

davidbrucehaiku #12

David Bruce



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<https://pixabay.com/en/products-supermarket-shop-stock-2964744/>

Recommended Reading:

“Public Domain Images — What is allowed and what is not?” (Pixabay)

<https://pixabay.com/en/blog/posts/public-domain-images-what-is-allowed-and-what-is-4/>

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Chapter 1: I'M A SIMPLE MAN



<https://pixabay.com/en/sunrise-musician-playing-clarinet-2819262/>

**I'm a simple man
I work all day and listen
to the blues at night**

Chapter 2: MY IMAGINATION WHEN HEARING THE BLUES



<https://pixabay.com/en/man-smoke-beer-wheat-smoking-2181478/>

**Sipping some cold beer
Smoking a big cigar, but
I don't smoke or drink**

Chapter 3: LISTENING TO THE BLUES



<https://pixabay.com/en/summerfield-woman-girl-sunset-336672/>

**Feeling bad about
Breaking up with a girl who
Never existed**

Chapter 4: THE BLUES



<https://pixabay.com/en/pregnancy-love-pregnant-mother-2221960/>

**The blues ain't a song
— The blues can get you pregnant —
It's experience**

Chapter 5: SHARING MUSIC



<https://pixabay.com/en/music-jam-guitar-lady-girl-844869/>

**Haven't heard the blues?
— something to teach all my friends —
Let's share some music.**

Chapter 6: BRIDE



<https://pixabay.com/en/bride-marry-wedding-red-hair-1355473/>

**She's so beautiful
If beauty is a wave, then
She is an ocean**

Chapter 7: THE LIGHTS ARE OFF



<https://pixabay.com/en/man-headphones-music-listen-beard-1885147/>

All the lights are off

— I am alone but happy —

The music is on

Chapter 8: FALLEN AUTUMN LEAVES



<https://pixabay.com/en/autumn-maple-fall-colors-foilage-584156/>

Fallen autumn leaves

Keep their color and beauty

Briefly, then decay

Decayed autumn leaves

A much needed part of life

Future flower food

Chapter 9: APPOINTED TIME TO DIE



<https://pixabay.com/en/stanley-park-fall-autumn-vancouver-3686935/>

**We all have our own
— True of all, including leaves —
Appointed death time**

Chapter 10: IT WILL HAPPEN



<https://pixabay.com/en/woman-despair-loss-sadness-fear-3758052/>

How to face my death?

Controlled fury? Numb sadness?

Open acceptance?

Chapter 11: WORK IN PROGRESS



<https://pixabay.com/en/woman-pregnant-pregnancy-mom-3764936/>

**A work in progress
But nearing the finish line
Soon births a new life**

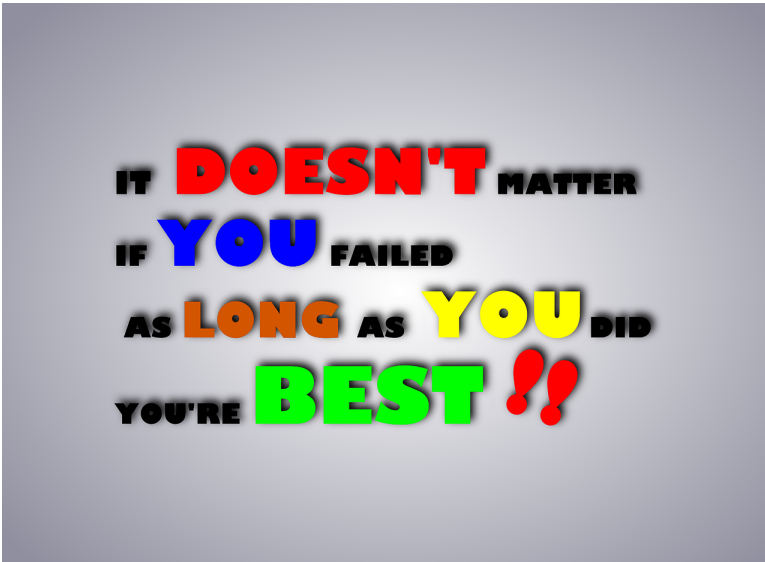
Chapter 12: PHOTOGRAPH



<https://pixabay.com/en/adult-camera-enjoyment-focus-girl-1869430/>

To preserve beauty
— This is why take a picture —
And jog memories

Chapter 13: SOME SMALL MISTAKES



<https://pixabay.com/en/typo-typography-font-design-art-422180/>

Some small mistakes can
make me very much better.

