2010

**Guyku: A Year of Haiku for Boys**

Lauren Bangerter

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Reviewer: Lauren Bangerter

Reading level: Toddler, Preschool, Primary, Intermediate, Young Adult

Rating: Outstanding

Genre: Informative; Poetry;

Subject: Boys--Juvenile poetry; Children's poetry, American; Seasons--Juvenile poetry; Books--Reviews;

“The wind and I play / tug-of-war with my new kite. / The wind is winning,” and “Hey, who turned off all / the crickets? I’m not ready / for summer to end,” are just two of the many thought-provoking and illustrative haikus contained in Raczka’s *Guyku*. This book is filled with fun, imaginative haikus (poems that consist of three lines containing 5 syllables, 7 syllables, and 5 syllables respectively) that cover memorable moments from every season of the year.

Raczka has done a magnificent job at combining deep, intriguing poetry with the quirkiness and spontaneity of boyhood. Each haiku is excellently paired with a watercolor illustration by Reynolds, and the reader can’t stop turning pages to see which other clever, special moments the haikus will capture next.

Volume 31, no. 3 (January/February 2011)