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A Semi-Autobiographical Story About A Boy

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Cover Page Footnote

"Second Prize Winner" Appeared in the issue: Volume 4, Issue 1, 2003.

EVAN ABBEY

A SEMI-AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL STORY ABOUT A BOY **AFTER THE PAINTING *PEELING ONIONS* BY LILLY MARTIN SPENCER**

A mother stands in a kitchen
A family kitchen
The smell of home-cooked goodness lingers everywhere
A familiar scene almost

The chopping of a knife barely covers the sound of her sniffing.
Hands repeatedly wiping away the monsoon of tears.
Eyes red, tired from overuse
She's cutting onions.

A mother stands in a kitchen
She has just talked to her son.
He's not coming home ever
Doesn't need her doesn't want her he's moved on

The knife continues its chopping, the sniffing no longer covered
Tears fall freely now, hands long since given up.
Eyes which once were an unreadable icy blue
Now in the evening light, reflect a depressed gray.

A mother stands in a kitchen
Still chopping sniffing tearing
Far away a son begins forgetting.
The onions are only a cover.