

### BRIEFLY REVIEWED BY MIKE NIERSTE

*Haiku for Hikers* edited by Ella Q. Peavler (Brick Street Poetry Inc, Zionsville, IN: 2021). 71 pages, 6" x 9". Matte cover, perfect softbound. ISBN 979-8767402984. \$15 from online booksellers.

This publication endeavor was tied to a fundraising effort and supported by the Community Foundation of Boone County, Indiana, through a matching grant. The work of the young editor, Ella Q. Peavler, is to be applauded for the presentation value of the collection: each haiku is illustrated by a photograph submitted with text to help show the meaning. This collection almost always uses a 5-7-5 form. Because the subject of the haiku focuses on hiking, the theme of nature is strongly present in these poems. As I'm a fan of deep hikes into nature, this one stands out for me: *rounding an incline / heart rate monitor beeps / before bear is seen* (Mary Vloosuyk). Some cover the magic of nature experienced closer to home: *urban garden bed / corn, tomatoes, kale appear— / something from nothing* (Mary Redman). Tony Brewer writes some of the strongest haiku in the collection: *upstream from rapids— / a single droplet begins / its seaward journey*. □■

### BRIEFLY REVIEWED BY TOM SACRAMONA

*Mannequins Dressed for the Window: Haiku Secrets* by Gary Hotham (Yiqralo Press, Scaggsville, MD: 2021). 47 pages, 5.25" x 8". Glossy cover, perfect softbound. ISBN 979-8469090649. \$5.70 from online booksellers.

Continuing in the style of Gary Hotham's recent chapbooks, *Rightsizing the Universe* (2019) and *Park Bench Memories* (2020), his 2021 self-published chapbook *Mannequins Dressed for the Window: Haiku Secrets* has been designed by the poet himself. The cover features a rusted U.S. mailbox from Scaggsville, Maryland, where the poet lives, and the back cover features a striking picture of ice sheets on rocks from Beverly, Massachusetts. The way the ice looks frozen but liquid in melting brings to my mind Salvador