They don't worry me

NOTE: Now the creator knows not to approve a project while tired. Better to wait until you are rested and then do another proofreading. (You're = you are. Your = possessive of *you*.)

Chapter 14: TAKE YOUR DAUGHTER TO WORK DAY



<https://pixabay.com/en/police-peru-lima-girl-child-3777302/>

An Experience

— Take Your Daughter to Work Day —

An Education

Chapter 15: TO SUMMON MY SPIRIT AFTER I DIE



<https://pixabay.com/en/flower-pentagram-yellow-green-2797882/>

At pentagram points

**Place these items: Coffee, Books,
Music, Friends, and Kin**

Chapter 16: THREE BEAUTIFUL THINGS



<https://pixabay.com/en/sunset-sea-island-croatia-coast-523912/>

**Each and every day
Look at three beautiful things
One can be the sky**

Chapter 17: FASHION IS MY LIFE!



<https://pixabay.com/en/girl-hat-cap-pink-blond-eyes-3782196/>

Fashion is my life!
Look at me! I'm so gorgeous!
I make this look good!

Chapter 18: WHAT GIVES YOU PLEASURE?



<https://pixabay.com/en/book-stack-library-reading-2852903/>

What gives you pleasure?

Have you time to enjoy it?

Make an appointment

Chapter 19: EAT YOUR COLORS



<https://pixabay.com/en/fruit-mixed-color-food-700007/>

Vegetables and fruit

For good health, eat your colors

No candy pieces

Chapter 20: COFFEE AND COLUMNS: THE BEST MORNING



<https://pixabay.com/en/woman-sitting-counter-phone-828888/>

Coffee, Paul Krugman

Marc Dion and Joe Bob Briggs

Andrew Tobias

Chapter 21: SAFE WORDS



<https://pixabay.com/en/bed-sleeping-couple-covered-cover-1822497/>

“I do not like you.”

“‘No,’ ‘Stop,’ and ‘Don’t’ are safe words.”

“I really like you.”

Chapter 22: FEELING OH SO FINE



<https://pixabay.com/en/coffee-music-treble-clef-artwork-2950969/>

**Feeling oh so fine
Good music on radio
Good coffee at hand**

Chapter 23: QUESTIONS FOR A JOURNAL ABOUT YOUR DAY



<https://pixabay.com/en/process-drawing-pen-hands-brush-2898051/>

Why are you grateful?

How did you express kindness?

What gave you pleasure?

Note: Add “today” at the end of each question.

**Chapter 24: QUESTIONS GOD WILL ASK YOU ON
JUDGMENT DAY**



<https://pixabay.com/en/branch-sunset-nature-tree-sunlight-1753745/>

**Did you see my Alps?
Did you see many sunsets?
Were you the best you?**

Chapter 25: AUTUMN IN THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE



<https://pixabay.com/en/pumpkin-autumn-autumn-decoration-3759587/>

A time of harvest
Preparation for winter
Full of energy

Chapter 26: AUTUMN GOOD FEELING



<https://pixabay.com/en/cans-vegetables-stock-winter-eat-921143/>

**For a good feeling
Have a pantry stocked with food
Ready for winter**

Chapter 27: DON'T BURST INTO TEARS



<https://pixabay.com/en/sunrise-cemetery-cross-graves-426085/>

**Don't burst into tears
Rumor says all of us die
What else should we do?**

NOTE: “When you are eighty-four and an old, old friend dies, you feel a moment of melancholy, and a moment of affection — but you do not burst into tears. ... What else were they going to do? Rumor has it that all of us die.” — Donald Hall

Chapter 28: WHAT IS ON THE OTHER SIDE?



