

## five haiku: mantis

I

**tentacles folded  
tranquil pose of quietude  
but when will you pounce**

II

**words from a pulpit  
muttering obsolete prayers  
but when will you pounce**

III

**saw you on tv  
eyes oozing peace and friendship  
but when will you pounce**

IV

**I adore your smile  
and so wish to believe you  
but when will you pounce**

V

**knocking at my door  
offering a thornless rose  
but when will you pounce**