

### Who Were You?

my young fingers rub  
where yours had rubbed long ago,  
reaching back to you

what was your name?  
you lived and died before me,  
some lifetimes ago

were you a young boy  
like me, spending this new coin  
to buy precious treats?

did you stack your coins,  
as I am doing just now,  
hefting their weight?

did you think of me,  
a boy thinking about you,  
in your far future?



1863 "Indian  
Head" penny

1853 half dime

1903 dime

1892 Columbian  
half dollar

1878 silver  
dollar

My mother was treasurer of our little church in Knoxville, Missouri. I used my weekly \$1 allowance to trade for coins from the collection plate each Sunday. These are a few of my boyhood treasures, soon to be passed on to my grandchildren . . . and beyond?

31 October 2022