<https://pixabay.com/en/grave-cemetery-rip-tombstone-d-2036220/>

Inferno? Heaven?

What is on the other side?

How did you live life?

Chapter 29: WINTER IS COMING



<https://pixabay.com/en/winter-park-cold-snow-trees-urban-3772616/>

Winter is coming
Time to bring out heavy jeans
Thick sweaters and coats

Chapter 30: LIVE FAST AND DIE YOUNG



<https://pixabay.com/en/hand-finger-autumn-leaf-person-3794496/>

**live fast and die young —
live all summer and then leave
a good-looking corpse**

Chapter 31: BE OPEN



<https://pixabay.com/en/castle-heart-love-keys-metal-red-1572958/>

do not shield yourself
learn the truth, feel the feelings
respond to the facts

Chapter 32: DOING NOTHING



<https://pixabay.com/en/pool-swimming-swimming-pool-690034/>

**time doing nothing —
time that you enjoy wasting
is not wasted time**

Chapter 33: LIGHT IN THE FOREST



<https://pixabay.com/en/forest-trees-sunbeam-autumn-3448818/>

**light in the forest
another of God's artworks
will someone see it?**

Chapter 34: THE ROADS I'VE TAKEN



<https://pixabay.com/en/road-sky-desert-landscape-nature-3133502/>

**the roads I've taken
have made me who I am — it's
not bad to be me**

Chapter 35: SADNESS



<https://pixabay.com/en/girl-woman-sadness-portrait-3811180/>

**like happiness, a
normal human emotion;
all have suffered loss**

Chapter 36: AVERAGE



<https://pixabay.com/en/blue-eyes-models-look-portrait-3778750/>

Beauty does equal

Average space between eyes

And in everything

NOTE: A physically beautiful person has average physical everything: average space between eyes, average size of eyes, average size of ears, average size of nose, average shape of eyebrows, etc.

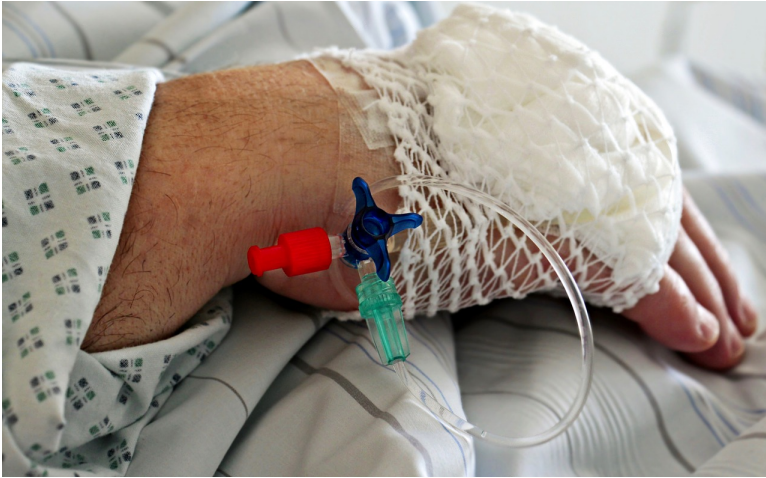
Chapter 37: UNFAIR



<https://pixabay.com/en/struggle-acne-self-love-skin-face-3805349/>

**I'm a pretty girl
Yet I suffer from acne
Why should anyone?**

Chapter 38: THE HOSPITAL YEARS



<https://pixabay.com/en/medical-access-venous-access-3807380/>

Tubes stuck everywhere

Privacy nonexistent

Everything so clean

Chapter 39: A BETTER WAY TO SERVE HUMANKIND?



Source: David Bruce

wrote so many books

— I should work at McDonald's —

such a lack of sales

Chapter 40: TAKING A LOOK AT MYSELF



<https://pixabay.com/en/girl-mirror-reflection-thoughtful-3801536/>

Do I like myself?

— taking a look at myself —

Do I hate myself?

