I made my avatar in my own image but bigger, stronger and smarter than I was. I squared my chin, made my eyes wider and more elongated and slicked down my unruly hair. Sometimes when I played the game, I sensed his attention was more engaged in assessing me and my world than in gaining control of ours.

“Wait,” my brother shouts to my mother in his most determined voice, “George is way behind.” She stops to let George catch up. On other occasions, my brother insists George be pushed on a swing, or a cookie be saved for George. George, my older brother’s imaginary pal, trailed him everywhere for a significant period of time. Months? Years? No one in the family can recall George’s precise lifespan.

Are you a Daydream Believer?
Daydreaming about good things cannot be bad.
But believing those daydreams might make you sad.

Hidden worlds
Explorers once risked danger in search of hidden worlds and today we read books and play computer games to escape into imaginative hidden worlds. Some people think it is a waste of time exploring hidden worlds.

Your task is to write a story about discovering, entering, being trapped in or leaving a hidden world.
Use one of the pieces of stimulus as a starting point or source of ideas for your story.
Limit your story to one event and one time frame. Give your story a title.

- Who is the character, where are they, what’s happening?
- How can you build tension in each paragraph?
  - Can you describe new problems or new places?
  - How does the climax surprise or enlighten us?
- How can you resolve the character’s situation/problem?
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