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D. T. Holt

### Verisimilitude

I seek, above all else, convincing lies,  
that ones that are so believable  
they really ought to be true.  
See, I'm an idealist  
and it's all part of my philosophy.  
The world is boring enough  
with all the emphasis on the facts of existence,  
all the insistence on things being unvarnished.  
But I like a little varnish  
—it really makes things pop.  
Tell me a tale.  
Just give it some verisimilitude.  
It's good to have some shine.  
I'm sick of the flatlands.  
I need hills and valleys in my world with hidden glades  
that haven't been harrowed and irrigated into submission.  
Don't tell me how it is. Tell me how it might be.

And really make me believe it.  
Watch me swallow it, hook, line, and sinker.  
I'll take the bait. I'll be your trout.  
And I'll put up one hell of a fight, too.  
All you have to do is reel me in.

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D. T. Holt has published work in *WestWord Quarterly*, *Blue Unicorn*, *The Chiron Review*, *The Society of Classical Poets*, *The Haight Ashbury Literary Journal*, and elsewhere. He recently completed a memoir, *Up the River*.