

Captain May – July 18, 2003 (twilight) – document:

“Last Will and Testament”

All my love to those I love. They know themselves.

To my student Mehran Talabi, my books of Latin.

To my student Zachary Budd, my books of Greek.

To my student Caesar de Paz, my books of Spanish.

To my student Andre Rodriguez, my books of Russian.

To my children Caroline and Andrew, my books of English.

Among these books they will find some marked with a bookplate given me by my parents when I was a teenager serving in the First Cavalry Division. It bears a quote from Miguel de Cervantes *Don Quixote*: “The man who fights for his ideals is the man who is alive.”

To my wife my letters, poetry, essays and stories, along with my beloved first-edition of *The Seven Pillars of Wisdom* by T.E. Lawrence. She will give my captain’s bars to my young friends Miju Yu and David Danford, both now at West Point, as a reminder of what happens to captains who go to war.

My wife, keep this for yourself:

One

*Gretchen May, you are the one
who has crushed me and cured me
since I have been a man.*

*You are the flowing form of Yin
in the angry arms of Yang.*

*You are my earth as I course the tides
of water, wind and fire.*

*I love you because you pull us,
as I push us, into one another.*

*I am so happy that I do not care
that my life is short,
for your kiss is my eternity.*

– E.

I salute all my brothers and sisters who have worn the uniform of their countries. From my comrades I ask a soldier's funeral. Have my remains cremated, then given to my wife. They will be buried with her at her demise.

Captain Eric Holmes May, Military Intelligence, United States Army

PS: Although sane, I am about to go to the mental hospital to tell them I believe I will be assassinated by order of the president of the United States. I believe they will admit me without too much trouble. Perhaps between a psychiatrist and a lawyer I can cover myself in the protection of *habeas corpus* until all this is over. I hope I don't die. Twenty miles away seems like forever...

Oh well, I won the contest, anyway. I played a better April Fools joke than George Bush.