

# The Big Bang



## **The Big Bang** by Helen Hiebert

*I remember you  
crying in church,  
I wondered  
but didn't ask.  
How on earth did  
a nuclear physicist  
lose his mind?*

### THE BIG BANG

*Did you use it up?  
You are hollow now  
living in the moment  
something I dream of.  
I hold the memories  
as I weep in the pew.*

### **Artist Statement:**

The Big Bang is a tribute to my father, a nuclear physicist who suffers from Alzheimer's disease. The text alludes to my childhood memory of seeing my father in church with tears in his eyes and wondering what he was thinking about but being too shy to ask. As an adult, I occasionally experience similar bouts of emotion that seem to arise from nowhere.

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**Artist:** Helen Hiebert; **Poet:** Helen Hiebert

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**Letterpress Printing:** Helen Hiebert & student assistant at a residency at Austin Peay State University

**Image/Illustration Process:** embroidery

**Book Structure/Binding Method:** broadside

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