

# A Cavalry Charge

by [Michael Shindler](#) (October 2023)



*Study of a Flying Sparrow*, Giovanni Da Udine, 1515-20

A cavalry charge.  
Blaring trumpets.  
The cheer of men.

Large are the shadow  
Puppets that play  
And play again.

They each have all  
The world in their shade:

They fight, they fall,  
And prayers are prayed.

But there is a little bird  
Brown and spotted and ugly,  
Flying as high as the North Star,  
Saying it hears nothing,  
Not even the prayers.

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Michael Shindler is a writer living in Washington, DC. His work has appeared in publications including *The American Conservative*, *The American Spectator*, *National Review Online*, *New English Review*, *University Bookman*, and *Providence*. Follow him on Twitter [@MichaelShindler](#).

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