Chapter 41: TAKING A LOOK AT MYSELF, Part 2



<https://pixabay.com/en/girl-mirror-reflection-thoughtful-3801536/>

**do I like myself?
— taking a look at myself —
am I good or bad?**

Chapter 42: THE HURT'S NOT OVER

**Broken and single
A heavy load's on my soul
A hurt's in my heart**

**Dark, dreary nightfall
The sky is crying cold tears
And I'm crying, too**

**I'm hurting over
Someone who doesn't want me
But I still want her**

**The hurt's not over
Dare me to love you again
I can dare so much**

Chapter 43: SHARING A MOMENT



<https://pixabay.com/en/moon-full-moon-sky-nightsky-lunar-1859616/>

**You look at the Moon
A stranger looks at the Moon
You see the same Moon**

Chapter 44: THE STATUES WE NEED



<https://pixabay.com/en/beatle-liverpool-raining-3819228/>

**the statues we need
commemorate musicians
creative people**

Chapter 45: BETTER THAN GHOSTING



<https://pixabay.com/en/man-faceless-bokeh-horror-1283576/>

**“I met someone new.
I like him better than you.”
Better than ghosting**

Chapter 46: INVINCIBLE IGNORANCE



<https://pixabay.com/en/trump-donald-trump-donald-president-1915253/>

**if anything should,
invincible ignorance
should be defeated**

Chapter 47: POOR PERSON'S HOBBY



<https://pixabay.com/en/books-stack-book-store-1163695/>

Basically free
Entertain you for the rest
Of your life — read books

Chapter 48: IF



<https://pixabay.com/en/performance-music-musician-concert-3202707/>

**you feel the music
before you hear any words
then you know it's good**

Chapter 49: ANOTHER BREAKUP



<https://pixabay.com/en/legs-shoes-sit-city-skyscraper-1627988/>

Another breakup

With no warning she dropped me

With no parachute

Chapter 50: EVILS



<https://pixabay.com/en/forest-fire-wildfire-blaze-smoke-2268729/>

**evils are apt to
happen every day and so
wise people prepare**

Chapter 51: BLUES SOLOS



<https://pixabay.com/en/guitar-blues-musician-happiness-1873936/>

Blues guitar masters

Such sweet sadness by guitar

Sadness feels so good

Chapter 52: GOOD ADVICE



<https://pixabay.com/en/adult-tattoos-body-dark-face-1867489/>

**Don't take no sh*t from
Bullies, *ssholes, losers, and
Most of all, yourself**

Chapter 53: ENJOY LOOKING AT THE FLOWERS



<https://pixabay.com/en/orchid-orange-blossom-bloom-flower-3778816/>

**Look at the flowers
Instead of just creating
A f**king haiku**

NOTE: The haiku master Kobayashi Issa made this observation in a veiled criticism. My criticism differs in that it is not veiled.

**Chapter 54: LITTLE GIRL DISCOVERS THAT THIS
WORLD IS NOT ALWAYS GOOD**



<https://pixabay.com/en/little-girl-pokemon-pikachu-lonely-1611389/>

Discovered evil

Pokémon cards got stolen

Hurt her mentally

Now she's on a path

— Dark, lonely, and so sad —

To Yu-Gi-Oh! cards

Chapter 55: OPIOID ADDICTION DEATH



<https://pixabay.com/en/injecting-medical-shot-veins-519389/>

wounded with hot shame
— opioid addiction death —
killed with discontent

Chapter 56: CHERRY BLOSSOMS



<https://pixabay.com/en/japanese-cherry-trees-flowers-spring-324175/>

**three days of beauty
followed by decay and fall
someday you will die**

Chapter 57: ILLNESS



<https://pixabay.com/en/hypertension-high-blood-pressure-867855/>

**Illness is a sign
That someday we all will die
It does not feel good**

Chapter 58: JUST ROUND THE CORNER



<https://pixabay.com/en/japan-osaka-night-asia-landmark-2014618/>

**Just round the corner
Something good or something bad
What are you seeking?**

Chapter 59: WRONG



<https://pixabay.com/en/homeless-man-person-tramp-55492/>

**Wrong bar, wrong girlfriend,
Wrong friends, wrong decisions, and
You end up homeless**

Chapter 60: IF IT IS REAL, IS IT PARANOIA?



