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# Heroics

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## Heroics

Jane Scoville

He hovers over you like some god; Tanned chest bared this summer day, Slim hips slightly swaying, Muscular thighs twitching.

Your frail body is perched beneath a tree; Knitted cap hiding hairless head, Dark glasses shielding sunken eyes, Mysterious stranger who was once familiar friend.

He flashes a smile above us both, Offers to bring you picnic food, And reels away in a swirl of light, Leaving us in shadow, even darker.

Neighbors meet in whispered clutches; Wondering why you've dared to darken their day, They skirt your canvas chair and drift away To drain their drinks, to resume their games.

But I know why your cancer can't yet cancel you; I've heard your glorious tales of that blond Adonis, That shining football star — Naperville's hero, Not separate yet

from the dying mother

who bore him.

Oh, you do hang on -

Ah, heroically.