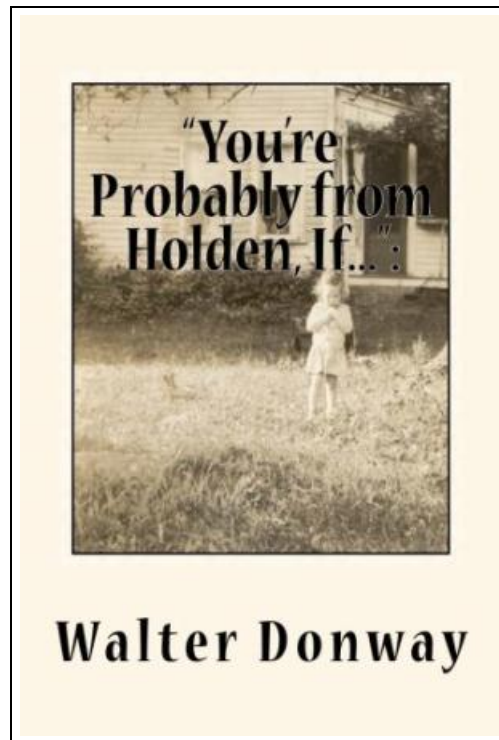


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(Lavina Torp)

YOU'RE PROBABLY FROM HOLDEN, IF.: GROWING UP IN A VANISHING NEW ENGLAND

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Createspace. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 263 pages. From the Introduction: One evening not long ago I made the happy discovery of a Facebook page called: Youre Probably from Holden, If. . . It is dedicated to reminiscences about Holden, Massachusetts, a small town just outside of Worcester, in the center of the state. When I was a boy, in the second half of the 1940s and the 1950s, much of Holden was rural, still close to farms and fields and woods; neighborly; grocery and hardware stores and everything else owned by people you knew; schools earnest and firmly in the grip of parents; and the work and play of kids in gardens and woods, ice-cream parlors, and farm stands. Looking back, I realize that what I am today, at 69, having spent my adult life in New York City, is what I became in Holden. To recall Holden, as it was, then, is to ponder who and what I am and why. I began to post nightly, some posts were 10 pages or more. The secret enchantment of our vast empty barn with all its inhabitants, how my father raised 3000 chickens during WWII food rationing, forgotten childhood books at the first library I used, the yearnings and heartbreaks of falling in love with those desirable Holden girls, my experience in the legendary Worcester tornado of 1953, teachers who became almost co-authors of my life: The memories rushed out. The response of readerstheir amazing commentary, filling in unexpected detailsbecame exhilarating. I realized that I was writing the book you now hold. I could not conceive of publishing it without the hundreds of comments that popped up like lights blinking on in places my posts had left dim or dark. I have included virtually all...

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