

Let Me Tell You About Basin and Range

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The car rolls smoothly over Interstate 80.
Lovlock, Winnemucca, Battle Mountain: Basin and Range.
I'm riding through it, and it's riding through me.

The skies are open, the range is free.
Range country is expansive with choices.
Free ranging ideas and unlimited options, all open.
Possibilities breathe deep; head out.

Take to the trail! Leave the path!
Go where you wish! Wherever the spirit leads!
Strike out and keep going forever.
There's no tomorrow!

But. Yet.
You need to rest, for the way is long.
The land is dry; seek water.
Look for a basin where water collects, round and enclosed.
Find still water, brush for shelter.
Circle the basin.

But. Yet.
In this resting bowl, this depression, still water becomes compression.
Eventually it will stagnate, evaporate, alkalize.
Best take leave before your refreshment becomes your poison.

Range out, far and wide; advance.
Retreat to center, but do not overstay.
Move out again, free and easy;
Return to refresh, but best not become a pillar of salt.