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## Our Ice

Daniel Persia  
*Denison University*

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## Our Ice

By Daniel Persia

There was the one about the boy  
who invaded the living room  
with a swarm of little green men, shot them  
down, one by one, while his father  
flew thousands of miles—in uniform,  
sergeants and medics

flanked by his mother—  
she set off a bomb and brought out  
a tray of chocolate chip cookies.  
And there was the one about the boy  
who put on a suit coat  
with shoulders twice his size, kneeled

down, next to his father  
and listened to a story—in uniform,  
dozens of strangers  
greeted by his mother—  
she lifted a card and put it  
into his oversized front pocket.

From the roof of a small suburban home  
in Baltimore, a row of icicles  
drop and split and rest  
one by one, they surrender  
to December's snow  
to be born again.