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Sacred Places

Seth Dixon

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Yolen, Jane. *Sacred Places*. Illustrated by David Shannon. Harcourt Brace & Company, 1996. ISBN 0152699538. \$16.00. 38pp.

Reviewer: Seth Dixon

Reading level: Intermediate; Young adult

Rating: Excellent

Genre: Poetry; picture book

Subject: Religious; Sacred space – Juvenile poetry

This book combines the strengths of the awarding-winning author and illustrator to create a reverent, mystical feel on the first page. With an illustration of a single candle flickering in the darkness we read, "Hush! This is a holy place." Through different poems, *Sacred Places* shows how different places mean different things to different people. Still, they all have a unifying theme of sanctity, respect, and reverence for what other people view as holy.

David Shannon is extremely versatile and shows it with his paintings: from Mecca to Stonehenge, from a Shinto Shrine to an aboriginal holy rock formation the poems and illustrations work together to capture the feel of *Sacred Places* all over the world.