

A Brother's Day

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It began as so many other days

Moving slowly through

Dense jungle cover steaming

Till that first rattling burst

As point spots and triggers the ambush

Too early for the setters

Moving, screaming, bleeding, dying

Rolling it up, 5-7-minute eternity

No visual, just flashes, ripping foliage

Magazines emptying, thumper barking

60 Hammering, RPGs howling

Ten yards at most, a clearing, tiny

Opens, a movement from tree shelter

Different uniforms, guns, helmets

Eyes lock, twins of fear, determination

Two young men, doing their job

Muzzles rise, triggers tighten

Both fire, one first by a tenth

And a young man's soul rises

To walk with another's

For a lifetime, till lifetime later

These two souls nod in respect

For both realize warriors

Whether friend or foe can

Brothers be, and walk in peace