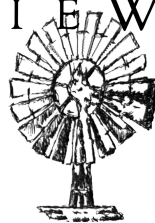


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## With Dad

Ivan Hobson

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# With Dad

by Ivan Hobson

In the high-country on horseback,  
we saw that rattlesnake  
get taken into the sky.

What was wrong with the hawk  
that it did not finish the job?

The snake striking until it was freed,  
falling until it crashed  
on the rocks below,

and the hawk, drunk with venom,  
fluttered to the ground  
where you told me it wouldn't survive  
the afternoon.

There I was, an unsure boy,  
when I cleared my throat and asked you  
if you still loved mom.

