

The Womb of the Unknown Soldier

TOM CHANDLER

Is unoccupied at the moment
could be most anywhere
maybe belongs to that woman
three seats ahead of me on the bus
who is waiting patiently for her stop
after another busy boring day
in an office with beige drapes
and coffee stains on the carpeting
to go home to an unemployed husband
already working his second six pack
of the afternoon neither of them
having the slightest notion that
they will conceive a child
who will become dead
in a war not yet named
between their country
and another not yet hostile
and the sacrificed child
as yet still unconceived
will be nameless
and famous forever.