warp  
in grandpa's stream  
my reflection . . .  
the long journey  
of mountain rain

left behind  
in father's garage  
unfinished projects —  
I breathe in the scent  
of metal and rain



**Title:** *Metal & Rain: Selected Tanka*

**Author:** Jacob D. Salzer

**Publisher:** Lulu Press, Inc.

**Publication Date:** January 4, 2023

**ISBN:** 978-1-387-30018-1

**Category:** Poetry

**Dimensions:** Pocket Book (4.25 x 6.875 in)

**Binding:** Paperback

**Page Count:** 82

**Number of Poems:** 50 tanka

**Language:** English

**Journal Publication Credits:** *A Hundred Gourds*, *Atlas Poetica*, *Eucalypt*, *Hedgerow*, *Ribbons*, *Skylark*, *Tanka Origins*, *Under the Bashō*

**Book Publication Credits:** *Distant Sirens: Tanka* (Lulu, 2019), *Mare Liberum: Haiku & Tanka* (Lulu, 2020), *Unplugged—Haiku & Tanka* (Lulu, 2022), *Returning: Tanka Sequences*, with Michelle Hyatt (Lulu, 2022)

**Price:** \$9.99 US dollars

**Book Link:** <https://www.lulu.com/shop/jacob-salzer/metal-rain-selected-tanka/paperback/product-8p2p74.html?q=metal+%26+rain+jacob+d+salzer&page=1&pageSize=4>

# Metal & Rain: Selected Tanka

By Jacob D. Salzer

Now Available on [Lulu.com](https://www.lulu.com) for \$9.99 US