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2006

My Brother Killed the Dragon in the Shed

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Recommended Citation

Narbonne, Andre. (2006). My Brother Killed the Dragon in the Shed. *Queen's Quarterly*, 113 (4), 630-631. https://scholar.uwindsor.ca/creativepub/25

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My brother killed the dragon in the shed

Queen's Quarterly, 2006, 113, 4

my brother killed the dragon in the shed with a rolled cardboard insert from a carpet that was a lance

I waited, unafraid on the big step, knowing he could never lose

the world could never be so big

One September he went off to war in the high school down the road

and I waited at the top of the hill after kindergarten every noon to catch sight of his slow horsemanship. He always held the reins too loose and was jostled side-to-side when he spied me

And I waited to shower his return with joy and although he was married to visions of the future he looked down on me like I was the king of a small yard that would never not be important

ANDRE NARBONNE



Saint George and the Dragon by Paolo Uccello. Public domain image.