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plano

Mil Riese  
*College of DuPage*

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# plano

— Mil Riese

I would like to be quiet  
and peaceful again —  
a small person in a small town.  
A place where men in cowboy hats  
startle me with their kindness  
and leap from their seats to help  
a lady on a walker,  
graciously assuring me  
that older is indubitably better!  
Where courtesies, American style,  
grafted onto lifetimes  
in woodsy small towns  
are something I'm thrilled to see.  
I long to know that it still goes on,  
and could even happen to me  
in a town like I remember,  
not yet too big for its britches,  
dreaming sweetly off the road,  
in its niche of tassled corn.