

GROUNDED, SIDE #3

My 19 year-old locks the laser crosshairs dead on
 He locks on and I wait for the call to push my button
 To send the Prophet to Hell
 "Take the shot
 Take it"
 I will
 For God is mightier than her Prophet
 In 1.2 seconds God is going to call her Prophet home
 But then
 The girl
 Her face
 She stops running and I see it
 Her face
 I see it clearly
 I can see her
 It's Sam
 It's not his daughter it's mine
 It's Sam
 She has Pegasus in her hand she wanted to show him
 Pegasus
 The team screams fire and all it would take is my
 thumb my thumb has orders to annihilate but it's her
 it's her and I can't kill her I can't kill her I can't
 I know in a moment someone will push me aside
 someone will push the button for me the team will
 correct me
 And I know I can't let that happen
 The screen
 I have to get Sam off the screen
 I don't control the camera the camera is on Sam
 I don't control the camera
 But I control the plane

I pull back on the throttle with both hands
 In 1.2 seconds I see the screen lurch blur
 I pull the Reaper's snout up up
 Higher higher
 Belly up
 I turn its Gorgon eyes to the sky
 Turn its swollen belly to the sky
 Do not stare at Sam
 Stare at the sky instead
 The innocent sky
 Stare at this you fucker stare
(We see blue.)
 And it's there
 It's there
 It's there in the grey
 It's there
 I see it
(Blue disappears.)
 Then black
 The screen goes black
 Eleven million dollars of black
 The headset but I am not it anymore I am not the
 team I am alone again the lone wolf and I have saved
 my daughter
 I let the headset fall to the ground
 I turn
 Expecting to see all eyes on me
 But they are not
 The eyes are on the screen instead
 The screen
 Sam is back on the screen
 Why is she back on the screen

My Commander
 My Commander is here he smiles a sorry smile says
 "We had our eye on you Major
 For weeks
 The warning signs
 Everything is Witnessed"
 Oh
 Oh
 That's why she's still
 There was another one
 There was another Reaper above me I didn't know
 there was another god above me but there was
 Another pilot another trailer
 Sam
 I leap out of my seat but am held back
 My 19 year-old holds me back
 Somewhere the button is pushed
 I scream at the screen
 I watch
 I watch the Prophet
 I watch him look at the sky the approaching Hellfire
 Sam please Sam Sam Sam
 He hears me he does the Prophet he grabs her and
 he pulls her to him covers her eyes with his embrace
 shields her tiny body as best he can cradles her in his
 arms so tight so tight so tight
 Thank you
 Thank you
 Shukran
 Shukran
 The team cheers as my daughter dies
 As her arms and legs fly off in separate directions
 As her pulp is mixed with the car and the Prophet and
 the sand

As her pulp dissolves into the grey
 There is only the grey now
 Only the grey
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