

## Tunamorrow's Cuisine

By John A. Todras

March 2011...Fukushima, Japan:  
workers pump thousands of tons of seawater over reactors  
to prevent a complete nuclear reactor core meltdown...  
radioactive cesium 134 and 137, like Alka Seltzer,  
disperses in the water column covering  
60,000 square miles of ocean off Japan,  
From the surface down to the bottom of the sea floor.

Young bluefin tuna traveled back and forth thrice  
From Japanese waters to the distant California coast,  
ingesting that cesium-contaminated water,

eating organisms that had already taken in that cesium.

August 2011....off the coast of California:  
Japanese and U.S. officials disclaim all safety concerns,  
while scientists declare the truth, the public health hazards:  
Newly caught young bluefin radioactive tuna.

Tuna's fatty muscle, prized as a delicacy,  
sliced and eaten raw as sushi, selling at \$1,238 a pound...  
Big fast food chains in the USA don't serve Bluefin tuna...  
If they did, how would they justify it on the dollar menu?

Perhaps, the parts of the irradiated tuna not targeted for sushi  
could be processed with Monsanto GMO-laden pink slime,  
stretched for fast food consumption right here,  
in the good ol' US of A.

## Holey Ground

By John A. Todras

Like picked pimples on a teenager's face,  
ugly New York City pot holes sit unattended.

After a rough winter's snows,  
avenues and boulevards  
seem like lunar surface indentations  
which send out messages  
to those who peer:  
AVOID US!

Some dark road blotches,  
with scabies,  
wink at passers-by,  
stick out like hair  
upon circus clowns' heads.

Repair crews will try the patch method  
soon enough,  
but after a few months,  
patches will, of course, split,  
water from spring and summer rains  
diving into the small gaps,  
where weeds will sometimes set up  
temporary homes near curbs,  
only to be trampled on  
by unassuming pedestrians.

Many gaps surely will split further,  
awaiting the next winter's snows and ice,  
to play havoc with tar and asphalt.

Pot holes are perennial in New Your City...  
no need to plant new ones:  
old ones send out yearly birth announcements.

# Writing Raw

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**John A. Todras bio:** John A. Todras is a former first place prize winner in both the Shelly Society of NY contest, and the Borders Book contest on Long Island. He has worked in many traditional poetic forms and free verse, some of which he has adapted to comedy cabaret songs (in which he is the pianist-composer). He has been published in Nomads' Choir and The Brownstone Anthology, NYC.