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Initiation of a Rookie

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Initiation of a Rookie

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Initiation of a Rookie

Trembling, he wipes his brow —
“My God, the sweat.”
The voices from behind encourage;
Loudly, lively, but go unheard.
They know the feeling well.

“My arm is sore,” but it isn’t —
“A poor excuse,” yes, it is.
He counts his fielders; veterans,
Pawns of many matches.
They know the feeling well.

His spit beads in the dust —
“I never spat before!”
Deformation professionelle;
Motiveless, expected, accepted.
They know the feeling well.

THOMAS P. PROIETTI

Wendy

as the Whining Wind
Winds from
Willow to Willow

as the Surging Sea
Shifts from
Shore to Shore

as the Pining Paramour
Passes from
Pillow to Pillow

so Wends Wendy

JAMES R. HALL, JR.