

The Happy Meditator

by Katherine Huang



“Back of the Beach” by Karen Kraco. “The Happy Meditator” was written by Katherine Huang for *Rattle’s* Ekphrastic Challenge, September 2018, and selected as the Editor’s Choice.

With a leg-cross
onto his skateboard,
he cropped himself

from the mirage.
No longer afraid
to be discovered

by the pale
shiny people who
populated the beach,

bleaching the oasis
with their sunscreen,
he became

three-dimensional
again, solid enough
to hear the rustle

of summer leaves.
When his mother
called, he tried

to explain to her
how he could depart
instantly from places

when they no longer
seemed real: the city,
the lakeside, the closeness

of today, leaving behind
not so much a shadow
as a doorway open to

interpretation.