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Movie Extra

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Movie Extra

As in *The Ectopic*, the fairy goddess descends earthward through the ribs of bare trees. The flow is soft-filtered. The

camera operator is encouraged *Take advantage of any lens flare*. The realistic

actors, just back from the realistic bar, in a realistic nearby town, might as well be live-captioned inside their own thought

balloons; they're hung-over, mumbling, hilarious. The woods are full of corpses,

wide-open graves. In the theater, the floor grows sticky, floodlights swing across a neighborhood pond. "Cut," says the director, when

the fish stop taking insects. Rain falls, diagonally, across a nearby airfield.

The actress who plays the lead blows three smoke rings from where she is "dying" in a bath. The key grip eats a Graham Cracker and

says "Okay, I'm ready." "Are you ready?" the director asks the male lead,

who is smoking a joint halfway hidden behind a Port-a-John rented for the day's filming. I go for a walk in some nearby woods. Invisibility.

David Dodd Lee is the author of ten books of poetry, including *Animalities* (Four Way Books, 2014), *Orphan, Indiana* (Akron, 2010), *Abrupt Rural* (New Issues, 2004), as well as a forthcoming book of collages and poetry, entitled *Unlucky Animals* (Wolfson Press, 2019). He has also published two books of Ashbery erasure poems. He writes and makes visual art (collage,

sculpture) and kayaks in Northern Indiana, where he lives on the St. Joseph River. He is Associate Professor of English at Indiana University South Bend.