

NOTES

Written as a personal, narrative poem, the free-verse style allows a male performer to also consider using this piece of literature as a Dramatic Interpretation. While this poem contains a lot of humor, that humor should never be pushed. It should be a natural extension of the narrator's personality. This poem is, at its core, about love. The performer should connect with the audience as viably as the younger brother connects with Superman. Play the likability, courage, and hope, as the narrator finds strength in his brother's ability to bring a community together in times of adversity.

My little brother thinks he is *Superman*.
My parents *gave* him this nickname as a toddler.
After all, he could dirty a diaper faster than a *speeding bullet*.
The smell was more powerful than a *locomotive*.
And as soon as he was old enough to form words and sentences,
It was clear; my little brother believed in truth, justice,
And all things *his* way.



For his fourth birthday,
My mother commissioned a seamstress
To make my little brother a *genuine* Superman costume,
Complete with *red cape!*
He loved it, of course, and wore it everywhere!
He wore it to pre-school. He wore it grocery shopping.
He even wore it to Sunday school.
My little brother refused to take it off!
So Mother, in her infinite wisdom,
Decided to have *six more* Superman suits made!



In no time at all, my little brother becomes the town *celebrity*.
Everyone in town knows him.
I, on the other hand, garner a *new* identity.
I become known as Superman's older brother.
This title actually gives me instant notoriety and popularity.
Provided I will bring my little brother along occasionally,
Cheerleaders, who *never* knew my name,
Now ask me to *study* with them.
My little brother becomes *more* than a small town Super Hero.
He becomes my personal babe magnet!



My little brother hates *anything* green.

Green is the color of *Kryptonite*!
And Kryptonite is, of course, the *one* thing
That can take away Superman's *powers*.

My little brother hates spinach (*which leaves more for Popeye, I guess.*)
He hates lettuce (*salads are completely out.*)
He hates lima beans (*okay, I concur on this one.*)
And he will eat *any* flavor of Jell-O (*except lime!*)

My little brother's dislike for *Star Wars* begins with *The Empire Strikes Back*. (*What color is Yoda?*)
He *refuses* to root for the *Notre Dame* football team.
And he would rather be pinched a *million* times,
Than wear *green* on *St. Patrick's Day*!

My little brother definitely *hates* anything green.

