



BEST BOOKS *of Indiana*

2011 WINNER
FOR POETRY

*Shadows Set in
Concrete*—JL Kato

In *Shadows Set in Concrete*, Kato vividly describes the life of a young Japanese immigrant to Indiana. In poems that range in size from one line to 4 pages, Kato describes the two cultures that clashed within his own family. He has an eye for nature along with sensitivity to human foibles and dramas. I loved a poem about a parental fight where the mother “fights Asian.” Kato’s poems are concise, refer often to literary precedents, and most importantly, capture an interesting cross-cultural world.