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Ex-Men (For Margaret and Kathy Et Al.)

Frank X Walker

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EX-MEN (FOR MARGARET AND KATHY ET AL.)

Frank X Walker

I wish I had my mother's super strength
and her incredible x-ray vision. She could lift
anybody's spirits without bending her knees
see straight through the thickest lies.

Her kryptonite was my father.
Mine probably is too, because I don't seem
to have the power to ask the hard questions
I carry around in the back of my throat:

*Did you know she was still in high school?
Was there really a shotgun at the wedding?
Did you ever love her or us?
Could you have guessed I'd grow up to be you?*

I wanted my mother's super powers, but all I got
was my father's quiet agility...to disappear.