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## Slapping Eugene Elwood

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## **Cover Page Footnote**

"Second Prize Winner" Appeared in the issue: Volume 4, Issue 2, 2003.

# MAGGIE CASSELLA

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## SLAPPING EUGENE ELWOOD

In fifth grade

I wore spandex  
pants with stirrups on the feet—

I hung out at my friend Caroline's  
and started swearing—

I rolled pennies so I could go to dances,  
and hair sprayed my bangs over and over with aqua net.

I was always late getting to school  
and almost everyday without fail  
I slapped Eugene Elwood in the face.

I don't know why, but he would let me.  
His cheek would explode into cherry red

and he would just sit there laughing.