

More Haikus!

Several readers entered the latest haiku competition, which requested “a haiku that reveals the joys or frustrations that surround the process of developing scripts or programs.” Below is a compendium of the best, with my (Rob Kolstad) favorite saved for last.

Andrew Siegel:

Turn on debug code
Problems become memories
Sanity is lost

David Mostardi:

Programmer? Coder?
Nah, too boring. How about:
Knight in Bright Armor

Tobias Kreidl:

Compiled, no errors
I now launch my new routine . . .
Another core dump

The pointers are pure
My stack is clean as can be
Why the overflow?

Matthew Hurlburt:

Shell script holy wars
Korn versus Bash versus C
Zealot warriors

User cannot work
I program a solution
Onto the next one

Angels sing above
Will miracles never cease?
A clean compile!

Troubled is the night
Programs crashing like thunder
The code is not good

Howard Owen:

CPAN is chasing
Dependencies, and loading
Perl five eight one

An Expectation
Wintry, unmaintainable
My God, Tcl sucks!

Bashing through Spring flood
Undergraduate hackers
Crack servers once more

David Mather:

Sometime last Summer
I wrote a clever Perl script
I can't read it now

Clif Flynt:

Recursive function
Like a snake eating its tail.
Will it never end?

A wish is granted.
And ideas can take form.
A magic bottle.

A bottle of dreams.
A cup of designs and tools.
My plate is now full.

Laughing beams of light
Live on in a photograph
My dreams live in code.

Evolution

Tickle your fancy.
Dream of fantastic projects.
Then comes the fun part.

The sky's the limit.
Ideas flying about
Like kites on a string
Kites dance in the air.
Leaves are scattered by the wind.
Who wrote this garbage?

Sean Callanan:

Trees branch out to NULL
Program, reaching nothingness
Leaves me with a core.

K.C. Smith:

Counting the brackets
Four five six seven eight crap
Counting the brackets

RUNNERS UP:

Clif Flynt

Tiny gems of thought
Encased in a matrix of dross
like perls before swine.

Daniel Singer:

A Bash Trilogy
beginning to code
keywords flow like summer rain
a script is blooming

i run my shell script
“end of file’ unexpected”
one quote too many

like a chortling stream
nascent script runs perfectly
i feel bourne again

MY FAVORITE:

Sameer Ajmani:

Craftsman or hacker
Code poet or code monkey
Who am I today?

Anagram Contest

You've played anagrams. That's where you take the letters of a word or phrase and scramble them to make a new word or phrase:

ROB KOLSTAD ↔ STARK BLOOD

The phrase “Information Superhighway” is rich with all sorts of fun words. See if you can come up with the best anagram. Be sure to use all the letters! Consult <http://www.oneacross.com/anagrams> for starting places.