

## **Some Sunny Day** **By C M Stephens (Copyright)**

We are still. Birds fly high. The sky is blue  
We see the little boy's kite dip and corkscrew  
He made it himself from brown paper and cord  
He dreams of flying every night  
The great plane with wings like angels  
His father tells him of his Great Grandfather  
He flew in the Lanc  
She kept him safe  
Up there in the air.  
His Great Grandfather  
The Crew  
The men and women of then  
Made from other stuff.

Engines swirl loud  
We hear that sound in our memory  
And we are there with them  
Mortal silence marked  
Broken by a friendly voice  
'Hello Skipper'  
Soon the sky before us  
We will join the clouds and be with the Gods  
There is a story that wants to be told  
It's time to go back  
For now the clock has stopped  
Time is aplenty  
Listen tentatively  
They're calling you to remember.

Yes. We remember.

To sit with the album  
Run gentle over youth  
Sit with our thoughts  
Look back at a time  
A life ago  
'Look'  
'Look at their faces'  
'See their smiles'  
Justice. Fortitude. Wisdom. Courage.  
You feel a glow but wonder  
How was there a smile for everyone?  
You study closely  
You are in awe  
Back in time for tea and a medal  
Our Fathers.

And now here we are  
It's our turn  
Smiling for the photograph too  
To document this time  
We smile for our family to come, those to be born  
Who will one day look back at us and say  
'They look so happy'

We call to our neighbours  
From the threshold of our doorstep  
'Hello, Skipper here'  
We wait for the go ahead  
To taxi across  
But the wind isn't quite right  
So we must wait  
Patiently  
Until it is safe  
'Sit tight'  
Wait for Green light.  
Remembering  
From the safety of our homes  
We are remembering  
Together in starless dayless abiding

The story plays in colour now  
Not faded at the edges  
It's like yesterday  
We're at the gates  
The hangar doors are open  
Her nose peaks out  
Busy crew run from here to there  
Chatter drifts across  
There's not an ounce of worry  
Only room for laughter  
No talk of what may  
Only time for this moment  
The radio plays big band  
Men and women in oily overalls, spanner in hand  
There's a smell of good cooking  
Tinkle of teacups  
'Two sugars in mine. Over'  
Small flutterings  
Each dance, each kiss  
By the piano  
Keep smiling through like we always do  
Throw caution to the wind  
Stand and sing!

Hello Skipper  
'We're here. Over'  
Hushed waiting  
The clearance for take off

Flight engineer  
Check  
V1 rotate  
No enemy yet on our gunners tail  
We're with our own thoughts in the cockpit  
Green light  
Go  
We roar  
Four Rolls Royce Merlins  
O for Oboe glorious  
Gathering speed  
We melt into the air  
Gaining height  
And we fly  
The little boy is on the mountain again with his kite  
'Let the blue skies drive those dark clouds away'  
'We'll do a cheeky flyover on the return'  
Our sweethearts waving  
Dip the wings  
'Steady. Steady.'  
'Keep your eyes peeled'  
We dance through the search lights  
Avoid flack on starboard side  
The end goal in sight!

Finding our way home  
We fly over church spires  
Our beacon to show the way  
We will not get lost in the darkness  
They're waiting for us in the NAAFI  
Hot tea  
Bacon and Eggs  
It's been a long time since we've all been together  
But we'll hold hands again  
She'll be waiting in her splendour  
Dazzling in the sunshine  
For our homecoming  
Hearts in mouth  
You've made it this far  
The ends in sight  
Stay safe, stay, hold, hold

Every night we dream that we are flying  
Like the little boy with his kite  
Swoop, dive, soar high  
Our time together, years and years  
Clink of glass  
A toast to heroes  
Words spill  
'Strike hard strike sure'

Hello Skipper

Hello Navigator  
Steady Steady  
Flarepath ready  
Clearance to land  
Down and Locked  
Bring her in slowly  
Hold on tight, ground approaching fast  
And, and,  
Touchdown  
We've made it  
Home again at Silksheen

See the poppies blowing  
Shoulder to shoulder  
Ghosts of giants  
They're waiting  
Tell our friends we won't be long  
The dark clouds are gone  
We'll get to tell our stories again  
Some sunny day