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## For a Friend

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## FOR A FRIEND ~ *Lucy Hester*

What I would say to you:  
that when I was very small  
my brother was smaller still,  
I would tiptoe up to his crib  
to watch through the bars  
his sleeping breath.

For one year of high school  
we drove together and ate  
breakfast in the parking lot  
listening to old music.  
On the last morning I knew  
this simple time together  
would not come again.

I do not have  
a sister.

I know death  
widely but not well.  
I was nearly eighteen when  
my father's closest brother  
went down to the shed  
where he kept his guns.  
My father often asks me  
to write something about it  
but I never have.  
It is my father's grief.  
I find I am speechless.

