**A Special Place**

 by Linda Castro

 There is a square upon the floor, an island in a sea,

 a place I visit every week, a spot that’s just for me.

 When I sit upon that square I leave my cares outside.

 All anger is forgotten, the Dharma is my guide.

 There is a special something here,

 it’s something you can see,

 for kindness lives within this place,

 it lives inside of me.

 Amida stands inside the shrine,

 a smile upon his face,

 I smile right back, I’m glad to be here

 in this special place.

 Now there’s time to sit and

 think of all that I can do,

 to care for those around me,

 each day the whole week through.

 This is a home to gentle thoughts

 when sitting quietly,

 for kindness lives within this place,

 it lives inside of me,

 it lives inside of me.