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In Japan, there was a custom of leaving a poetic short sentence on a deathbed, "jisei no ku (death poem). It is often the one that emphasizes the phonology such as Tanka, haiku and Chinese poetry. It is considered to be an East Asian custom, especially in Japan since the Middle Ages.

Japanese death poems (haiku and Tanka) by famous people ...

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Japanese Death Poems: Written by Zen Monks and Haiku Poets on the Verge of Death. Yoel Hoffmann (ed.) "A wonderful introduction the Japanese tradition of jisei, this volume is crammed with exquisite, spontaneous verse and pity, often hilarious, descriptions of the eccentric and committed monastics who wrote the poems."

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Jisei: the Japanese Death Poem. Like most haiku, jisei seeks to transcend thought and create an “Ah, now I see” moment. Inhale, exhale. Forward, back. Living, dying: Arrows, let flown each to each. Meet midway and slice. The void in aimless flight. Thus I return to ... Frost on a summer day: all I ...

Jisei: the Japanese Death Poem - Japan Powered

Sadler The Maker of Modern Japan pg. 160-161. 2. Hoffmann Japanese Death Poem spg. 48. 3. Ibid. pg. 52; Dokan is reputed to have uttered his death poem even as he lay bleeding in his bath, an assassin's victim. 4.

Death Poems - The Samurai Archives Japanese History Page

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The death poem is a genre of poetry that developed in the literary traditions of East Asian cultures—most prominently in Japan as well as certain periods of Chinese history and Joseon Korea. They tend to offer a reflection on death—both in general and concerning the imminent death of the author—that is often coupled with a meaningful observation on life. The practice of writing a death poem has its origins in Zen Buddhism. It is a concept or worldview derived from the Buddhist teaching ...

Death poem - Wikipedia

Review: Japanese Death Poems: Written by Zen Monks and Haiku Poets on the Verge of Death User Review - Caroline - Goodreads. First read this a couple years ago, and since then I regularly pick it up. The history of Death Poetry is fascinating--do not skip the Introduction! The tanka form, for me, is particularly addictive. Read full review

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