



# SURREAL POETICS

The resolution of dream and reality into a kind of absolute reality  
... a surreality. (Andre Breton, Manifesto of Surrealism, 1924)

**In poetry, an image must . . .**

**get a job and pay the rent,  
the writer otherwise being compelled  
to turn it out on the street for tricks,  
which is, of course, the preferred outcome.**

~ Michael Dwayne Smith

## "WE NEVER REALLY DIE"

**The light gradually eats away at my face.**

**(Images steal the curvature.)**

**Eye for an "I" until it is eaten?**

**(Forgetfulness**

**is indistinct and uncertain.)**

**Mark this page, I ask him.**

**"Light is a question in one millimeter answers."**

**I do and I**

**relinquish the space.**

## ~ ABOUT THE POET ~

Michael Dwayne Smith lives near a Mojave Desert ghost town with his family and rescued animals; he has obsessed over surrealists and surrealism since his childhood encounter with a Kahlo painting nearly fifty years ago, an obsession turned transfiguration in writing, reading, amateur dream analysis, and painting. Smith believes Lisa Jarnot speaks to his feeling for "poetic intuition" when she intends "to write this poem as I sleep, to sleep / in distant planets in my mind and cross at night the / cows in hallways riding stars to radios at night." You can find Michael on Twitter at @michaelthebear.