

How can I sit and learn about
New Imperialism
Otto von Bismarck
And the Triple Alliance
When on page 911 lies a picture
Of men I want to know everything
About.

They would have me see the tanks,
Behemoths of strength and destruction
26 tons of rollicking tomb

But I want to know about more
Than just the prominent two in front
What about the boy who's leaning back
With his legs crossed
Were they blown off tomorrow?
Or the one who's only half on the page
Did he even get half a life?
And just because I can't see his face
Doesn't mean I shouldn't know the thoughts
Inside his head.

Maybe he has a scar, that I would ask about
And maybe it's from a time having nothing to
Do with trenches and artillery
But with that time in the soft spring grass
When Geordie shot him with a toy bow and arrow.

Did he ever think then that he would be
Immortalized on a page
Forgotten by history
Or dreamt of by a seventeen year old girl?