

last words by R.L. Gibson

eighteen months
across the equator
PTSD & replacement knee
seeds of sadness sown
he fought wars in his sleep
a newlywed no more
his family found the door
all but for his momma

heart so full
sheep of dark wool
how long can you stay?
just today?

home from foreign war
injured where no wounds are
a drink or a dance
just to see you smile
wife followed girlfriend
girlfriend followed wife
loved, but alone

heart of gold
dark sheep so bold
how long will you go?
a day or so?

four decades passed
he raised a glass
every morning
every noon
every night

they found him dead
last words unsaid
dark morning
dark noon
dark night

the war is over
go home soldier
new morning
new noon
new night

loved, but lost
but love endures.
dark sheep lost
my love is yours