**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.