

**Sam Smith**

Dialogue 23

**WE TAKE OUR IDENTITIES FROM OUR SUCCESSES,  
NOT OUR FAILURES**

Success of itself  
is the holy grail men seek.

Which holy grail is generally represented  
as an ornate chalice.

Significant thing about the chalice  
is that it's empty.

Like their sperm  
all men must strive towards  
an unknowable future.

Egg or non-egg.

Every achievement,  
every victory will be hollow,  
will come with a sense of So What?  
and What Now? What Next?

Can be summed up  
by the spread apart legs of soft porn,  
hands holding wide the labia.  
To see what?  
A stubby pink clitoris  
(female version of penis)  
and darkness.

Life always becomes ordinary.  
(All those sad slim young mothers  
pushing prams.)

Any mystery for men is  
the darkness they penetrate.

And there's a world of men in sheds  
—watchmenders, poets & inventors,  
gardeners, carpenters and lathe turners.

Yes.  
Even plump men own passions.

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