

## The Forbidden Question

this awkward schoolboy,  
assigned to deep center field  
by phys ed teacher

doubts had been brewing  
about Sunday sermons' truths  
on slippery slope:

Heaven and Hell, real?  
why does prayer seem not to work?  
and ... (I dared not ask!)

trembling, knees wobbling,  
that forbidden question burst:  
and ... does God exist?

fly ball came my way  
frozen by fear, I dropped it  
—I had reached the edge



The awkward, distracted boy /415

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