<https://pixabay.com/en/forest-fog-dark-loneliness-fear-549664/>

**It follows me home
And paranoia begins
Then it eats my head**

Chapter 61: DONORS



<https://pixabay.com/en/pair-man-woman-love-romance-3393904/>

**only a donor
ought to be allowed by law
to get orgasms**

NOTE: Donate an orgasm, get an orgasm.

Chapter 62: TRUE, BUT ...



<https://pixabay.com/en/piggy-bank-saving-money-young-woman-850607/>

**that's true, but it buys
— money don't buy happiness —
food, shelter, clothing**

Chapter 63: OUR FUTURE LEADERS



<https://pixabay.com/en/sport-men-hot-men-fit-skiing-ski-579238/>

Our future leaders

Walking in the snow in shorts,

No socks, and sandals

NOTE: I see Ohio University students do this frequently in the winter.

Chapter 64: POPCORN AND COFFEE



<https://pixabay.com/en/warm-and-cozy-popcorn-coffee-1975215/>

**Popcorn and coffee
And a fire in the fireplace
And warm and cozy**

Chapter 65: WHAT IF?



<https://pixabay.com/en/beret-portrait-krupnyj-plan-girl-3849071/>

**Now let's play WHAT IF?
If you could see your future
Would you dare to look?**

Chapter 66: GOOD DEEDS



<https://pixabay.com/en/kindness-chalk-handwritten-word-1197351/>

Kindness in action
Unexpectedly wholesome
Serendipity

Chapter 67: BEAUTIFUL WOMEN



<https://pixabay.com/en/girl-person-portrait-hair-beauty-3864472/>

**Beautiful women
Are everywhere in the world
She is from Russia**

Chapter 68: POINTS OF LIGHT



<https://pixabay.com/en/child-boy-dragon-dragon-flight-2887483/>

**Light pierces darkness
Songs, dances, poems, acts of fun
Are all points of light**

Chapter 69: THINGS I WILL NEVER DO



<https://pixabay.com/en/girl-glasses-hair-woman-portrait-3420940/>

read every great book
kiss every pretty woman
see every great film

Chapter 70: VALUABLE



<https://pixabay.com/en/man-woman-couple-friends-walking-3826337/>

**This is a moment
Each moment is of value**

This is a moment

**Here is a good friend
Each good friend is of value
Here is a good friend**

Chapter 71: WHY IS THIS COMMON?



Source: Wiki Commons (Public Domain)

Why is this common?

Flags now flying at half staff

Why such tragedy?

Chapter 72: OLD TECHNOLOGY



<https://pixabay.com/en/sony-walkman-man-hand-music-593219/>

Old technology

Cassettes and videotapes

Can be very cheap

NOTE: Being behind in technology is a cheap way to build up a library of culture.

Chapter 73: CUTE, FOOLISH GIRL



<https://pixabay.com/en/animal-farm-farm-animal-farmer-1867180/>

Cute girl but a fool
Two things I wish were opposed
Gold ring in pig's snout

Chapter 74: DEATH



<https://pixabay.com/en/candle-light-candlelight-flame-2038736/>

**end of your life here
a cosmic rearrangement
onward to next life**

Chapter 75: FRIENDS



<https://pixabay.com/en/beach-hats-ocean-outdoors-people-1868132/>

**Wise friends make you wise
Choose your friends and your IQ
Dumb friends make you dumb**

Chapter 76: HARD WORK



<https://pixabay.com/en/tool-construction-workers-2222458/>

**Hard work is worthwhile
It keeps away three evils:
boredom, vice, and poverty**

NOTE: On rare occasions, haiku masters wrote haiku with two lines of seven syllables.

