

## A Cow's War

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Long, slow climb, no straight lines here

Winding, switching barely visible path

Ruck again loaded with gear, extra IVs

Bandages enough for a night in the ER

Somebody must've added 20 pounds of rock

Around a ledge a hilly meadow appears

Cratered with shell holes and shattered cattle

A head, bewildered by its inability to move

Stares, confused, knowing nothing of war

Jack a round into the .45, put it down, end it

"Doc!" "What in hell you doing?"

Putting it down, it won't live through the day

"Leave it. We're not allowed to kill livestock."

Ok, must have been a lightning bolt

Brain struggles with the illogic of logic

When, years later, will I ever understand a cow?