

## Owen's Lament

Augie March

Level your fretting.  
I won't be forgetting  
The flush of your face  
When I lifted you level  
To me and a wattle tree  
Framed your body

In whispers welling with  
The dope of a new Spring  
You said "Kill me a dynasty  
Or our love won't mean a thing..."

A bullet for a diamond ring  
A favor promised  
A promise delivered  
And more to you

It's only a war I'll be back  
To your shore before  
You know it I'm gone,  
Then I'll cover you body

And if you have to go  
Please go lightly  
Keep it to a foxtrot  
Whether he's a fox or not

Keep it cold,  
Keep all your heat for me  
I'll be needing it  
For when I'm cold you see

Let your children  
Remind you of me  
Whether by another or  
By the ghost in me in you  
There goes my baby

I would think of you  
And a palmtree would  
Cover your body  
You... in love and war

We are bound by a law,  
It goes to you and then  
To yours to recover my body

She bound me up and hugged me  
'O how the mother loves thee'  
She covered my body  
In a ragged flag and bloody  
O not on your life.