

Trente-Sei

Vanished Pond

Sanica, Bosnia-Herzegovina

In Sanica, Bosnia-Herzegovina village
children fished a calm, green-algaed pond.
A sink-hole swallowed pond–pillage.
Stunned villagers say they were fond
of this pond where the fished jumped out..
Many theories were talked about.

Children fished a calm, green-algaed pond
until it became like a moon-like crater.
Could the cause come from beyond,
some mischief of the Creator?
The villagers ponder what caused this.
They call the hole the “abyss.”

A sink-hole swallowed pond–pillage.
Scientists say it’s not uncommon water disappears.
Irrigation creates soil damage
or drying underground water currents in arrears.
Sanica folks have their own theories.
Give differing answers to queries.

Stunned villagers say they were fond
of pond getting deeper and sides growing.
They are not sure who to respond.
Townfolk disagree and claim knowing
fish exploded WW2 bombs thrown
by old woman and was herself blown.

Of this pond where fish jumped out
also pulled down plum tree to plummet
into “abyss.”. Crater growing leaves no doubt,
but conclusions elusive, some met
with skepticism, some still in shock.
The sinkhole left a pond pock.

Many theories were talked about.
Did owner take pond with him when
he died: There is some clout
for he said he would take everything with him then
he did, one month after he passed away.
“All sorts of miracles happen before doomsday.” *Husein Nanic*

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1. Invented by John Ciardi.
2. Rhyme Scheme: a-b-a-b-c-c
3. Six, 6-line stanzas.
4. The first stanza provides the first lines of the other stanzas.
5. Usually 5 stress or ten syllable lines but example does not have syllable count.