

Poetry Series

**David Semenske**  
**- poems -**

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## David Semenske(9/17/58)

AS a kid I enjoyed singing and making up different words to popular songs. I also developed a keen interest in history of all kinds especially the obscure events like the pig war, whose only casualty was a pig. It led to the US Canada border we have today, first invasion of Korea in 1871 by the US, and the war of intervention in which the US and other allied nations sent a force inside Russia during the Russian civil war. I served in the United States Navy from 1977 to 1981 being deployed to the Middle east and Indian Ocean most of the time. While there we watched the Ethiopian Somalian war and evacuated non essential foreign personnel from Iran during the Islamic revolution. After my discharge I was News Director for small radio station in Northwest Florida for several years and decided it was not for me but still enjoyed my history and writing. I have recently been active doing short videos for youtube as a hobby and have my own channel. On it is a variety of videos from me singing to reciting poetry and documentary shorts, some not so serious, dealing in history. Things like Joshua A Norton the Emperor of the United States and Pierre Landais the original Commander Queeg of Caine Mutiny fame. As you will see from videos or hear I have been working on my sound quality which has come a long way from my first video.

# As The Full Moon Glows

The Moon beams full and bright  
On this a warm summers night  
As I gaze into your eyes

I see the blueness of the ocean  
Filling me with emotion  
Under starry skies

I feel your heartbeat next to mine  
Beating in Perfect time  
As I hold you close

To steal a kiss  
A moment of bliss  
As the full moon glows

David Semenske

# Bay Views Rolling Mills

There was a test of wills  
At Bay Views Rolling mills  
A fight for an eight hour day

The Guard was called out  
As the workers shout  
Eight hours no reduction in pay

Verbal orders mixed up  
As the Guard raised their rifle up  
Firing a volley of lead

And when the smoke had cleared  
The worst was feared  
Seven or more lie dead

Gone was their eight hour day  
The one we enjoy today  
As we remember that fateful day that tragic fifth of may 1886

David Semenske

# Family Tree Trauma

As I wander through my family tree  
There is one thing that puzzles me  
About the spelling of our last name

Is it Szymanske or Semanske  
My Great Uncle Edward Semenske  
Now there's a switch

I lay awake in my bed  
As this question wanders through my head  
And as I pray to god

That when I am before his holy name  
Greeting those who changed our nam  
Let me hit the clods

David Semenske

# Identity Crisis

I'm dazed and confused  
I'm tired of being used  
It is not me that you see  
It is just your fantasy  
It's an identity crisis  
An identity crisis

Work all day for my pay  
doing it the bosses way  
At night I'm a fright  
Wondering if all is right  
It's an identity crisis  
an identity crisis

Weekends here need a beer  
Gotta get out of here  
On the road one my hog  
Acting like a dog  
It's and identity crisis  
An Identity crisis

All weekend long having fun  
Riding in the sun  
Seeing sights that I like  
While sitting on my bike  
It's and Identity crisis  
An identity crisis

Sunday night come  
The fun is done  
Sleeping in my home  
Feeling like a drone  
It's an Identity crisis  
An identity crisis

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# In The Fields Of France

In the fields of France  
We took a glance  
Waiting for the German Horde

Passing the time  
Watching their lines  
No time to get Bored

Here they come  
Those Barbarous Huns  
Opening the gates of hell

Behind an earthen wall  
We waited for the call  
Hearing their screams and yells

Their machine guns go pop, pop, pop  
As we climbed over the top  
And into hells throes

As we fell to the ground  
Death was all around  
So we now know

That no one ever really dies  
Even as their soul touches the skies  
As long as their story goes

But when their story dies  
And they still there lie  
No one ever knows

Of who they were  
Or what they did  
Life secrets now well hid  
As another story comes and goes

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# Ode To The Legion

We're taking a chance  
Marching for France  
Under the French Flag

We're convicts and thieves  
But if you please  
We are heroes of the grave

France went to war  
On the Barbary shore  
To protect her southern coast

Her expedition failed  
Her finances Pale  
Her Army became a ghost

So the call went out  
Without a doubt  
Across the European land

Rot in your cells  
Or fend for yourselves  
And give France a hand

So we made a stand  
On Algerian land  
One unit under France

And when we were done  
A new life had begun  
We earned our second chance

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# Poor Marshall Ney

Poor Marshall Ney  
Could not keep Wellington at Bay  
As he defended Gaul

Napoleon fussed and fumed  
Spain Portugal he presumed  
As Ney lost it all

To Wellington and his command  
Who used a better battle plan  
Employing deceit and deception

Confusing Ney  
Ruining his day  
distorting his perception

And at St. Lo  
Ney knew not how to go  
Wellington won there too

So Napoleon relieved him of command  
Devising his own battle plan  
And lost at Waterloo

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# The Castle

As i walk through these ruins  
From a land long ago  
My inquisitive mindwanders  
To and Fro

If these walls could talk  
The stories they could tell  
Of times so good and not so well

Of plans and schemes  
to replace kings and queens  
of battles long ago

Of marriages of convenience  
Or forbidden romance  
Under a mistletoe

Mans need of greed  
with Power as its seed  
As they waited for their hour

for fortune and fame  
Playing a dangerous political game  
the defeated had to go

To the dungeons for treason  
what was the real reason  
for going down below

unwritten history  
That makes the story a mystery  
Things they didn't want us to know

For history is a mystery  
written for the victor

So we will never know

Oh, if these walls could talk

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