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## Forty Seconds Before

I am very happy  
it is a beautiful day  
with a clear blue sky and the sun shines  
bright and warm  
i hear the plane; the bomber  
comes every day  
but does nothing  
just one bomber  
(people say my city  
will be spared from destruction  
because it is so beautiful)  
it flies straight and true  
like a silver angel  
i imagine it swooping and diving  
like the butterfly and laugh  
i am so silly  
but today is different  
today the bomber forgot something  
there is a little dot  
it is a parachute man  
he is very brave  
to parachute  
into the middle of the city  
a little dot falling.

--Patrick Gray,  
Ninth grade, Triton High School,  
Erwin, North Carolina

Merlyn's Pen

“

All good poetry is the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings:  
it takes its origin from emotion recollected in tranquillity.

”

-William Wordsworth