

Is it sweet to die for one's country? War and *Gran Torino*

Horace: “ Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori.” vs.

James Blunt's “No Bravery”

Task 1:

- > Listen to the song and fill in the missing lyrics.

There are standing here.
Arms outstretched into the sky.
Tears drying on their
He has been here.
Brothers lie in shallow¹
..... lost without a trace.
A nation to their disgrace.
Since he's been here.

Chorus

And I see no bravery.
No bravery in your eyes anymore.
Only

There are standing here.
Arms outstretched into the sky.
But no one asks the question
He has been here.

And I see no bravery.
No bravery in your eyes anymore.
only
only

Old men to accept their fate.
Wives and daughters cut and raped.
A generation drenched in
Yes, he has been here.

Houses beyond repair.
The smell of is in the air.
A woman weeping in despair says
He has been here.
Tracer² lighting up the sky.
It's another families' turn to die.
A afraid to even cry out says
He has been here. ↗

Chorus

1 not deep

2 military vocabulary: ammunition/ shell showing lines of light in the air (Leuchtspurgeschoss)

Task 2:

- > Describe the realities of war and their consequences according to the song. Fill in the table.

Realities of war	Consequences
•	•
•	•
•	•
•	•
•	•
•	•

Task 3:

- > Think of more realities and consequences of war not mentioned in the song and write a new stanza about them.

Realities of war	Consequences
•	•
•	•
•	•
•	•
•	•
•	•
•	•

My new stanza:

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Task 4:

- > Compare the ideas of the quote by Horace and James Blunt's "No Bravery" with the notion of war in *Gran Torino*. Consider Walt Kowalski and the Hmong.