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# My Brother Killed the Dragon in the Shed

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## My brother killed the dragon in the shed

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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.