Chapter 77: THE WISE AND THE FOOLS



<https://pixabay.com/en/books-library-room-school-study-2596809/>

**The wise seek to know
Fools don't care if they are wrong
The wise seek rightness**

Chapter 78: FOOD AND LOVE



<https://pixabay.com/en/dinner-food-girl-meal-eating-2330482/>

**simple food with love
is better than a great feast
where there is hatred.**

NOTE: See Proverbs 15:17.

Chapter 79: TONGUES



<https://pixabay.com/en/man-crazy-funny-dude-sunglasses-540500/>

**A tongue: good or bad
Depends on how it is used
Speak good things, not bad**

**Chapter 80: PLAYING THE CARDS YOU WERE
DEALT**



<https://pixabay.com/en/action-adult-paralympics-prosthetic-1867014/>

**Play even bad cards
To bring good out of evil
And achieve success**

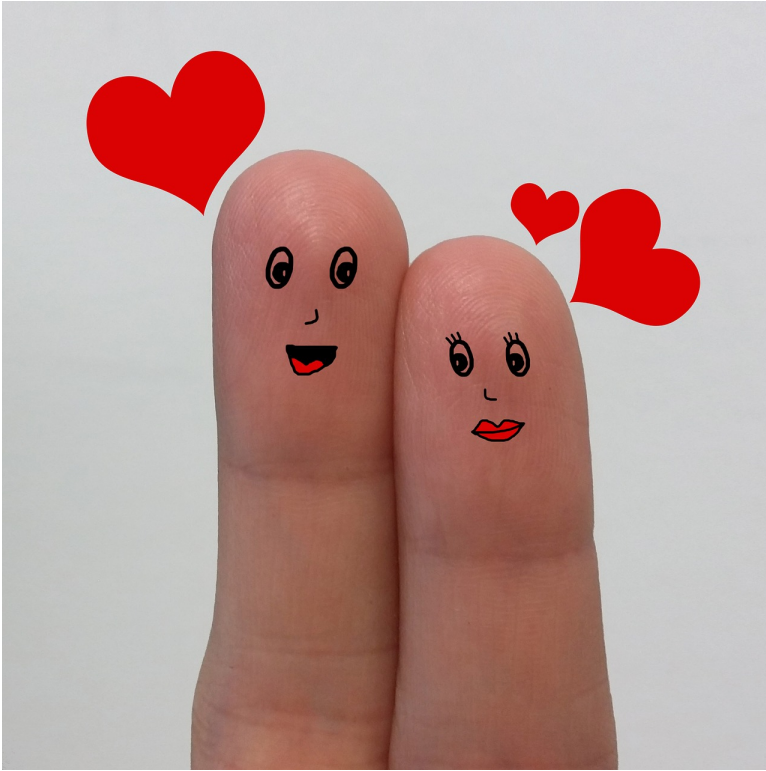
Chapter 81: QUIET



<https://pixabay.com/en/ocean-sky-blue-calm-tranquil-828774/>

**Even fools seem wise
— So maybe they are not fools? —
When they are quiet**

Chapter 82: GOOD SPOUSES



<https://pixabay.com/en/fingers-drawing-love-couple-heart-2010105/>

**A wife or husband
If he or she is loving
Is a gift from God**

Chapter 83: LEARNING



<https://pixabay.com/en/study-girl-writing-notebook-1231394/>

**If you stop learning
You will forget the knowledge
You already have**

Chapter 84: TIMESUCKS



<https://pixabay.com/en/pocket-watch-time-of-sand-time-3156771/>

**So many timesucks!
Something important to do?
We should just do it!**

Timesuck: Something pleasurable and addictive but trivial that keeps us from doing something important.

