

## *Sapper Boy*

Ex-Army Boy, Sapper Boy.

Ash blonde hair and soft green eyes like the last Viking seas.  
Home. But his brain, my brain, little disastrous masterpieces.  
Thoughts like stones that weigh like iron in the backs of our  
skulls. Stress like spiders that creep over skin with the  
overwhelming sense of fear. Panic that falls like rain in the  
presence of dozens.

Ex-Army Boy, Sapper Boy.

Body racked with tremors the way my heart beats on, on, on. Skin  
covered in ink to compensate for mine's lack. Beautiful eyes  
behind beautiful lashes that guard scared, beautiful minds.  
Minds that won't listen, can't listen, minds that won't work,  
can't work. Minds that are filled with things we cannot even  
pronounce. But still, minds that see the magnificence in the  
brutality of life. Beautiful minds.

I tell him. You are a good soldier, you always will be. You are  
a good sapper, you always will be. You are a good man, you  
always will be. No matter how many falls, how many breaks, how  
many tremors. I tell him. My strong boy, my tall boy, my lost  
boy - My boy.

Ex-Army Boy, Sapper Boy.

## *Be Wise Enough to Wonder*

My love, be wise enough to wonder.  
When they call you names, when your heart brings you pain,  
When the sun cannot shine and the world only brings rain,  
Be wise enough to wonder.  
When your mind breaks open like a badland fissure and your eyes  
go dark,  
When the hands that once skillfully accomplished cannot even  
spark,  
Be wise enough to wonder.  
When your words become song and song becomes emotion,  
When you realize you are alone, your bodies no longer together,  
no longer woven,  
Be wise enough to wonder.  
When the light shines over the edge of mountains high as if from  
Valhalla  
When your soul breaks open before the judgement of honor and  
valor,  
Be wise enough to wonder.  
When I find you in the throes of a war unseen,  
And when you teach me how to be alive again, and how to believe,  
I will tell you,  
My love, be wise enough to wonder.