

A Story

by Li-Young Lee

Sad is the man who is asked for a story
and can't *come up with* one.

His five-year-old son waits in his lap.
Not the same story, *Baba*. A new one.
The man rubs his chin, scratches his ear.

In a room full of books in a world
of stories, he can *recall*
not one, and *soon*, he thinks, the boy
will *give up on* his father.

Already the man lives far ahead, he sees
the day this boy will go. Don't go!
Hear the alligator story! The angel story *once more*!
You love the spider story. You laugh at the spider.
Let me tell it!

...

come up with – think of

Baba – father

recall - remember

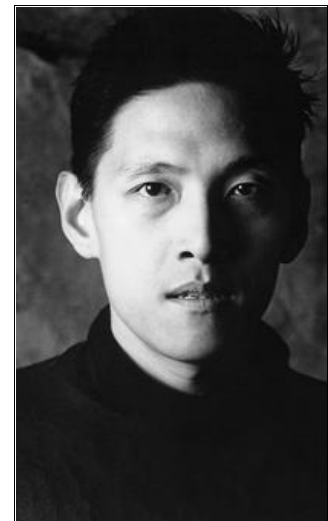
soon – in a short time

give up on – think someone can't do it

once more - again

Questions

1. Who are the two people in this story?
2. What does one of the people ask for? What happens? Why?
3. How does the man in the story feel? Why?
4. Where do you think they are? Why?



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