Chapter 85: SPEAKING



<https://pixabay.com/en/businessman-man-afraid-angry-3036181/>

**Watching what you say
makes you smart and can save you
a lot of trouble.**

Chapter 86: PROUD BUT EVIL PEOPLE



<https://pixabay.com/en/desert-drought-composing-dehydrated-279862/>

**Evil people are proud
But what can they be proud of?
Their crop is evil**

Chapter 87: INSULTERS



<https://pixabay.com/en/middle-finger-finger-gesture-finger-2790310/>

**Arguments and fights
— if you banish insulters —
will come to an end.**

Chapter 88: GLUTTONS AND DRUNKARDS



<https://pixabay.com/en/drun kard-man-guy-drinking-alcohol-40577/>

**Gluttons and drunkards
Are much to be avoided
For they are teachers**

Chapter 89: JUSTICE



<https://pixabay.com/en/justice-statue-lady-justice-2060093/>

**punish the guilty,
let the innocent go free,
and you will prosper**

Chapter 90: ALCOHOL'S EFFECTS



<https://pixabay.com/en/wine-glass-white-grapes-drinks-1761613/>

Drunkenness affects

People: Some sleep, others fight

Know which kind you are

Chapter 91: MORE HOPE FOR A FOOL



<https://pixabay.com/en/till-eulenspiegel-mölln-fool-3852068/>

there is more hope for a fool
than for a person who says,
“I am really smart!”

NOTE: On rare occasions, the haiku masters wrote two lines of seven syllables.

Chapter 92: RESOLUTIONS



<https://pixabay.com/en/happy-year-new-year-new-year-s-eve-3848864/>

**It's a brand-new year
So I made resolutions
Why? To make God laugh**

Chapter 93: DON'T PRAISE CRIMINALS



<https://pixabay.com/en/silhouette-lady-justice-legal-3686231/>

**Don't praise criminals;
law-abiding citizens
always oppose them.**

Chapter 94: FLATTERERS



<https://pixabay.com/en/woman-beautiful-face-portrait-3899597/>

**Watch out for the ones
who lie to and flatter you:
they want to get you**

Chapter 95: WALL AND ROOF



<https://pixabay.com/en/roof-tile-roof-republic-of-korea-1350179/>

First we need a wall
— or so Trump is telling us —
Next we need a roof?

Chapter 96: NIGHT THOUGHTS



<https://pixabay.com/en/fantasy-girl-sleep-mask-mystical-2879984/>

Dogs eat their vomit

I recall bad deeds at night

Fools repeat dumb acts

Chapter 97: WHAT WILL YOU MISS?



<https://pixabay.com/en/candle-funeral-cemetery-mood-3807159/>

**Live fast and die young
And leave a good-looking corpse
But what will you miss?**

Chapter 98: DO NOTHING?



<https://pixabay.com/en/tree-landscape-nature-poland-view-2155755/>

Too lazy to plow?

— Do nothing. Harvest nothing. —

Where is the harvest?

Chapter 99: GOOD PEOPLE AND CRIMINALS



<https://pixabay.com/en/gavel-auction-law-hammer-symbol-2492011/>

**When things are correct,
good people and criminals
can't stand each other.**

Chapter 100: WORST BREAKUP EVER



<https://pixabay.com/en/autumn-cemetery-cross-death-decay-2182010/>

**Years of a healthy
early old age, followed by
a short ill old age.**

APPENDIX A: SOME BOOKS BY DAVID BRUCE

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[Free davidbrucehaiku eBooks \(pdfs\)](#)

[Free eBooks by David Bruce \(pdfs\)](#)

[Free eBook: YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIND](#)

[Free eBook: YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIND: Volume 2](#)

[David Bruce's Smashwords Bookstore: Retellings of Classic Literature, Anecdote Collections, Discussion Guides for Teachers of Literature, Collections of Good Deed Accounts, etc. Some eBooks are free.](#)

[David Bruce's Lulu Bookstore \(Paperbacks\)](#)

[David Bruce's Amazon Author Bookstore](#)

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Retellings of a Classic Work of Literature

Ben Jonson's The Alchemist: A Retelling

Ben Jonson's Bartholomew Fair: A Retelling

Ben Jonson's Volpone, or the Fox: A Retelling

Christopher Marlowe's Complete Plays: Retellings

Christopher Marlowe's Dido, Queen of Carthage: A Retelling

Christopher Marlowe's Doctor Faustus: Retellings of the 1604 A-Text and of the 1616 B-Text

