

Quondam Writing Prize 2018

Senior Category Winner: Theodora Shillito

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I truly and honestly cannot begin
To tell you the troubles of having a twin.
Our terrible rivalry started from birth;
Who'd make their appearance the first on the Earth?
Of course, it was her, and she entered in style,
Leaving me trailing behind for a while.
But boy when I caught up I did,
I was walking and talking quite soon for a kid.
I know what you're thinking; 'So what's the big deal?'
Have you any idea of the anger you feel
When a person your age and your height and your creed
Overtakes you and wins in your lifelong stampede
To be better and faster and more and more quick,
To be victor in everything – it makes you feel sick!
But truth to be told, and between you and me,
There's no other person I'd wish for to be
Entangled and trapped in this permanent race,
And I know that we'll someday go at the same pace.
It's even quite nice to have someone to share
All your highest of highs to your depths of despair,
We're bonded from birth by our blood, bone and skin.
It's weird, but I love my identical twin.