Johnnie's Poem

Look! I've written a poem!

Johnnie says
and hands it to me

and it's about
his grandfather dying
last summer, and me
in the hospital
and I want to cry,
don't you see, because it doesn't matter
if it's not very good:
what matters is he knows
and it was me, his father, who told him
you write poems about what
you feel deepest and hardest.

Alden Nowlan

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