

## Two truths and a lie

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One afternoon I rode an elephant in a circus  
but I couldn't rock my pelvis  
front and back  
and front and back  
like the sexy circus women riders in their  
swimsuit costumes and fishnet tights –

I held on with two hands and tried not to fall off as the beast jerked along,  
but once, just once for a second,  
I shot one arm up and waved  
to my husband and three kids and one neighbor kid  
sitting in the bleachers.

If they only knew the truth about me --  
that when I was a child,  
I could fly....

.... One afternoon,  
Peggy Potter and her big brother Randy  
and Karen Schemer and my little brother Danny  
and his buddies Dennis and Dale Stouber  
all stood around me in a  
circle in the basement,  
watched me climb up onto a chair,  
watched me stand straight, arms out,  
watched me lift off....

I buzzed over their heads,  
flying low,  
swooping under copper pipes,  
around light bulbs,  
past the clothes chute suspended from  
the ceiling.  
Considering the cramped surroundings,  
it was a great ride,  
and a bit show-offy

I wanted to be show-offy  
that day in the circus  
but I was all grown up  
and had learned to be modest.

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