

“On a branch ...”

BY KOBAYASHI ISSA

TRANSLATED BY JANE HIRSHFIELD

On a branch
floating downriver
a cricket, singing.

[goes out comes back]

BY KOBAYASHI ISSA

TRANSLATED BY ROBERT HASS

Goes out,
comes back—
the love life of a cat.

[even with insects]

BY KOBAYASHI ISSA

TRANSLATED BY ROBERT HASS

Even with insects—
some can sing,
some can't.