

## Huitain

### Backyard By Seasons

- a Summer orchard ripens then falls  
b to the ground or is stolen—sigh  
a Birds follow their own protocols  
b include cherries in their fly-bys,  
b elude us despite all our tries.  
c Fruit to raccoons, neighbors and deer  
b Squirrels find our filbert supplies.  
c We'll not get our share it is clear.
- a In fall as leaves come tumbling down,  
b naked limbs sway, dance in brisk breeze  
b before frosts stiffens, comes to freeze.  
a Green leaves, then color come to crown.  
a dappling drab trunk so solemn brown.  
c Whisking winds tear leaves from the stem.  
a Rain arrives bringing dampened frown  
c then celebrate autumn's anthem.
- a In winter we seldom see snow.  
b Stalks withered, leaves raked, all feels cold.  
a We shiver. Where does the warmth go?  
b Frosted, silvered ground seeks sun's gold.  
a Limbs lace sky. Moss snugs wall. Stay low.  
c I watch our backyard from inside.  
a Miss robber scrub jay and thief crow.  
c Glad I have warm place to abide.
- a In spring I venture outside, see  
b buds, blooms, green everywhere stretching  
b urge to grow ,spring design sketching,  
a drawn out, emerge abundantly  
a so colorful, so fragrantly.  
c Moistened by rain, sunshine frequent,  
a my heart opens, beats gratefully  
c for spring's renewal-- so recent.

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1. Various forms. 8 lines stanzas of 8 syllables. Later 10 syllables per line.
2. Based on three rhymes.
3. French rhyme schemes: a-b-a-b-b-c-b-c Or a-b-b-a-a-c-a-c
4. Spanish rhyme schemes: a-b-a-b-a-c-a-c Or a-b-b-a-a-c-c-a
5. Example tried all four rhyme schemes together.