

## Vietnam War Poetry

### KNOWING

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#### KNOWING

As I lay here, unsure what has happened to me  
For not a sound did the bullet make, only a stinging in my chest  
I reach out for you through the sheath of coming darkness  
Your spirit is there and yet it evades my grasp  
I plunge deeper into the darkness  
I am searching for you now with more haste  
I stumble among the carnage  
The pungent stench of despair overwhelms my soul  
Fear overcomes me now for I feel your spirit dissipating  
dissipating back into the realm of which it came  
I call out and my voice echoes loud within my head  
but I make no audible sound  
I return from whence I came  
Knowing now that death is taking me away  
I am left alone to lay here in the darkness  
My hope waning, my despair growing  
Then the darkness fades and there you are  
Dress in a white gown with bright lights all around  
You reach out for me and I feel safe in your arms  
No longer does fear engulf my soul  
No longer do I feel the burning in my chest  
I feel a peace that I have never known before  
Now I can go knowing you are there.