Christopher Marlowe's Edward II: A Retelling

Christopher Marlowe's The Massacre at Paris: A Retelling

Christopher Marlowe's The Rich Jew of Malta: A Retelling

Christopher Marlowe's Tamburlaine, Parts 1 and 2: Retellings

Dante's Inferno: A Retelling in Prose

Dante's Purgatory: A Retelling in Prose

Dante's Paradise: A Retelling in Prose

Dante's Divine Comedy: A Retelling in Prose

The Famous Victories of Henry V: A Retelling

From the Iliad to the Odyssey: A Retelling in Prose of Quintus of Smyrna's Posthomerica

The History of King Leir: A Retelling

Homer's Iliad: A Retelling in Prose

Homer's Odyssey: A Retelling in Prose

Jason and the Argonauts: A Retelling in Prose of Apollonius of Rhodes' Argonautica

John Ford's The Broken Heart: A Retelling

John Ford's 'Tis Pity She's a Whore: A Retelling

King Edward III: A Retelling

Robert Greene's Friar Bacon and Friar Bungay: A Retelling

Tarlton's Jests: A Retelling

The Trojan War and Its Aftermath: Four Ancient Epic Poems

Virgil's Aeneid: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's 5 Late Romances: Retellings in Prose

William Shakespeare's 10 Histories: Retellings in Prose

William Shakespeare's 11 Tragedies: Retellings in Prose

William Shakespeare's 12 Comedies: Retellings in Prose

William Shakespeare's 38 Plays: Retellings in Prose

William Shakespeare's 1 Henry IV, aka Henry IV, Part 1: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's 2 Henry IV, aka Henry IV, Part 2: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's 1 Henry VI, aka Henry VI, Part 1: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's 2 Henry VI, aka Henry VI, Part 2: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's 3 Henry VI, aka Henry VI, Part 3: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's All's Well that Ends Well: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Antony and Cleopatra: A Retelling in Prose

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William Shakespeare's The Comedy of Errors: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Coriolanus: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Cymbeline: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Hamlet: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Henry V: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's Henry VIII: A Retelling in Prose

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William Shakespeare's King John: A Retelling in Prose

William Shakespeare's King Lear: A Retelling in Prose

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APPENDIX B: ABOUT THE AUTHOR

It was a dark and stormy night. Suddenly a cry rang out, and on a hot summer night in 1954, Josephine, wife of Carl Bruce, gave birth to a boy — me. Unfortunately, this young married couple allowed Reuben Saturday, Josephine’s brother, to name their first-born. Reuben, aka “The Joker,” decided that Bruce was a nice name, so he decided to name me Bruce Bruce. I have gone by my middle name — David — ever since.

Being named Bruce David Bruce hasn’t been all bad. Bank tellers remember me very quickly, so I don’t often have to show an ID. It can be fun in charades, also. When I was a counselor as a teenager at Camp Echoing Hills in Warsaw, Ohio, a fellow counselor gave the signs for “sounds like” and “two words,” then she pointed to a bruise on her leg twice. Bruise Bruise? Oh yeah, Bruce Bruce is the answer!

Uncle Reuben, by the way, gave me a haircut when I was in kindergarten. He cut my hair short and shaved a small bald spot on the back of my head. My mother wouldn’t let me go to school until the bald spot grew out again.

Of all my brothers and sisters (six in all), I am the only transplant to Athens, Ohio. I was born in Newark, Ohio, and have lived all around Southeastern Ohio. However, I moved to Athens to go to Ohio University and have never left.

At Ohio U, I never could make up my mind whether to major in English or Philosophy, so I got a bachelor’s degree with a double major in both areas, then I added a Master of Arts degree in English and a Master of Arts degree in Philosophy. Yes, I have my MAMA degree.

Currently, and for a long time to come (I eat fruits and veggies), I am spending my retirement writing books such as *Nadia Comaneci: Perfect 10*, *The Funniest People in Dance*, *Homer's Iliad: A Retelling in Prose*, and *William Shakespeare's Othello: A Retelling in Prose*.